

People of Faith

(Lesson 2)

Introduction:

1. Hebrews 11 is "the great faith chapter of the Bible."
2. In this chapter several fundamental principles relating to faith are addressed.
 - a. Faith is described (vs.1).
 - b. Faith enables us to understand things that we have not seen (vs.3).
 - c. Faith is essential (vs.6).
 - d. Faith will enable a person to obtain a good report (vs.2).
3. This chapter also tells about the faith that was demonstrated by a number of men and women in the Old Testament.
4. These great examples of faith need to be studied carefully today because they provide encouragement for Christians (Hebrews 12:1).
5. In this lesson we are concentrating on the faith of Abel (vs.4), Enoch (vs.5), and Noah (vs.7).

Discussion:

- I. (vs.4) THE FAITH OF ABEL
 - A. Abel *"offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain"* (see Genesis 4:3-5).
 - B. By doing so Abel *"obtained witness that he was righteous."*
 1. Jesus referred to him as *"righteous Abel"* (Matthew 23:35).
 2. Abel's works are described as *"righteous"* (1 John 3:12).
 - C. Abel's faith illustrates the importance of offering excellent sacrifices to God (Romans 12:1-2; Hebrews 13:15; 1 Peter 2:5).
- II. (vs.5) THE FAITH OF ENOCH
 - A. Enoch was one of two men who did not have to face death (see Genesis 5:21-24).
 - B. Before Enoch was translated it was reported that *"he pleased God."*
 - C. Enoch's faith illustrates the importance of serving the Lord diligently so we can be prepared for the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:58).
- III. (vs.7) THE FAITH OF NOAH
 - A. Noah was *"warned of God of things not seen as yet"* (see Genesis 6:17).
 - B. Noah's fear moved him to prepare the ark so he and his family would be spared from the flood (see Genesis 6:13-16, 22; 7:1-5).
 - C. Jesus said that Noah's faith illustrates the importance of being prepared for His return (Matthew 24:36-39).