

Sunday March 11th 2012
The Letter to the Hebrews
Part Thirty Six
Study Questions

1). Heb 11:1 ¶ *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* What faith is referred to here and how would we know?

a). Why are the two things said about faith remarkable?

b). Why is faith to the saving of the soul the complete opposite to that which we see with the natural eye?

c). What scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

d). Where in Hebrews Chapter 11 is the example of faith being the evidence of things not seen?

2). Read Romans 1:16-17 – As we think about going from faith to faith what might be the first progression of faith we make beyond faith for eternal salvation?

a). Why would faith to the saving of the soul unlock the door to our understanding of God's plans and purposes for the ages?

b). Where must faith to the saving of the soul begin?

3). How do the subject of scripture and the organization of scripture complement each other?

4). What 4 persons' experience does the writer of Hebrews draw from at the beginning of Chapter 11?

a). Why does he choose these from amongst all the OT saints?

b). Why does he begin with Abel and how does Abel lead us into the dispensational framework presented here?

c). How do the other three also fit into this dispensational framework and what scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

d). How does this picture for us God's timetable for both Israel and the Church?

e). In what sense then could we see that God's plans and purposes are contingent upon faith to the saving of the soul?

f). How does what we see here provide us with another example of faith to the saving of the soul being 'evidence of things not seen'?

5). *4 ¶ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks. Why is it witnessed that Abel was righteous?*

a). What kind of righteousness are we talking about and what scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

b). What contrast is being made in v4?

c). Where does v4 take in the OT scriptures?

6). Read Genesis 4:1-8

a). What is said about Cain and Abel in v2 and what should we make of this?

b). According to v3 when did Cain and Abel bring an offering before the Lord and what would this tell us?

c). Why is Abel's offering respected and Cain's not and how would we know?

d). So what is the difference between Abel's offering and Cain's offering?

e). What was Cain's reaction to the rejection of his offering?

f). What could it have been and what did God say to him about it?

g). Is there anything we could learn here for ourselves?

h). Which verse in Hebrews 11 would tie all this together?

i). Instead of repenting what does Cain do and why?

j). What is God's reaction to this?

k). What two promises does God give to Cain and where would we see the second promise also given to Abraham?

- l). Why does God record the account of Cain and Abel at the beginning of the scriptures?
- m). How does Cain's offering compare to Israel's offerings?
- n). How does Israel's condition compare to that of Cain at Christ's first advent?
- o). What message did Jesus come to Israel with which gave them the same opportunity that was given to Cain?
- p). Given the type of Cain and Abel, what could be Israel's only response?
- q). What two alarming statements did Israel make at the time of Christ's crucifixion?
- r). What are the ramifications of the statements?
- s). What did Christ have to say in Matthew 23 that makes the first statement even more alarming and what does this mean for the nation?
- t). What else can we know of Israel from the type of Cain?
- u). Why does it matter if we know this or not?
- v). Any final thoughts?