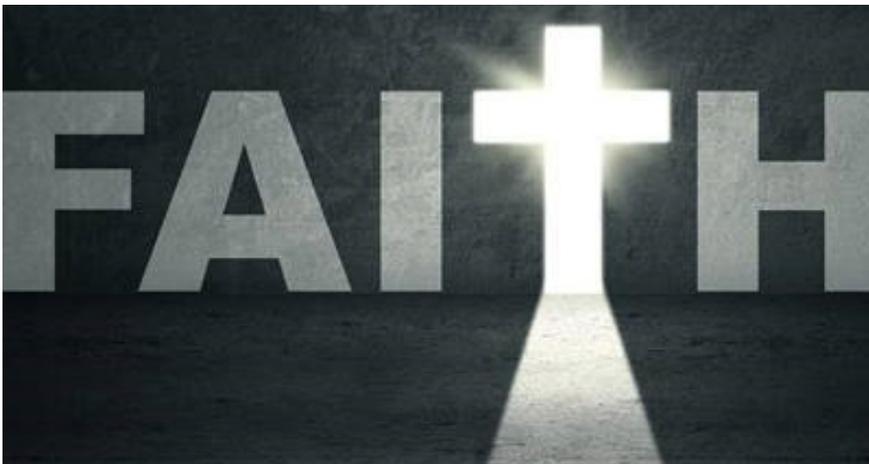


**ADDITIONAL VERSES TO CONSIDER IN YOUR STUDY OF FAITH**  
**WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT FAITH FROM EACH VERSE?**

- ❑ Luke 17.5
  - ❑ Mark 9.24
  - ❑ 2 Corinthians 5.7
  - ❑ 3 Jon 4
  - ❑ Colossians 2.7
  - ❑ 1 Timothy 6.12
  - ❑ Jeremiah 3.12
  - ❑ 2 Chronicles 7.14
  - ❑ Romans 1.8
  - ❑ Matthew 6.30
  - ❑ Matthew 9.2
  - ❑ Matthew 9.18
  - ❑ Romans 3.27-28
  - ❑ Romans 10.17
  - ❑ 1 Corinthians 12.9
  - ❑ 2 Corinthians 4.13
  - ❑ Galatians 5.5-6
1. <https://cbmw.org/topics/the-nashville-statement/denny-burk-keeping-christianity-weird-why-the-nashville-statement-matters/> Accessed Oct. 10, 2017 emphasis added
  2. Rick Steadman, Praying the Armor of God, Harvest House Publishers, 2015



**THE SHIELD AGAINST THE ATTACK**

The Armor of God is designed to be used in battle. If you learn how to use it and never actually go into battle can you still call yourself a soldier of God? There is an apocryphal saying often attributed to Martin Luther that says this:

*'If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the Word of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Him. Where the battle rages there the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battle front besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.'*<sup>1</sup>

The believer is called first to live the truth as the center of their lives. This gives a life purpose and certainty. Then the believer is to take up righteousness and demonstrate to the world that their commitment to Christ is real and continuing. Then comes the Gospel or Good news we are to share with the world. But what happens if they don't want to listen? What happens if they want to fight? Paul says, "in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." Eph. 6.16 What happens is we are in for a battle. The enemy will shoot flaming arrows at us. Rick Steadman<sup>2</sup> points out that the shield was not designed to protect one person but to be used to protect a group fighting together. The reason for this was an attack could come from any direction. The Romans used a formation

called a '*phalanx*' when they fought. It is a box of soldiers, all with shields that are fighting and defending each other. Those in the front kept their shields toward the front. While those in the back were focused on keeping the back of the box from being hit with 'faming arrows' or other projectiles. The shields were used to protect each other and thus protecting yourself.

We as believers are not designed to face the enemy alone or without the right equipment. Thus the first thing we need when we start talking conflict is a trusty shield of faith. The question we have to answer is 'What is Faith?'

### **SIMPLE FACTS ABOUT FAITH**

- ❑ Read Hebrews 11.6 “*And without faith it is impossible to please Him...*” Describe the importance of faith as a shield and its symbolic meaning as we serve God.

- ❑ Read Habakkuk 2.4  
“*Behold, as for the proud one,  
His soul is not right within him;  
But the righteous will live by his faith.*”  
Contrast the life of the ungodly as describe here with the life of the righteous. (Hint: first define righteous)

### **DEFINING YOUR PERSONAL FAITH**

- ❑ Read Hebrews 11.35 “*Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.*”  
What are the two opposites that both describe faith as laid out in this verse?
- ❑ How can they both be part of a life of faith?

- ❑ What is the one ingredient necessary for a person to have faith?

- ❑ Key Question: How can faith be seen as a shield against the enemy?

- ❑ Write out a definition of faith that best describes the walk you have with the lord. \_\_\_\_\_  
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- ❑ Hebrews 11.35a

Up to this point faith has always been seen as a positive. Living long lives, getting blessings, walking through seas, getting set free, living unafraid. Look at the sudden transition that takes place in this verse.

- ❑ Hebrews 11.35b

- ❑ Hebrews 11.36-38 Though the word faith does not appear here it is implied. These people were living in faith too. List everything that happened to them. Then explain how this can be seen as faith.

- ❑ Hebrews 11.39-40 Paul says “all of these,” and is referring to all from Abraham to the ones living in caves. What was missing from their lives?

- ❑ 1 John 3.5 How does this explain what they were all waiting for?

- ❑ Read Romans 1.17 “*For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, “The one who is righteous will live by faith.”*”

How does the life of the believer open the door to understand and draw closer to God?

- ❑ Read 1 Corinthians 13.12 “*For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.*”

How does faith come into play when we are trying to see and understand God?

- ❑ Read 2 Corinthians 5.6-7 “*So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight.*”  
What do you think Paul means that our walk is by faith and not what we see?

## **DEFINING FAITH HEBREWS 11**

The word for faith basically means to be faithful or reliable and from it we get the word for believer. The word means so much more that there are whole studies into faith. Christianity is about the revealing of Jesus and the question of accepting or rejecting Him. This requires faith to accept what has been revealed to the mind, heart and soul. The key to faith is not as complicated as you may think. It describes so much of our lives and yet to so many it is a mystery. I encourage you to read the entire 11th chapter of Hebrews out loud. Answer the following questions and get ready to understand what it means to have a personal faith. I will even show you the secret verse that says more about faith than any other in all the Bible. Ready? Read then answer...

- Read Hebrews 11.6 Why is faith necessary? Explain your answer.

Beside each verse is designed to help us understand faith. Read each section and write at least one key thing we can learn about faith.

- Hebrews 11.4 Abel worked harder at his relationship and how he served God than his brother did.
- Hebrews 11.5
- Hebrews 11.7

- Hebrews 11.8
- Hebrews 11.9-10
- Hebrews 11.11-12
- Hebrews 11.13-16
- Hebrews 11.17-19
- Hebrews 11.20
- Hebrews 11.21
- Hebrews 11.22
- Hebrews 11.23
- Hebrews 11.24-26
- Hebrews 11.27
- Hebrews 11.28
- Hebrews 11.29
- Hebrews 11.30
- Hebrews 11.31
- Hebrews 11.32-34