

Title: The Faith of Noah

Text: Hebrews 11:7

Hebrews chapter 11, please. Hebrews chapter 11. We are studying the subject of FAITH; and how it operates in the life of a believer. And in this 11th chapter of Hebrews, we are looking at examples of men and women who by their lives and the things they did, demonstrated that they were men and women of faith. So far we have looked at the example of Abel and the example of Enoch. In each of these examples these men did something that proved that they had faith. And the same thing will be true in our lives. If we say that we have faith, it will be demonstrated by the things that we are doing.

So, let's come now to the example of Noah. Hebrews chapter 11 verse 7.

(Read Hebrews 11:7)

#### Prayer

Now, in this verse I believe we have five things which prove that Noah was a man of faith. Five ways which demonstrate that he was a man of faith.

(1) Number one, it is seen in the revelation he had from God. Vs 7 says: "By faith Noah being warned by God about things not yet seen."

What does it mean to be warned by God? Did God say to Noah, "Hay buddy, you had better watch out?".....NO! I don't think so.

The word "warned" means "to transact business" or "to give advice." It came to mean in religious terms..."divine instruction" or "divine communication". So, it would be proper to translate this <sup>7<sup>th</sup></sup>verse as, "Noah being divinely instructed or divinely communicated to by God."

O.K. if that is true then the next question would be.."What was the communication? What did God tell Noah?"

Well, verse 7 says "of things not yet seen.:"

<sup>ok</sup>  
~~Now~~, what did Noah ~~not~~ see, that God was telling him about? It is kind-off amazing if you think about it. *God TOLD Him Three Things*

(1F) Number one, he told him it was going to rain. Did you know that up until the time of Noah it had never rained? Now, suppose you had never seen rain and someone told you it was going to rain. Great! What is it? We are going to have rain..And it is going to rain so much, that water is going to cover the earth 15 cubic higher than the highest mountain. ....Oh, yay....It has never rained before...

You know how God took care of this problem of moisture? He watered the ground with a mist...You can read about it in Genese chapter 2.

There wasn't any rain until the time of Noah. And Noah is being told something that he had never seen. He had never seen it rain.

(2F) Now, if you think this is strange the second one is stranger. God said to Noah, "Noah, I want you to build an ark." Ah,,,what's an ark/.....  
"You know, Noah, a boat."

~~Say~~, God, "What's a boat?"

Noah had never seen a boat and God say, "I want you to build a boat." And not just any old boat, but a gaint boat.

(3F) And then the third thing was really wild..."Noah, I want you to take two of every kind of all the animals of the world." *And put them in the boat*

Now, can't you imiginy Noah's reaction...."God, you have got to be kidding." " I mean, what do I do, whisle and they all come?"

Can you not visionalize what is happening...I am not trying to be funny for funny sake. I believe Noah is one of the greatest examples of faith in the Bible...So much so that he, Job, and David, are used by the prophets as examples of men who really knew what faith was all about.

Noah was an unusuually man.

Now, I couldn't help but realize that Vs 7, when it says "things not yet seen" it is the same word found back in Vs 1 and translated as "Faith is the evidence of things not seen."

Isn't that a neat comparison. You could draw a line in your Bibles from Vs 1 down to Vs 7. By faith Noah, divinely instructed of things not seen. So that explains Vs 1 to 7.

The evidence, which means the proof, the means of proof of things not seen <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ faith, WHAT IS FAITH? Does it just come out of your life?

I mean, is it just some substance that a lot of people have hoping something to be so? NO... <sup>Faith</sup> is based on divine instruction...and that is the proof in Hebrews 11.....

Now remember, faith is believing the Word. Accepting its authority. And the Word rewards you with the faith to believe what that revelation is. And this whole chapter proves that each man was divinely communicated to. He received instruction from God. And he believed that instruction. <sup>and acted</sup>

Noah was warned by God, divinely communicated to of things he had never seen. Because it was God, and he who comes to God must believe that he <sup>is</sup>, and he rewards those who diligently seek him. <sup>Thus</sup> Noah knew that it had to be true.

