

Hebrews 11:1–3 (KJV 1900) — **1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. **2** For by it the elders obtained a good report. **3** Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

I. Faith Defined By Description

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

A. Hebrews 11:1a – “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,...”

1. “NOW Faith is”

➤ **Present Faith, not a tomorrow faith.**

- Faith isn't about just believing in something or about having hope in hope.
- Faith isn't about having a wishful thinking or just speaking words into existence.

2. “Is the Substance” = something permanent, eternal, & tangible, foundational about it (build on it).

Dr. Wayne Grudem defines faith as – “**the trust or dependence on God based on the fact that we take Him (God) at His word and believe what He has said.**”

3. Things hoped for....”

➤ **A Faith we long for, a faith we look forward to, it is a faith we wait with anxious expectation.**

Pastor Tony Evans defines faith as - “***an inner conviction and persuasion that what God says to us is true.***”

B. Hebrews 11:1b – “..... the evidence of things not seen.”

The Holman Bible defines Faith as being that which gives reality to that which cannot be seen.

Illustration – Headache

II. Faith is Defined by Divine Approval

Hebrews 11:2 - For by it the elders obtained a good report.

➤ **Every Christian and leader should want to prove their allegiance to God and not man.**

III. Faith Defined By The Designer

Hebrews 11:3 - Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Let me give you the Gordon definition. Faith is the confidence, belief, trust and rock assurance based upon the Word of God that God is who He says He is and God can do what He said He will do.

Hebrews 12:2 (KJV 1900) — **2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The object of our Biblical faith is God. Our Biblical faith is more important than the intensity of faith in and through ourselves.