

June 29, 2008
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Hebrews 11:7

“Jesus Christ is Infinitely Better!”
Examples of Faith, Part Three: Noah

III. Christianity: An Infinitely Better WALK OF FAITH (10:19-13:24)

A. The Confidence of Faith (10:19-39)

B. The Examples of Faith (11)

1. Definition (Description) of **Faith** (11:1-3): a) Recognizing the invisible God; b) Responding obediently to God’s spoken word; c) Receiving God’s gracious approval
2. **Examples** of Faith (11:4-40)
 - a. Abel (v. 4) – Faith **Worshipping**
 - b. Enoch (v. 5-6) – Faith **Walking**

Chiastic Construction of Hebrews 11:1 & 6:

Substance of things hoped for _____ Evidence of things unseen
Believe that He is _____ Rewarder of those who seek Him

- 1) He believed that God is
- 2) He sought God’s reward
- 3) He walked with God (Amos 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:7; 1 Jn. 1:6-7; 1 Jn. 2:6; 2 Jn. 6; 3 Jn. 4; Gal. 5:16ff; Eph. 5:2, 8, 15; Ps. 1:1-2)
- 4) He preached for God (Jude 14-16)
- 5) He entered into God’s presence

c. Noah (v. 7) – Faith _____

- 1) **Recognizing the invisible God** – “*By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen*”

- 2) **Responding obediently to God’s spoken word** – “*in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world*”

- 3) **Receiving God’s gracious approval** – “*and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.*”

Discussion Questions:

1. On the outline read the three part definition (description) of faith from Heb. 11:1-3. How will a faith like that enable people to have endurance in the midst of very difficult trials?
2. What were the “unseen things” that Noah was warned about? How difficult would it have been for Noah to believe in these “unseen things”? Did others (outside of his family) believe in these unseen things? What are some “unseen things” that the Lord has told us about? What do people in the world think about our belief in such unseen things? (See 2 Peter 3)
3. How was Noah an example of responding obediently to God’s spoken word? (See Gen. 6:22; 7:5) To what extent was he obedient? Are you doing according to all that the Lord has commanded you? If not, why not? What are some specific areas where you need to repent of doing things your way and begin doing them God’s way?
4. How is Noah an example of patient / enduring faith? Read Gen. 6-9. How long did it take to build the ark? What enabled Noah to continue believing for that long when there was no sign of the fulfillment coming soon? What does the word “reverence” (fear, awe) have to do with it?
5. Do you have a genuine fear / reverence / awe of God? How does it show up in your day-to-day life? (Thoughts, attitudes, words, actions, habits, disciplines, relationships...)
6. How did Noah condemn the world? Read 2 Peter 2:5. What was Noah doing at the same time he was building an ark? How long did he do this? How many people responded positively? Conjecture: what do you think people might have said to Noah in response to his preaching? What do people say today when they are confronted with their sin and God’s requirement of perfect righteousness? What will enable us to keep preaching even when nobody responds?
7. Why did God see Noah as righteous (Gen. 7:1)? Did his good works make him righteous? If it wasn’t his good works, what was it? (See Heb. 11:7; Phil. 3:7-9) On what basis were Old Testament saints saved (declared righteous)? How would this fact impact those who were reading the Book of Hebrews?
8. Abel was an example of faith worshiping. Enoch was an example of faith walking. Noah was an example of faith working. Is there significance to this order? Read Gen. 6-9 again. What evidence do you find of Noah being an example of all three (worship, walk, and work)?
9. How is your example today? Worshiping? Walking / Pleasing? Working? Are you doing all of these by faith? How will you grow stronger in each of these areas this week?