You know why a lot of <sup>people</sup> ~~us~~ don't believe things that are mentioned in the Bible are true?....You know why?.....Because <sup>they</sup> ~~we~~ are not honoring and acknowledging God....God is not first in <sup>their</sup> ~~our~~ life....That is why a lot of people don't believe the Bible...They don't acknowledge God. He is not first in their life.

You know what Romans chapter 1 says? Especial in vs 21 through the end of the chapter. That if you don't acknowledge the God of creation, and exact him and thank him, you know what is going to happen? Your mind is going to go buserick.....Your reason is going to, become darkened. And you thinking you are becoming wise by not believing the word, when in turuth you are foolish. And soon you will exchange the glory of the ~~the~~ creator for something you have designed. Then God will give you up to degrading passions, and the result will be a ruined life...WHY?....Because some where along the line you decided, that you knew more than God <sup>does</sup> ~~did~~. ~~Or you can run your life~~



Or you can run your life better than God tells you how to run it.

The first most important aspect of faith is to accept the existence and authority of God. IF GOD SAID IT, IT IS TRUE...YOU MUST ACCEPT <sup>His</sup> ~~THE~~ AUTHORITY before you will ever be able to understand God's Word and apply it in your life. THAT IS THE FIRST THING I LEARN ABOUT NOAH'S FAITH..

(2E.) SECONDLY, It says in Vs 7 he moved with ~~his~~ reverence or ~~fear~~.

So, I see <sup>Noah's</sup> ~~his~~ faith, also, in the respect he had for what God said...

Now, a lot of us hear what God says, but we don't move with <sup>Reverence</sup> ~~fear~~. The word refers to a Godly reverence that ~~is~~ comes from one receiving divine instruction. Noah had that divine instruction and now he knew he must be very careful with what God has said.

I wonder if we feel the same? When you read some verses in the Bible that tell you about something you should do in your life. Do you receive that with Godly reverence?.....If you have ~~true~~ faith, that is how you receive it. ~~You have no right to question it.~~ This is God's Word. <sup>This is God's Revelation</sup> And so you move with reverence. You act with a Godly reverence. A reverence that say: Hay, God is right. That is right. That is <sup>That is</sup> the truth. <sup>and</sup> I had better be careful that I don't violate God's Word.

(3E) The third characteristic of Noah's faith is seen in the response he gave to what God had said. In other words He Acted

And just like all the <sup>other as depicted</sup> ~~rest~~ he did something to prove his faith. What did he do? Vs7: HE PREPARED AN ARK FOR THE SALVATION OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.

The number one object lesson of Noah's life, to prove his faith, was he prepared an ark for the salvation of his household. ...

The word "prepared" comes from a root word "to build." <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ means that he went at it.....He didn't say: God, I am just going to set here and you build the ark....I will watch how you put it together...

No, God said ..You build the ark....

And many of us would say: O.K God, but first show me the drawings. Or just show me what a boat looks like... ~~God will show you what, God will show you~~

I tell you what, God, I will ask 33 people this week and if they say you are right, I will do it.....

You see, a lot of us do the same thing. We run around and ask for advice when God simply says "do it."

Do you have faith? He who comes to God must believe that he is and that he rewards those who diligent seek him out. SEEK HIM OUT....NOT OTHERS OUT...BUT THE LORD.....When you go to the Lord with that kind of trust and confidence at what he says is right, God is going to reward your life.....The Bible ~~predicts~~ <sup>says so</sup> it....He is going to reward you...He will fill your life like it can't be filled in any other way, because your confidence and trust is in him and his authority.

In 2 Peter chapter 2 and verse 5 we learn that Noah did prepare an ark and he preached to his generation everything that God had told him. It took Noah 120 years to build that ark. That was no easy task....And he preached all the time while men mocked him, and laughed at him.

Hay, Noah what are you doing? I am building an ark...What is an ark? Well, it is a huge boat...What is a boat? Well, it is something to carry animals and people in....What for? We are going to have a flood? A WHAT? A flood....How are we going to get a flood? It's going to rain? WHAT'S RAIN? .....

Can you not visualize people wanting to call for the white coats. This Noah has really flipped his lid....You know how many people believed Noah?.....8.....And I am really not sure about 7 of them.....

We forget that sometimes.. I believe God honored Noah's faith in getting his family in the ark. I looked and looked trying to find one passage that indicated something on their part.....I think that were included in the passenger list of the ark because of the faith of Noah.

