



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, Lord we know that faith is the certain assurance of the things we hope for and the conviction of the reality of things we cannot see. without faith we cannot please You God; therefore, no matter how many "good works" we offer, God will not be pleased if they were done to earn His favor, Lord whatever we do for God let us remember that it is only to be done in love, it was freely received, so it is to be freely given. Led us in the right way, God's will for us and plans. Bless us and keep us and supply all our needs, and give us our daily bread. I pray that we are humble, least we boast. I ask my prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Worship Music

[I'm In The Flock-Mark Allen Fenton \(gospel smooth jazz\)](#)

[Pray Everyday-Mark Allen Fenton \(gospel jazz\)](#)

[Love Like Fire-Hillsong](#)

[He Touched Me-Gaither Quartet](#)

Scripture

Hebrews 11 (2005)

Hebrews 11:1-40 (AMP)

¹ NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see *and* the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses]. ² For by [faith—trust and holy fervor born of faith] the men of old had divine testimony borne to them *and* obtained a good report. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible. ⁴ [Prompted, actuated] by faith Abel brought God a better and more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, because of which it was testified of him that he was righteous [that he was upright and in right standing with God], and God bore witness by accepting *and* acknowledging his gifts. And though he died, yet [through the incident] he is still speaking. ⁵ Because of faith Enoch was caught up *and* transferred to heaven, so that he did not have a glimpse of death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For even before he was taken to heaven, he received testimony [still on record] that he had pleased *and* been satisfactory to God. ⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please *and* be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly *and* diligently seek Him [out]. ⁷ [Prompted] by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign, took heed *and* diligently *and* reverently constructed *and* prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family. By this [his faith which relied on God] he passed judgment *and* sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir *and* possessor of righteousness (that relation of being right into which God puts the person who has faith). ⁸ [Urged on] by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went forth to a place which he was destined to receive as an inheritance; and he went, although he did not know *or* trouble his mind about where he was to go. ⁹ [Prompted] by faith he dwelt as a temporary resident in the land which was designated in the promise [of God, though he was like a stranger] in a strange country, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was [waiting expectantly and confidently] looking forward to the city which has fixed *and* firm foundations, whose Architect *and* Builder is God. ¹¹ Because of faith also Sarah herself received physical power to conceive a child, even when she was long past the age for it, because she considered [God] Who had given her the promise to be reliable *and* trustworthy *and* true to His word. ¹² So from one man, though he was physically as good as dead, there have sprung descendants whose number is as the stars of heaven and as countless as the innumerable sands on the seashore. ¹³ These people all died controlled *and* sustained by their faith, but not having received the tangible fulfillment of [God's] promises, only having seen it *and* greeted it from a great distance by faith, and all the while acknowledging *and* confessing that they were strangers *and* temporary residents *and* exiles upon the earth. ¹⁴ Now those people who talk as they did show plainly that they are in search of a fatherland (their own country). ¹⁵ If they had been thinking with [homesick] remembrance of that country from which they were emigrants, they would have found constant opportunity to return to it. ¹⁶ But the truth is that they were yearning for *and* aspiring to a better *and* more desirable country, that is, a heavenly [one]. For that reason God is not ashamed to be called their God [even to be sur named their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob], for He has prepared a city for them. ¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was put to the test [while the testing of his faith was still in progress], had already brought Isaac for an offering; he who had gladly received *and* welcomed [God's] promises was ready to sacrifice his only son, ¹⁸ Of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your descendants be reckoned. ¹⁹ For he reasoned that God was able to raise [him] up even from among the dead. Indeed in the sense that Isaac was figuratively dead [potentially sacrificed], he did [actually] receive him back from the dead. ²⁰ [With eyes of] faith Isaac, looking far into the future, invoked blessings upon Jacob and Esau. ²¹ [Prompted] by faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons and bowed in prayer over the top of his staff. ²² [Actuated] by faith Joseph, when nearing the end of his life, referred to [the promise of God for] the departure of the Israelites out of Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his own bones.

