

**Intro:**

**1. A warped perspective on faith.**

“faith in faith instead of faith in God” (Word of Faith Movement)

**2 Peter 2:1-3 (HCSB)** <sup>1</sup> But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and will bring swift destruction on themselves.

<sup>2</sup> Many will follow their unrestrained ways, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.

<sup>3</sup> In their greed they will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation, [pronounced] long ago, is not idle, and their destruction does not sleep.

**2. Your wisdom by faith.**

**Hebrews 11:1-3 (HCSB)** <sup>1</sup> Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen.

<sup>2</sup> For by it our ancestors were approved.

<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen has been made from things that are not visible.

**Romans 10:17 (HCSB)** <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ.

**“Faith is believing God will do what He says”**

**3. Your worship by faith.**

**Hebrews 11:4 (HCSB)** <sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain [did]. By this he was approved as a righteous man, because God approved his gifts, and even though he is dead, he still speaks through this.

**Genesis 4:1-6 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord."

<sup>2</sup> And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.

<sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground,

<sup>4</sup> and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering,

<sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.

<sup>6</sup> The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?"

**Malachi 1:11-13 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

<sup>12</sup> But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is polluted, and its fruit, that is, its food may be despised.

<sup>13</sup> But you say, 'What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the Lord of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the Lord.

**John 4:24 (ESV)** <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

#### **4. Your walk by faith.**

**Hebrews 11:5 (HCSB)** <sup>5</sup> By faith, Enoch was taken away so that he did not experience death, and he was not to be found because God took him away. For prior to his transformation he was approved, having pleased God.

**Genesis 5:21-24 (ESV)** <sup>21</sup> When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah.

<sup>22</sup> Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>23</sup> Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years.

<sup>24</sup> Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (ESV)** <sup>6</sup> So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,  
<sup>7</sup> **for we walk by faith, not by sight.**

<sup>8</sup> Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, **we make it our aim to please him.**

<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

## **5. Your witness by faith.**

**Hebrews 11:7 (HCSB)** <sup>7</sup> By faith Noah, after being warned about what was not yet seen, in reverence built an ark to deliver his family. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

**Genesis 6:22, 7:5 , 8:15-18 (ESV) (Note the obedience to God's Word)**

**6:22**<sup>22</sup> Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

**7:5** <sup>5</sup> And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.

**8:15-18** <sup>15</sup> Then God said to Noah,

<sup>16</sup> "Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you.

<sup>17</sup> Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth."

<sup>18</sup> So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him.

**\*Righteousness comes by faith\***

**Romans 1:17 (HCSB)** <sup>17</sup> For in it God's righteousness is revealed from faith to faith, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.

**Galatians 5:4-6 (HCSB)** <sup>4</sup> You who are trying to be justified by the law are alienated from Christ; you have fallen from grace!

<sup>5</sup> For by the Spirit we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness from faith.

<sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision accomplishes anything; what matters is faith working through love.

## **6. If you are living without faith.**

**Hebrews 11:6 (HCSB)** <sup>6</sup> Now without faith it is impossible to please God, for the one who draws near to Him must believe that He exists and rewards those who seek Him.