Noah believed God and built that boat and preached about God's judgment; and preached about righteousness by faith. Read 2 Peter.

~~And the sea was very high that no one could see the ark~~

And the sad thing is that no one listened to him.

(4B) The fourth way in which I see Noah's faith is seen in the relationship he had with the world about him.

You know if there is one issue that is destroying Faith in our day and age, is our compromise with the world around us. It is eating the heart out of our faith and confidence in the Word. You cannot watch a week of just selected programs on T.V. without suffering the effects of those programs hitting at your confidence in God's Word. It is happening all the time. You can't read a newspaper without the articles pulling out of your heart, confidence in the authority of God's Word. People are tearing it down every single day of our lives.

Let's look at Noah. He had the same situation. The whole world is against him. And the Bible says in Vs 7: "by which he condemned the world." Meaning: his faith condemned or judged the world. He judged the world by his faith. He preached the message, they did not respond. And his testimony was a condemnation to the world about him. *They could not get Noah To give up a compromise*

So often, we compromise instead of standing true, for what the Bible says. We are embarrassed, we are afraid, we are not bold in our witness. And I often think of Noah. Noah, the only man in his day, who was found righteous. Noah found grace in the eye of the Lord, says Genes 6:8 because Noah was a just man, perfect in his generation...meaning: "blameless" and ...he walked with God. HE WAS A MAN OF FAITH. HE WALKED WITH GOD. HE TRUSTED GOD. HE BELIEVED GOD OF THINGS HE HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE. ) And I must believe God the same way... I have never seen eternal life.....I have never seen forgiveness of sins. It is a spiritual reality. I cannot show it to you in the physical realm.

I don't know about the resurrection of the body, except in the Word. I have never seen it happen...I don't know about heaven. But, I see it recorded in the Word.... *God's revelation to me.*



All the things I am looking forward to, I have never seen, ~~Things~~ ~~that~~ I am experiencing now, I have never seen... WHY DO I BELIEVE THEM?  
 BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN GOD AND HIS AUTHORITY, AND THE WORD OF GOD IS A COMPLETE EXPRESSION OF THAT AUTHORITY, AND I AM RESPONSIBLE TO IT AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR IT.....FAITH RESPONDES TO ~~God's~~ *Revelation*

He who comes to God <sup>with</sup> believes that he is and that he will reward those who diligently seek him.....

It is a very important issue. And if you are here ~~today~~ <sup>Today</sup> and you are struggleing with faith, it is becauae you are not actknowledging the existence, the power, of God himself. He IS NOT FIRST PRIORITY. That is why you are not experiencing faith in his Word. Very important.

(5E) And the finally way we see Noah's faith is in the righteousness he had. According to Vs 7 he 'became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith."

The word "became" <sup>is in a tense which</sup> means "at at moment of time." You don't grow into righteousness... You don't do the right things and thereby become righteous. ~~Noah~~ <sup>Risk Tears</sup> became at a moment of time. And in the contxt, that moment of time happened when he <sup>started</sup> decided to build the Ark. When he responded to what God had said...Then, bang....at that moment..he became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Not righteousness by works.....The thing that saved Noah was not the building of the ark, but it was the moment he responded to God's instruction to do it. At that moment he was saved.

Abraham was saved the same way.. So was Enoch...So was Able...And so are we... Everyone of us are saved the same way. The moment we believe what God said. If you believe God, when he said that Jesus paid for all your sinnes, and you believe that when he died on the cross he paid for your sins, at the moment you believe the account of the resurrection is ture ~~and~~ Jesus arose ~~from~~ the dead, and the moment you believe that Jesus is God and he jls coming back again, the Bible says the moment ; you believe that you are saved.

If you confess with your mouth ~~that~~ <sup>or God</sup> Jesus is Lord, and you believe with your heart that God raised him from the dead, the Bible says, you will be saved.

Let's close with a word of prayer

Because of your Faith, God declare you righteous.  
And isn't that a wonderful promise.

How about you : Many of you say  
you are churched, if so, your faith will  
be devastated in what you do, your attitudes,  
motives and concerns.

75 AM  
35 PM