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²³ [Prompted] by faith Moses, after his birth, was kept concealed for three months by his parents, because they saw how comely the child was; and they were not overawed *and* terrified by the king's decree.

²⁴ [Aroused] by faith Moses, when he had grown to maturity *and* become great, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

²⁵ Because he preferred to share the oppression [suffer the hardships] *and* bear the shame of the people of God rather than to have the fleeting enjoyment of a sinful life.

²⁶ He considered the contempt *and* abuse *and* shame [borne for] the Christ (the Messiah Who was to come) to be greater wealth than all the treasures of Egypt, for he looked forward *and* away to the reward (recompense).

²⁷ [Motivated] by faith he left Egypt behind him, being unawed *and* undismayed by the wrath of the king; for he never flinched *but* held staunchly to his purpose *and* endured steadfastly as one who gazed on Him Who is invisible.

²⁸ By faith (simple trust and confidence in God) he instituted *and* carried out the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood [on the doorposts], so that the destroyer of the firstborn (the angel) might not touch those [of the children of Israel].

²⁹ [Urged on] by faith the people crossed the Red Sea as [though] on dry land, but when the Egyptians tried to do the same thing they were swallowed up [by the sea].

³⁰ Because of faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encompassed for seven days [by the Israelites].

³¹ [Prompted] by faith Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed along with those who refused to believe *and* obey, because she had received the spies in peace [without enmity].

³² And what shall I say further? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

³³ Who by [the help of] faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions,

³⁴ Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty *and* weakness won strength *and* became stalwart, even mighty *and* irresistible in battle, routing alien hosts.

³⁵ [Some] women received again their dead by a resurrection. Others were tortured to death with clubs, refusing to accept release [offered on the terms of denying their faith], so that they might be resurrected to a better life.

³⁶ Others had to suffer the trial of mocking and scourging and even chains and imprisonment.

³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were lured with tempting offers [to renounce their faith]; they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword; [while they were alive] they had to go about wrapped in the skins of sheep and goats, utterly destitute, oppressed, cruelly treated—

³⁸ [Men] of whom the world was not worthy—roaming over the desolate places and the mountains, and [living] in caves *and* caverns and holes of the earth.

³⁹ And all of these, though they won divine approval by [means of] their faith, did not receive the fulfillment of what was promised,

⁴⁰ Because God had us in mind *and* had something better *and* greater in view for us, so that they [these heroes and heroines of faith] should not come to perfection apart from us [before we could join them].



The Heroes of Faith

this chapter the writer defines faith as the assurance or confirmation of the things that the believer hopes for, as proof of things that the believer has not yet seen. Believers, living by faith, can rest confidently that God's promises will be fulfilled—that their fulfillment is in fact a reality in their lives before it becomes manifest to the believer's senses. The writer mentions the following Old Testament men and women, whose faith is legendary, as being worthy of recognition as heroes of faith:

