

LIVING FAITH IV
Respects God's Power
Hebrews 11:7

INTRODUCTION

- A. Faith, the assurance [substance, *foundation*] of things hoped for.
 - 1. A forward looking ahead.
- B. The conviction of things not seen.
 - 1. Based on a revelation from God's word.
 - 2. Romans 10:17, "*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*"
- C. For by it [*faith*] the men of old gained approval.
 - 1. It is a living, active faith.
 - 2. It is a faith which can be seen.

II. THE FAITH OF NOAH.

- A. Warned by God.
 - 1. Genesis 6:13, "*The end of all flesh has come before Me...*"
 - a. "*...for the earth is filled with violence because of them;*"
 - b. God saw the wickedness of the world, 6:5.
 - 2. "*...and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.*"
- B. Noah Instructed to Build the Ark.
 - 1. Instructions for Building: Gen. 6:14-16
 - a. Build it out of gopher [gofer] wood. (Cypress?)
 - b. Cover it with pitch [kofer] inside and out.
 - c. Make it with rooms [compartments, *nests*].
 - d. Size: 450 x 75 x45 ft. (*football field and a half, half the width, 4 stories*)
 - e. A window [continuous around the top], one door, three decks.
 - 2. Genesis 6:22, "*Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.*" (7:5, 9, 16)
 - a. No rain or flood to this point in history (Gen. 2:5-6).
 - b. Far from a large body of water.
 - c. At least 100 years in the building (Gen. 5:32; 7:6)
 - d. Personal expense, ridicule of neighbors, friends, and family (?).
 - 3. ***Why? Faith based on respect [reverence, holy fear] of God's power.***
 - a. Doing it God's way was **NOT CONVENIENT!**
 - b. Why not change the size? Make it longer or shorter.
 - c. Why not just use pitch inside, not outside.
 - d. Gopher wood too difficult to get, pine closer.
- C. Condemned the World.
 - 1. 2 Peter 2:5, "*...a preacher of righteousness, ...*"
 - 2. Noah preached the "judgment" to come.
 - a. In building the ark – proclaimed the coming flood.
 - b. He remained obedient to God's word.

III. RESPECTING GOD'S POWER.

- A. Noah's Faith in God. Genesis 6:9
 - 1. Noah was said to have "walked with God".
 - 2. He lived a blameless and righteous life.
 - 3. He did all that God commanded him to do.

B. Do We Respect God's Power?

1. It is not guess work. We can know for a fact, 1 John 2:3-4.
2. There is coming a day of judgment, Acts 17:30-31.
 - a. Not according to how we think or feel.
 - b. Judged according to His Word, John 12:48.
3. Are we following God's Word completely?
 - a. To believe in Christ, John 8:24, "*...for unless you believe that I am He you shall die in your sins.*"
 - b. To repent of our sins, Acts 2:38, "*Repent, and let each of you be baptized...*"
 - c. To confess Him as Lord, Mt. 10:32-33, "*Every one therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.*"
 - d. To be baptized, Mark 16:16, "*He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.*"
 - i. 1 Peter 3:20-22, "*...the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you – not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience – through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,...*"
 - e. And then "Be faithful until death,..." , Revelation 2:10.