

THE GENESIS GENESIS FIVE

Part 4 • February 16, 2025 • Pastor Jason Smotherman

FAITH

EPHESIANS 4:5-6 (KJV)

⁵ One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

There is one Faith, many demonstrations of Faith. One Faith produces the many demonstrations of faith.

FAITH DEFINED

ACTS 6:7 (KJV)

⁷ And the Word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

The term Faith in this scripture describes the belief system being walked out by the followers of Jesus. When I say have "Faith", what I am declaring is that **I have a system of beliefs that are backed up by actions that produce a hope that what has been promised has arrived, if I don't see it yet, my faith is rooted that it is already done.**

HEBREWS 11:1 (KJV)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith is the substance of belief that the God who made a way for me already, is making a way for me to become the person He has called me to be. **He is both out front calling me, and behind me defending me.** In Hebrews 11, we read the author's (Paul?, Apollos?, unknown) summary of the Giants of the Faith in the book of Genesis. Hebrews 11 has been widely considered the Hall of Faith.

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN BOTH HEBREWS 11 AND GENESIS:

1. Abel – Faith in Worship

(HEBREWS 11:4, GENESIS 4:1-10)

Abel, Adam and Eve's son, offered a better sacrifice than Cain because he gave by faith and with a sincere heart. God accepted his offering, but Cain's was rejected, leading to Abel's murder. His faith still speaks as an example of true worship.

Lesson: *True faith is about offering God your best with the right heart.*

2. Enoch – Faith in Relationship

(HEBREWS 11:5, GENESIS 5:21-24)

Enoch "walked with God" so closely that he did not see death—God simply took him. His life pleased God, showing that faith is about more than belief; it's about a deep, daily relationship with Him.

Lesson: *Faith is about walking closely with God, trusting Him completely.*

3. Noah – Faith in Obedience

(HEBREWS 11:7, GENESIS 6–9)

God told Noah to build an ark to save his family from a coming flood—something unheard of at the time. Despite mockery, Noah obeyed by faith, demonstrating trust in God's warning.

Lesson: *Faith means obeying God even when His plans don't seem to make sense to others.*

4. Abraham – Faith in God's Promises

(HEBREWS 11:8-19, GENESIS 12–25)

He left his home (Genesis 12) because God called him to an unknown land.

He believed in a promised son (Genesis 15, 17, 21) despite his and Sarah's old age.

He was willing to sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22), believing God could raise him from the dead.

Lesson: *Faith means trusting in God's promises, even when they seem impossible.*

5. Sarah – Faith in God's Power

(HEBREWS 11:11, GENESIS 17:15-19; 18:10-15; 21:1-7)

Sarah laughed when she first heard she would have a child at 90 years old, but later, she believed. She gave birth to Isaac, proving that God's promises stand firm.

Lesson: Faith grows—even if we struggle at first, God is still faithful.

6. Isaac – Faith in Blessing

(HEBREWS 11:20, GENESIS 21-35)

Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, trusting that God's promises would continue through his children. Even though he mistakenly blessed Jacob instead of Esau, he accepted it as part of God's plan.

Lesson: Faith trusts that God's blessings will unfold as He wills.

7. Jacob – Faith in God's Plan

(HEBREWS 11:21, GENESIS 25-50)

Jacob, at the end of his life, blessed Joseph's sons (Ephraim and Manasseh), reversing the birth order blessing. This showed his faith in God's divine choice rather than human tradition.

Lesson: Faith submits to God's plan, even when it goes against cultural expectations.

8. Joseph – Faith in God's Future Deliverance

(HEBREWS 11:22, GENESIS 37-50)

Joseph, before his death, told the Israelites that God would one day bring them out of Egypt and instructed them to carry his bones to the Promised Land. This showed his faith in God's future salvation.

Lesson: Faith looks beyond present circumstances, trusting in God's bigger plan.

All these people demonstrated faith in different ways—in worship (Abel), relationship (Enoch), obedience (Noah), trust in promises (Abraham & Sarah), blessings (Isaac & Jacob), and hope for the future (Joseph).

Each of their stories points to a life lived by faith, not by sight

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 (KJV)

⁷For we walk by faith, not by sight:

Faith is having belief in God and walking it out with a trust knowing that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly all that we ask or think!

So begin to confess and declare the Faith that has been deposited in you is greater than any circumstance you face.

- If you are **doubting** declare Romans 12:3 and say "I have Faith"
- If you are **in poverty** declare Phil. 4:19 and declare "All my needs are supplied"
- If you are **weak** declare Psalm 27:1 "God is my strength"
- If you are **under a spiritual attack** declare 1 Jn 4:4 "All greatness is in me"
- If you are **in a season of defeat** declare 2 Cor. 2:14 "I will always triumph"
- If you are **struggling with a lack of wisdom** declare 1 Cor. 1:30 "I have all wisdom"
- If you are **succumbing to sin** declare 1 Cor 1:30 "I have all righteousness"
- If you are **struggling with worry and frustration** declare 1 Peter 5:7 "All my problems are gone"
- If you are **in bondage and addiction** declare 2 Cor. 3:7 "I have liberty"
- If you are **in condemnation** declare Rom 8:1 "I am not condemned"
- If you **struggle with fear** declare 2 Tim. 1:7 "I am not afraid"
- If you are **sick** declare 1 Peter 2:24 "I am healed"

The promises are weapons that destroy the attacks of the enemy and defeat our flesh.

HEBREWS 11:22 (KJV)

²² By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones

GENESIS 50:22-26 (KJV)

²² And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house: and Joseph lived an hundred and ten years. ²³ And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees. ²⁴ And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. ²⁵ And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. ²⁶ So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Faith sees beyond realities of the "box" we live in.

Time, space, resource, ability, are the "boxes" we place around the Faith that can move mountains. Remove the belief in the box and you will unleash the great Faith you already possess.