Abel's faith: he offered the first sacrifice for sin made by faith and not works (v. 4 ; Genesis 4:1–15). Enoch's faith: he walked with God, pleased Him, and was taken away by Him (Hebrews 11:5–6 ; Genesis 5:22 , 24). Noah's faith: he kept on building the ark when nobody thought there would be any use for it (Hebrews 11:7 ; Genesis 6:14–22). Abraham's faith: he set out to find the city of God without knowing where it was; he was willing to offer his son as a sacrifice, in confidence that God would bring him back to life (Hebrews 11:8–12 , 17–19 ; Genesis 12:1–7 ; 22). Sarah's faith: she came to believe what she at first had laughed at as impossible (Hebrews 11:11–12 ; Genesis 17:19 ; 18:11–14). Isaac's faith: he foretold the future by faith (Hebrews 11:20 ; Genesis 27:27–29). Jacob's faith: he believed that God would fulfill His promises (Hebrews 11:21 ; Genesis 49). Joseph's faith: he believed that his bones would rest in Canaan (Hebrews 11:22 ; Genesis 50:25). Moses' faith: he chose to suffer with Israel and turned his back on Egypt; he kept the Passover; he crossed the Red Sea; he saw Him who is invisible (Hebrews 11:23–29 ; Exodus 2:2–11 ; 12:21 , 50 ; 14:22–29). Joshua's faith: it made the walls of Jericho fall (Hebrews 11:30 ; Joshua 6:20). Rahab's faith: she cast her lot with Israel (Hebrews 11:31 ; Joshua 2:9 ; 6:23). Gideon's faith: he became mighty in war (Hebrews 11:32 ; Judges 7:21). Barak's faith: he subdued kingdoms (Hebrews 11:32 ; Judges 4). Samson's faith: his weakness was turned into strength (Hebrews 11:32 , 34 ; Judges 16:28). Jephthah's faith: he defeated armies (Hebrews 11:32 , 34 ; Judges 11). David's faith: he obtained promises (Hebrews 11:32–33 ; 2 Samuel 7:11–13). Daniel's faith: he stopped the mouths of lions (Hebrews 11:32–33 ; Daniel 6:22). Jeremiah's faith: he was tortured for his faith (Hebrews 11:32 , 35 ; Jeremiah 20:2). Elijah's faith: he raised the dead (Hebrews 11:32 , 35 ; 1 Kings 17:17–24). Elisha's faith: he raised the dead (Hebrews 11:32 , 35 ; 2 Kings 4:8–37). Zechariah's faith: he was stoned for his faith (Hebrews 11:32 , 37 ; 2 Chronicles 24:20–21). Isaiah's faith: he was sawed in two for his faith, according to tradition (Hebrews 11:32 , 37).

(Halley's Bible Handbook, Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; history & commentaries; pages 863-864)

V1 This verse defines faith, "Substance" here means the confident expectation. Faith rejoices without seeing or understanding what God is doing (2 Corin. 4:18). V2 The "good report" was that their faith was a witness of their relationship with God. V3 God created the world, from materials that are invisible to the naked eye. V4 The Hall of Faith begins here. These are people who were known for outstanding faith. Abel's sacrifice was offered in faith, Cain's was not. V5 Just as Enoch was spared from the judgment of God upon the earth during the Flood, so the Church will be spared from the Tribulation. In pleasing God, Enoch fulfilled the purpose for which man was created (Revelation 4:11). V6 We limit the work of God in our lives through unbelief (Psalm 78:41). When we realize how mighty God is our problems are put in perspective. V7 When God warned Noah about the rains to come, Noah accepted His word by

