

SERMON OUTLINE

'Who by Faith' - 4

Studies in Hebrews 11

Hebrews 11 v7 & Genesis 6 v5 - 7 v23

Key Text - Heb 11 v7

Key Question - What does this text tell us about Noah and his faith?

1. THE WORD OF GOD WHICH NOAH BELIEVED

Note - In our text we have a basic definition of faith in that true faith always has 3 elements to it - the mind, the heart, and the will.

(a) The Mind - "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen....."

(b) The Heart - ".....in holy fear....."

(c) The Will - ".....built an ark to save his family."

What we have here, is - the obedience of faith because true faith always manifest itself in reverent obedience to what God says in His word. See Matt 7 v24 - 27 & Rom 10 v17

Key Question - What was the word from God which Noah received and believed? It was 2-fold (and this is the gospel):-

A. IT CONCERNED THE DESTRUCTION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH

See Heb 11 v7a & Gen 6 v13a. Key Question - Would God actually do this? Answer - Yes, he would! Notice:-

(i) What God saw

See Gen 6 v5 & v11 - 12.

(ii) What God felt

See Gen 6 v6

(iii) What God said

See Gen 6 v7

(iv) What God did

See Gen 6 v3. God pronounced judgement - and exercised patience.

Application - God has pronounced a day of judgement (see Acts 17 v31) - but in the meantime He is exercising patience. This is the answer to those who laugh and scoff when they hear about a day of judgement. See 2 Pet 3 v3 - 9.

Key Point - Do not presume on the patience of God. See Rom 2 v4

B. IT CONCERNED THE SALVATION OF NOAH AND HIS FAMILY

See Heb 11 v7b & Gen 6 v22. Noah took God at His word - this is faith. The story of Noah is all about judgement being pronounced and salvation being provided. God's means of salvation was the ark. See Gen 6v14a & v17 - 18.

Key Point - The ark foreshadows the cross. There is no other place (no other refuge) from the judgement of God.

2. THE GOSPEL OF GOD WHICH NOAH PREACHED

See Heb 11 v7c & 2 Pet 2 v5. Noah was not only a builder - he was a preacher. What did he preach? See Jn 3 v16 - 18. Noah condemned the world by what he preached (and how he lived) in that in hearing the truth of the gospel the people refused to believe.

Key Text - Gen 7 v16b. As Noah and his family were shut in - everyone else was shut out! The door being shut speaks of 2 things:-

A. WONDERFUL SECURITY FOR NOAH AND HIS FAMILY

B. TERRIBLE FINALITY FOR EVERYONE ELSE

Application - See Matt 24 v36 - 39

3. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD WHICH NOAH RECEIVED

See Heb 11 v7d