

Faith that moves Mountains  
Part 1 What is faith?  
Hebrews 11:1-2

Introduction-

- Read Matthew 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

**I. What is biblical faith?**

- Read Hebrews 11:1
  - In this verse of scripture we get a very clear definition of what faith is.
  - In this verse of scripture we come to two words that are very important for our entire understanding of faith
    - Substance-This is the Greek word hupostasis. This word means a foundation, assurance, title deed, and guarantee of things hoped for.
    - Evidence-This is the Greek word elegchos. This word simply means conviction.
  - Read some other versions of scripture that illustrate the meaning of this verse
    - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" ([Hebrews 11:1](#)).American Standard Version and English Standard Version.
    - "Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen" Holman Christian Standard Bible.
    - I really like the last definition of faith.
  - As a Christian what is the evidence of things unseen.
    - Read John 3:6-8
    - In short we are not able to see the wind, but we are able to see the affects of the wind.
    - Isaiah 53:1-12 gives us several promises and prophecies about Jesus Christ. These were written 900 years prior to Christ being born. Christ filled them all to the T.
    - Ecclesiastes 3:11 ESV states that God has set eternity in the heart of man.
    - It (Faith) is the evidence of things unseen.

**II. By Faith we obtain a good report!**

- Read Hebrews 11:2
- Those that are mentioned in Hebrews chapter 11 are great men and women of faith
- There was a literal reward for these men and women
  - These men and women of faith believed God at His word.
  - They believed that God's plan had more to offer than that of the world.
  - They were called upon many times to demonstrate a faith that showed only God could have performed the task that was set before them.
  - They believed that the promises of Eternal land and Eternal life were true.
- Their reward for their faith was ultimately God's approval
  - Today these great men and women of faith rest with God in heaven
  - They have received their promise.
  - God fulfills his promises toward us!
- Remember that for the believer faith is a title deed, guarantee, and demonstrates possession of the things we hope for!

**II. What faith is not!**

- Our Christian faith is not a blind faith
  - Blind faith is like jumping off of a cliff hoping that you will live
  - Blind faith is like a pilot getting into the aircraft without doing a preflight hoping that everything is alright
  - Blind faith is like people in the State of New York buying lottery tickets with the number 1549. This was the flight number of the US airways flight that went into the Hudson River Thursday.
- Our Christian faith is built on long standing tried and true principles that rest in God's authority.
  - Hebrews 13:8 teaches "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."
  - Hebrews 13:5 teaches "...I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."
  - Hebrews 6:17-18 teaches us that God is immutable. This means He does not change!
- Our daily life works simply because of God's unchangeable character.
  - Read Romans 1:18-20