Faith, thought it had never rained before. He so believed God's word that he was motivated by fear to build the ark. Noah's building of the ark condemned the people around him for their unbelief, and made him an heir of righteousness. Noah's faith prompted him to positive action. Faith and works go hand in hand. Righteousness by faith produces works that are consistent with what we believe, whereas the righteousness in God's eyes is the result of our faith never our works. V8 Abraham is called the father of those who believe. His first step of faith was to leave the land of his father to journey to the Promised Land. V9 Abraham lived in tents in the Promised Land and owned very little land, yet believed that God had promised all the land to him for his descendants. V10 Abraham's heart was in the City of God, not in earthly treasures or buildings. V11 The birth of Isaac was based on God's faithfulness in performing that which He had promised, not on Sarah or Abraham's faith. V12 Sarah was past childbearing age (over 90) and Abraham was over 100 years old, "as good as dead," and yet God gave them a child and innumerable descendants. V13 The members of the Hall of Faith all died without receiving the promised Savior and the eternal Kingdom, but their faith in the promises of God saved them. They saw the promises and held on to them. VV14-15 The Old Testament saints could have returned to the lands they left if their hearts were still there, but they believed that God had a better place for them and they were content to be strangers and pilgrims on the earth. V16 The spirits of the Old Testament saints could not go into heaven until Jesus died for their sins, so they went into Sheol (hell). Jesus taught that Sheol was divided into two parts, with Abraham the head of the part for those who believe in God's promises (Luke 16:19-31; Psalm 16:10; Isaiah 61:1; Matthew 27: 52, 53). V17 Though Abraham had another son, the son of his fleshly attempt to fulfill God's promise, God did not recognize the other son (Genesis 22:1-14) just as He ignores our sins as we believe in Jesus (Romans 4:8). God was only testing Abraham's obedience and faith and He never intended for Isaac to actually be sacrificed. VV18-19 God had told Abraham specifically that Abraham would have descendants through Isaac, and since Isaac did not have children at this point, Abraham knew that God would restore Isaac to life if necessary (Genesis 22:5). There are parallels between Abraham offering up Isaac and God sacrificing His beloved Son. Abraham thought of Isaac as dead for the three-day journey to Mount Moriah. Jesus was dead for three days. Isaac carried the wood for sacrifice on his back. Jesus carried the cross on His back. Both sons were submitted to the will of their fathers. Both sacrifices took place on Mount Moriah. Abraham had called the place Jehovah Jireh "the Lord will provide" and prophesied. "In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen" (Genesis 22:14). V20 Though Isaac was not known as a spiritual man, he is listed in the Hall of Faith because of the prophetic blessings he pronounced upon his sons. V21 Jacob claimed Joseph's two sons as his own, thereby giving the double portion, the birthright, to Joseph. Jacob's eldest son was the child of the wife who was forced on Jacob, while Joseph was the first child of Jacob's chosen bride. When Jacob blessed Joseph's sons, he purposely crossed his hands to give the greater blessing to Ephraim, the younger son. The tribe of Ephraim was greater than that of Manasseh. V22 When Joseph was dying he asked that his bones be returned to the Promised Land when the children of Israel finally returned, believing they would someday leave Egypt and live as a nation in the land God had given to them. V23 The parents of Moses hid him by faith and defied the Pharaoh's decree. As Christians we are to obey the laws of the land unless they conflict with God's laws, and then we must obey God rather than man. VV24-25 Moses rejected possible ruler ship in Egypt when he chose to join the children of Israel in their difficulties. V26 Moses valued the worst aspect of the godly life more than the best the world had to offer. He chose the afflictions of being a child of God rather than the pleasures and riches of Egypt. V27 The men of faith always see more than those who rely on their natural intellect. V29 By faith the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea and followed Moses into the wilderness. Our lives inspire other people to trust God or to distrust Him. God sometimes allows His children to get into places of testing and trials that are very frightening. In impossible circumstances where we have nowhere to turn but up, God wants us to stand still and watch Him work and then to go forward in faith. V30 God promised Joshua that every place he put his foot in the Promised Land would be his. The people followed Joshua by faith. The defeat of Jericho demonstrates that God is not confined to our rational ways of doing things (Isaiah 55:8). The faith of the children of Israel was 1. Daring, because there was no turning back. 2. Obedient, because they did not understand why they were to march around the city. 3. Patient, because the walls did not fall down for the first several days. 4. Anticipating, because they knew God would act on the seventh day when they shouted. When we meet the enemy in an entrenched stronghold against us, we need this kind of faith to claim the victory. V31 When God used Rahab to help the spies, it demonstrated; 1. The sovereignty of God, because He chose Rahab and her family out of all the people of Jericho. 2. The grace of God, because He chose Rahab despite her profession. Rahab believe in the reports she had heard about the children of Israel and their God, and by faith she believed that they would conquer mighty Jericho. Since the Israelites promised to spare all those in her house, Rahab's house became a house of faith. V32 God often chooses men who lack confidence in their own abilities to do His work because He is made strong in our weakness. VV33-34 These verses refer to the men of faith listed in verse 32 and to other men of Israel. VV35-37 The men of faith suffered various punishments at the hands of unbelievers, thus assuring themselves a special place in the heavenly kingdom. V38 Those men who are pleasing to God are often displeasing to the world. VV39-40 The members of the Hall of Faith did not receive the promised Messiah, so our relationship with God is even better than theirs was because we are able to approach Him through His Son.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; 2005; Chuck Smith; commentaries; pages 159-161)

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scripture, notes, commentaries; pages 2049-2052)

(Word 9; Bible Software; KJV; Amp; Sermons of Historical pastors; Scripture; concordance; reference materials; 2008)

Psa 119:105
Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.



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