Victorious Faith

Text: Heb. 11:1-6; Rev. 3:5; 1 John 5:4

Hebrews 11:1–6

- 1 Now faith is the (realisation) substance of things hoped for, the (confidence) evidence of things not seen.
- 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.
- 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.
- 4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.
- 5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken, he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
- 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Ex. Story of a Barber – "God does not exist"

Friends, we have to come to God and when we come to God, we need to have the right currency. We need to have *faith*.

You must have the right currency to transact business with God.

What is faith?

While FEAR is wrong believing faith is right believing.

It is believing that God exists.

Faith is believing in God's promises.

Faith is having conviction about the future though we do not know what the future holds, but we have the evidence and confidence who holds our future.

It is being certain of things we do not physically see.

Faith is practical. It demands action.

Faith is not just something that we believe, but it is something we do.

Faith demands a plan that if you truly believe on the Word of God, you will act on it.

Q: How do we walk and live by faith?

A: By walking and living according to what the Bible says

By walking and living within the parameters of God's Word, within the parameters of God's promises

IF GOD SAYS IT, THAT SETTLES IT. NO MORE, NO LESS.

Our text today tells us some important truths about faith...

1. FAITH IS LIVING IN THE NOW.

Heb. 11:1 - Now faith is the (realisation) substance of things hoped for, the (confidence) evidence of things not seen.

We don't live in the past, we don't live in the future, we live in the now of our lives.

NOW, faith is. If it is not NOW, it is not faith.

2. FAITH ALLOWS US TO OBTAIN GOOD TESTIMONY.

Heb. 11:2 - For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.

A testimony usually refers to the account of how a person encountered the God of the Bible.

The word "testimony" is used in a court of law. That is, the true account of a person's experience or observation.

God continues to work in every person's life and that relationship must be personal ongoing, growing and that should continue to

create a good story, a good testimony of your life.

3. FAITH BRINGS UNDERSTANDING OF GOD.

Heb. 11:3 - By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

By FAITH we understand the world. We understand how the Word of God does His work. We start understanding the Word of God. We start understanding a glimpse of God's plan, God's purpose, God's love.

How come we couldn't understand the Bible before?

- 1 Cor. 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.
- **2 Cor. 4:3-4** And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.
- **2 Cor. 3:14** But their minds were blinded...

When a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

2 Cor. 3:16 – ...but whenever a person turns [in repentance and faith] to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

4. FAITH ALONE PLEASES GOD.

Hebrew chapter 11 is an account of people who lived in faith.

Some of them had amazing breakthroughs and some broke records.

Ex. Enoch.

Others went through a lot of pain and suffering and did not receive the promise and yet obtained good testimony through faith.

EX. Job story.

Faith is not based on the outcome but in our obedience to the Word of God.

Faith is not based on what is happening outside of us but what is happening inside of us.

REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME, WE NEED TO WALK AND LIVE IN FAITH.

Remember, without faith you cannot please God.

Faith has always been rewarded!