Something a bit different today. I found 2 sermons and put them together. Sermon on Faith and Jesus.

 A perfect combination

<https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/what-is-faith-hebrews-11-1-4-william-d-brown-sermon-on-faith-general-128598>

 **“WHAT IS FAITH?” Hebrews 11:1- 4**

Today I want to talk for a little while about “**faith**”. Everybody has some type of faith, people have faith in many different things, when we get into our car. Did you ladies ask Evanne when she picked you up this morning, if she had a license to drive or even if she could drive? She had faith, as we all do, that the car would start and get to the destination.

We have faith that our doctor knows what he or she is doing. (Most do have their certificate on the wall…BUT is it authentic? We exercise faith when we hop on a plane (do we ask the pilot if he can fly and does he have a license. Or what about the bus driver or Taxi driver?

We exercise faith continually **without even knowing it**.

No one can live a single day **without exercising faith.**

Faith is also expressed in the **spiritual realm**. Each of us regardless of our backgrounds expresses faith.

The difference between the **faiths** we exercise in our daily routine and our **religious faith** is the object of that faith.

WE all place our faith in something or someone. The Moslem puts his faith in the Koran and in Mohammed. The humanists put their faith in themselves, a religious person in his own good works. None of these can save, because in each case the **object of faith is wrong**.

Our faith is only as good as the object in which we place our faith.

We’re told in the Bible that we are to personally put our faith and trust in …. Jesus Christ.

Acts 4:12 Living Bible (TLB)

**12**There is salvation in no one else! Under all heaven there is no other name for men to call upon to save them.”

Listen as I read Heb. 11:1-4

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

**2**This is what the ancients were commended for.

**3**By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

**4**By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

Re Abel speaks

Hebrews 11:4 Living Bible (TLB)

**4**It was by faith that Abel obeyed God and brought an offering that pleased God more than Cain’s offering did. God accepted Abel and proved it by accepting his gift; and though Abel is long dead, we can still learn lessons from him about trusting God.

I. **WHAT IS FAITH?**

To understand what faith is we must get past certain misconceptions about faith.

There are people that think that as long as they are sincere about what they believe then that faith will be good enough.

# But Paul says in 2 Timothy 1:12 Living Bible (TLB)

**12**That is why I am suffering here in jail, and I am certainly not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to safely guard all that I have given him until the day of his return.

**If your beliefs are not founded on the right person it doesn’t matter what else, you believe.**

Hebrews chapter eleven tells us what real faith is. **What did it say?** [Heb. 11:1-3]

**1. Now faith is the sub stance\* of things hoped for**,--we notice the word “sub-stance”, well, as its hoped for, I guess it’s the object you have the faith to attain or get? As in “hoped for”

Faith is the **affirmative response** to **God’s will and Word**. Man possesses faith when He takes **God at His Word**. We don’t need to see something to believe it. Faith is the **acceptance** of something simply because God has **said it.**

# Jesus said in John 20:29 Living Bible (TLB)

**29**Then Jesus told him, “You believe because you have seen me. But blessed are those who haven’t seen me and believe anyway.”

Hebrews 11:2 Living Bible (TLB)

**2**Men of God in days of old were famous for their faith.

**3**By faith—by believing God—we know that the world and the stars—in fact, all things—were made at God’s command; and that they were all made from things that can’t be seen.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=hebrews+11.3&version=TLB#fen-TLB-27176a)]

**Footnotes:**

1. [Hebrews 11:3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=hebrews+11.3&version=TLB#en-TLB-27176) *things that can’t be seen.* Perhaps the reference is to atoms, electrons, etc

No man was present to witness the Creation;

It must be **accepted by faith**. That God created something out of nothing, so that things were not made of things, seen

The book of Genesis explains the events of this creation, and that explanation must be accepted through faith.

True faith is simple obedience to and believing God’s word in spite of circumstances or consequences.

Faith is described in a two-fold way.

It is the “substance of things hoped for,” and “the evidence of things not seen.”

again, the word “sub stance” means literally ‘to stand under or to support.’

Faith is the foundation that gives the believer the confidence to stand.

 “faith is the confidence of things hoped for.”

