

Hebrews
(Lesson 15)

Introduction:

1. The first section (1:1-4:13) emphasizes "the superiority of Christ as God's spokesman."
2. The second section (4:14-ch.10) emphasizes "the superiority of Christ as High Priest."
3. The third section (ch.11-13) emphasizes "the superiority of the Christian faith."
4. In ch.11 faith is explained and illustrated.

Discussion:

I. FAITH IS EXPLAINED

- A. (vs.1) Faith is defined as *"the substance [assurance] of things hoped for, the evidence [conviction] of things not seen."*
- B. (vs.3) Through faith we are able to understand things that are revealed to us, even though they cannot be seen (Romans 10:17).
- C. Faith allows us to obtain a good report (vs.2) as well as please God (vs.6).

II. FAITH IS ILLUSTRATED BY NUMEROUS OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS

- A. The faith of Abel (vs.4)
- B. The faith of Enoch (vs.5)
- C. The faith of Noah (vs.7)
- D. The faith of Abraham (vs.8-10, 17-19)
- E. The faith of Sara (vs.11-12)
- F. (vs.13-16) These all died without actually receiving all the promises; however, they knew through faith that they would eventually receive the blessings that God had promised them.
- G. The faith of Isaac (vs.20)
- H. The faith of Jacob (vs.21)
- I. The faith of Joseph (vs.22)
- J. The faith of Amram and Jochebed (vs.23)
- K. The faith of Moses (vs.24-28)
- L. The faith of the Israelites (vs.29-30)
- M. The faith of Rahab (vs.31)
- N. The faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets could also be mentioned (vs.32)
- O. (vs.33-38) Some great things were accomplished by many Old Testament characters through their faith.
- P. (vs.39-40) The faith of these Old Testament characters should encourage Christians to remain faithful to Christ -- we have access to far greater blessings than those available to them.