

Sermon series: *Reminders for a Hard Season*

6/18/23 “Trust that Wins,” Hebrews 10:39-11:3, 6, 32-40, MEV

INTRODUCTION: Ever believed that if you just had enough faith, such and such would happen or not happen?

Stats USA teens: fathers meant to help us learn trust

Faith: *pistis* = confidence that something is real, with strong implication that action will follow –*NLT Five Bible*

substance (confidence) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), **evidence** (proof) of things not seen [faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by physical senses] –from *NLT Five Bible*

What faith does not give us: Easy life, everything we want, escape from suffering. *May mean miracles.*

MAIN IDEA: Let us live by faith. How? Here are 3 principles to help us.

I. First, living by faith earns us a good testimony (2, 39)

a good report: *martureo* [martyr] = to be a witness

A. with God (fulfilling God's desire, Acts 2:8)

B. with other people [as did these in the hall of faith]

1. encouraging fellow believers
2. witnessing to unbelievers (potential conviction)

ILLUSTRATION: Abel [gave God what He wanted without being told what to do] & Enoch [walked with God, didn't die]

II. Second, only when we live by faith do we please God (6)

Heb. 10:38, MEV: Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him.

A. believing that He exists

Believe: confidence that something is real, with a strong implication that action will follow because of the belief –*NLT Five Bible*

1. belief requires action as a result of believing
2. **James 2:18, MEV:** Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”
3. affects our behavior, speech, thoughts...judgment

EX:

B. believing that He rewards for diligently seeking Him

1. through persevering prayer, through obedience

EX:

2. **looking for His reward**

EX:

ILLUSTRATION: Noah [years building ark]

III. Third, living by faith means treasuring God's promises as though we have them now (13-16)

EX: caring for a thing before we have it in our possession... living as though already in His home...How would I speak? Think? Act?

A. assured by what we have seen

B. admitting our state here

1. strangers
2. pilgrims (one who comes from a foreign country to reside there by the side of the natives –*Thayer*)

C. which pleases God

1. He's not ashamed to be called our God
2. He has prepared a city for us (it already exists)

ILLUSTRATION: Abraham, Moses [promised land, Christ], David [who saw Jesus as King & Lord]

CONCLUSION: Reason missionaries leave families, grandkids; pastors serve without climbing ladder; we give ¼ of our weekend to God & His people; we give financially & time to God & His people; we don't condemn people of the world for their views, lifestyles, harshness toward us.

ALTAR: Have you chosen Jesus? Are you living by faith? Want to?