



MZBMP

Sunday Morning Service Study Notes
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TITLE:

By Faith We Understand the Creation

TEXT:

Hebrews 11:1-3

1. *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*
2. *For by it the elders obtained a good report.*
3. *Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*

FAITH IS THE SUBSTANCE, THE EVIDENCE

- Faith is the substance, the sure confidence, the ground of the things a person is HOPING FOR IN GOD'S WORD.
- Faith is tested and proven evidence, argument, certainty, conviction, proof of THINGS NOT SEEN WHICH THE WORD OF GOD AFFIRMS AS FACT OR TRUTH.

BY FAITH THE ELDERS OBTAINED A GOOD REPORT

- By faith, the elders (or the forefathers) obtained a good report.
 - Noah got drunk. Abraham lied multiple times. Sarah urged his husband to take Hagar. Moses committed murder. David committed adultery and murder. Gideon was weak and unbelieving. Samson committed many sins. But God doesn't recount their failure.
 - 19 Examples:
 1. By faith, Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice (v.4).
 2. By faith, Enoch was translated (v.5-6).
 3. By faith, Noah prepared an ark (v.7).
 4. By faith, Abraham obeyed (v.8).
 5. By faith, Abraham sojourned in the land of promise (v.9-10).
 6. By faith, Sarah received strength to conceive and deliver a child (v.11).
 7. By faith, Abraham offered up Isaac (v.17-19).
 8. By faith, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau (v.20).
 9. By faith, Jacob blessed both the sons of Joseph (v.21).
 10. By faith, Joseph made mention of the departing of Israel (v.22).
 11. By faith, Moses' parents hid him for three months (v.23).
 12. By faith, Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter (v.24-26).
 13. By faith, Moses forsook Egypt (v.27).
 14. By faith, Moses kept the passover and the sprinkling of the blood (v.28).
 15. By faith, Israel passed through the Red Sea (v.29).
 16. By faith, the wall of Jericho fell down (v.30).
 17. By faith, Rahab perished not (v.31).
 18. By faith, the saints overcame trials (v.32-35)
 19. By faith, the saints endured trials (v.35-38).
 - They obtained a good report through faith - mentioned again in (v.39).
 - They are our "so great a cloud of witnesses" (12:1).

BY FAITH WE UNDERSTAND THE CREATION

- Creation - the first thing we can see in the Bible.
 - If a person has a problem believing Divine Creation in Genesis 1, he will have a problem believing everything in the Bible.
- “we understand”
 - A lot of people are having a hard time to understand that God created everything in 6 literal days. They says:
 - “God creates the world in six days. This is impossible. It took billions of years for the Earth to form.”
 - “God creates vegetation before he made the sun. Vegetation can't even grow without the sun.”
 - “Flying animals came before land animals, which is just wrong due to the fossil and DNA knowledge we have.”
 - “It is impossible for there to be light on the first day when God didn't create the sun till fourth day.”
 - “Maybe, God created everything through the Big Bang.”
 - For many years, the world believes that the age of universe is 13.8 billion years. That contradicts to the recent discoveries of James Webb telescope of 6 galaxies.
- “the worlds” - αἰών (aiōn)
 - It refers to the physical universe (created world) and to the time universe (created age).
 - Past aiōn - Col. 1:26; Present aiōn - Eph. 1:21; Future aiōn - Eph. 1:21;
 - God not only created the physical earth but also the ages in which He is working out His eternal purpose. See Eph. 1:9-10; 3:3, 5, 6, 9-11.
- “were framed” - καταρτίζω (katartizō)
 - It means prepared, built, designed, arranged in perfect order - great exactness.
 - Examples of the perfect order of God's creation:
 - Law of Gravity, Nuclear Forces, Human Body: DNA, Immune System, Human Eye
- “word” - ῥῆμα (rēma)
 - It refers to God's command - “God said”. See Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26.
- “things which are seen were not made of things which do appear”
 - It means that the worlds were made of nothing.
 - How can we understand that something can be created out of nothing? The answer is ‘by faith’.