God has two ways in which men can come to Him today.

The first is that you can come to Him by works.

That is if you can present perfection in your works, God will accept you—but so far nobody has been able to do that. Adam didn’t, and no one since has ever been able to do it. Abraham didn’t, and David didn’t, and Daniel didn’t.

 None of them made it by being perfect.

Therefore, this is not a satisfactory way to come to God, but many people are hobbling along that futile route.

AND. Remember Hebrews 11: 6

**6.**You can never please God without faith, without depending on him. Anyone who wants to come to God must believe that there is God and that he rewards those who sincerely look for him.

We were sent Jesus. So the reality is, we need FAITH in Jesus. So who is this Jesus?

**Who is Jesus**

Well, here we are two thousand years later, the world still celebrates the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth?

His words are quoted more often than those of anyone else? People have been prepared, not only to live for him, but to die for their belief in him?

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth is verified by some of the best-supported eye-witness accounts in all of history (see 1 John 1:1).

John 1:1-2 Living Bible (TLB)

**1 1-2**Before anything else existed,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+1.1&version=TLB#fen-TLB-23221a)] there was Christ,\* with God. He has always been alive and is himself God.

**Footnotes:**

1. [John 1:1](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+1.1&version=TLB#en-TLB-23221) *Before anything else existed,* literally, “In the beginning.” *Christ,* literally, “the Word,” meaning Christ, the wisdom and power of God and the first cause of all things; God’s personal expression of himself to men.

Jesus made astonishing claims about himself, claims that eventually got him killed. He said:

* “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12);
* “All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me” (Matthew 28:18);
* I have come to “seek and save those who are lost” (Luke 19:10);
* “For the Son of Man” (the name Jesus often used to describe himself) “is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward everyone according to what they have done” (Matthew 16:27);
* “Your sins are forgiven” (Matthew 9:2);
* “I and my Father are One” (John 10:30).

At his trial, Jesus told the High Priest:

“You will see me seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

With these words, Jesus put himself equal to God.

Jesus matched his deeds to his words.

He healed the sick, raised the dead, forgave sins, and taught people about the love of God.

He was completely different to other teachers and preachers, who taught that people must obey hundreds of religious rituals and rules.

He said,

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).

And as Jesus suffered and died on the cross, he demonstrated that he was God. In spite of his innocence, he freely forgave his murderers, and he promised the criminal on the cross beside him “You will be with me in Paradise.”

Jesus claimed to have come to reveal what God was like to the world. Indeed, he specifically claimed to be God in the flesh (see John 8:58).

#  John 8:58 Living Bible (TLB)

**58***Jesus:* “The absolute truth is that I was in existence before Abraham was ever born!”

Immediately after his death and resurrection, this claim was believed and supported by those who knew him best, and in an unprecedented way, believed by millions in the years that followed.

Without Jesus Christ, God would be a **mystery too great for our human minds** to begin to grasp. **Jesus came to show us God in a form we could understand and relate to:**

A **God of love and compassion, who longs to rescue his wayward children. Jesus extended human understanding of God because he was the perfect revelation of God. Here is the power of Christianity.**

**WE are to be LIKE CHRIST as Christians. WE can do as He did in the power of the Holy Spirit. But that’s another story.**

**Just another afterthought- we need to understand who we are!**

Colossians 2:11-14 Amplified Bible (AMP)

**11**In Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, but by the [spiritual] circumcision of Christ in the stripping off of the body of the flesh [the sinful carnal nature], **12**having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him [to a new life] through [your] faith in the working of God, [as displayed] when He raised Christ from the dead. **13**When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh (worldliness, manner of life), God made you alive together with Christ, having [freely] forgiven us all our sins, **14**having canceled out the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2%3A11-14&version=AMP#fen-AMP-29509a)]certificate of debt consisting of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2%3A11-14&version=AMP#fen-AMP-29509b)]legal demands [which were in force] against us and which were hostile to us. And this certificate He has set aside *and* completely removed by nailing it to the cross.

We are now no longer OF the world but live in it.

We are KINGDOM LIVERS. And that’s a whole different topic

ENDz `1