

*Faith is...*

### **Hebrews 11:1**

**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**

Faith is the confident trust in the unseen reality of God's present help. It occurs 24 times in this chapter. Only by faith are we in a right relationship with God. Only by faith can man live according to the invisible realities of God. It is by faith that we are saved. It is a gift of God by grace.

Faith gives us assurance. Assurance is having the sense of something foundational, something you can build on. It gives confidence to the believer that what Scripture has promised will take place concerning our future. It allows us to go into each day with a sureness that God is in total control of our life.

Faith gives us hope. This is not wishful longings or selfish desires. This hope is about God's promises in His Word. God's promises are the basis for our firm conviction.

Faith gives us conviction. The Greek word for "conviction" means proof or evidence like that which would be needed in a court of law. When going to a court of law we need to be loaded with documentation about our case. Faith provides us with every conceivable security we could ever want when it comes to our life here on earth and life eternal.

During the rest of the chapter there is list of OT heroes of faith. In chapter 12 they are called "A Great Cloud of Witnesses." They are to cheer us on when things become difficult. These come to us in the form of fellow Christians, who constantly have our backs.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for bringing faith into my spiritual life. Continue to make it strong as I go through life. Help me to support others as they journey through their lives Amen