



HEBREWS RECAP

- **A strong warning against**
 - Deliberately keeping on sinning – intentional/willful sin on regular basis
 - Specifically apostasy – abandoning previously held beliefs
 - Why would anyone do that?
 - Being persecuted – is following Jesus worth it?
- **Encouragement**
 - **Remember** – recall that you were persecuted when you first became believers and you endured (stood firm) so let that remembrance strengthen you now
 - **Persevere** – bear up well under these difficult circumstances





HEBREWS 10:38-39

10.38-39

- My righteous one will live by faith and I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.
 - Faith – trust; taking God at His word; living as if His word is true
 - Shrinking back – withdrawing/disappearing from a position
- We don't belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed but to those who have faith and are saved.





HEBREWS 11:1-3

Two parallel descriptions

- **Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance of what we do not see**
 - Confidence/assurance – speak to reason for a particular outlook
 - Confidence – (assurance or substance); basis or foundation for something
 - Assurance – (conviction); proof or evidence for





HEBREWS 11:1-3

Two parallel descriptions

- **Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance of what we do not see**
 - What we hope for/what we do not see – describe reality that is not yet evident or present to us
 - What we hope for: better future; we hope for what we don't currently possess or experience
 - What we do not see – the fulfillment of God's word to us
- Trust in the Lord is the foundation for having a confident expectation of a better future and the evidence that God says is actually true.



HEBREWS

11:1-3



This what the ancients were commended for.

- **Ancients** – Old Testament saints
- **Commended** – approved/spoken well of
- **Note** – approved for their faith (trust in the Lord, living as if His word to them was true), not an outcome (some suffered greatly, some were victorious)





HEBREWS 11:1-3

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command so that what is seen what was not made by what was visible.

- **Creation *ex nihilo*** – out of nothing; Gen 1
- **Encouragement** – you already are exercising the kind of faith you need





Faith as a plant; nourished by:

- **God's presence** – water; if we don't know Him we'll never trust Him
- Engage in practices that help us connect at heart level – prayer, worship, silence, etc.





Faith as a plant; nourished by:

- **God's Word** – plant food; if we don't know His Word we'll never know what to trust Him for
- **Daily Readings**





Faith as a muscle; strengthened by:

- **Use** – faith is a choice; looks like obedience in face of uncertainty, anxiety, fear, weakness, inadequacy, etc.
- Where in your life are you exercising faith?



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