

## INTRODUCTION

1. Psa 17:14-15 2 kinds of men w/ 2 dif/ kinds of *satisfactions*
  - i. v14 - life lived w/i present age;
  - ii. v15 - life live *when I awake* = resurrection.
2. Hb 11 people of faith who lived in this age for the age to come.

**1st: The Exemplary Faith of Abel - Hb 11:4**

1. v1-3 faith in objective revelation & revelation re: subjective faith wh/ is defined by its object - by what is believed.
  - i. *gained approval* [v2 & 39] - v6 faith wh/ *pleases God*.
  - ii. Faith embraces Creator's creation. v3 sets stage for Abel & Cain
2. Abel & Cain = 2 seeds [Gn 3:15], faith -> salvation evidenced by worship
3. 2 sacrifices - *Abel offered a better sacrifice*
  - i. Some say the issue is sincerity - Prv 15:8. How can we discern commendable sincerity from misdirected zeal?
  - ii. v2's *approval* = *testimony* [2x in v4] by God - *his gifts* = sacrifices
  - iii. Cain? Gn 4:7 *if you do well...*

**2nd: The Exemplary Faith of Enoch - v5**

1. Gn 5 - genealogy w/ refrain: *& he died*. But God *took* Enoch [Gn 5:24].
2. God's *approval: he was pleasing to God*. *Enoch walked w/ God* [Gn 6:9].
3. Ancient picture of the resurrection.

**3rd: Instruction on the Necessity of Faith - v6**

1. Elaborates on what is *pleasing to God*. The necessity of *faith* without wh/ *it is impossible to please God*. God is not pleased w/ everybody or just any sort of "faith."
2. How is faith evidenced? 2 parallel phrases: *he who comes to God // those who seek Him* = language of worship. *Seek Him* [Pss]; *draw near/come to* [Hb 4:16; 7:25; 12:22 - Hb 10:19-22. Axiomatic truth: *anyone*.

3. In what does faith believe? 2 *thats*.
  - i. *that He is* = YHWH [Ex 3:14]: only true & living God confessed by faith in Jesus, *my Lord & my God - I am He* [Jn 8:24;13:19]
  - ii. *that He is a rewarder* - eschatology - no condemnation, only rewards! Faith of Ab [[KJV Gn 15:1]. Hb 11:26; [Tit 2:13]; Hb 10:35-36.
4. Lk 24:46-47; Rom 10:9. W/o faith in Jesus, *it is impossible to please God*.

**4th: The Exemplary Faith of Noah - v7**

1. Noah's faith exemplifies v1 - *thgs not yet seen*.
  - i. What connected Noah to the future was Word of God: *warning*
  - ii. Did Noah believe? How do we know? Gn 6:11-22 v22 = Hb 11:7
2. Hb 11:7 re: Noah's faith
  - i. in rln to Noah: *reverence* [NIV *in holy fear*] = worship [Hb 12:28-29].
  - ii. in rln to Noah: *for the salvation of his household*
  - iii. in rln to men: 2 Pt 2:5 - *preacher of righteousness; he condemned the world*: announced condemnation upon sin - for approx 100yrs
  - iv. in rln to God: *heir of the righteousness wh/ is according to faith*
    - a. *an heir* = language of sonship - inheritance
    - b. *of the righteousness wh/ is according to faith* = sanctification
    - c. Hb 11:8-10 - faith of Abraham seen 1st in Noah's faith that there would be a post-diluvian world - hope for life after the death of the flood; for land. Our faith - Hb 9:15
3. Cf. 1Pt 3:18-22 & 2 Pt 3:5-7. Mat 24:35-44
  - i. on threshold of judgment: similar moral climate: *corrupt & violent* [Mat 24:12]. Sudden return of Son of Man.
  - ii. Noah obeyed God in a generation of unbelief. Should we make the message of impending judgment more prominent?
4. **REVIEW:** Abel - worship; Enoch - walk; Noah - work & witness. All trusting in promises to be fulfilled after death - unseen; thgs hoped for - thgs given to us in Jesus Christ. We too can learn to live by faith!