



## Faith is ...

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
  - *Lit. faith is the foundation of continuous hoping, conviction of deeds not seen*
- *Faith* includes connotations of endurance, trust, hope, and knowledge of divine realities ... to “live by faith” is to endure hardship with confidence and boldness, never doubting the divine promise. (Jewish Annotated NT)
- Faith means we take God at his word, trusting in what he has said, even if we don't see his promises coming to pass in our lives because we are confident he is willing and able to do so, and that in his time he will do so.



## By the Word of God

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:3** By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Hebrews 11:3** By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.
- The idea of creation by divine speech both supports the claim that the visible is made from what is *not visible* and connects to the idea of divine promise of future reward, a major theme in what follows. (Jewish Annotated NT).





## The Word: From the Beginning ...

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:6** Then God said,... and it was so
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:9** Then God said, ... and it was so.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:11** Then God said, ... and it was so.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:14** Then God said, ...<sup>15</sup> ... and it was so.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:20** Then God said,... it was good.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:24** Then God said, ... it was good.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Genesis 1:26** Then God said, ...<sup>30</sup> ... and it was so.<sup>31</sup> ... it was very good.



## The Word: ... To the End

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Revelation 22:16** "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star."  
<sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost. <sup>18</sup> I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book; <sup>19</sup> and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. <sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus  
<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.



## The Word: Now

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ...
  - *Saving*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Romans 10:17** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
  - *Faith generating*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 6:68** ..., "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.
  - *Life giving*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
  - *Convicting*



- <sup>NAS</sup> **Romans 12:2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind ...  
➤ *Transforming*
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Matthew 8:26** ... Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. <sup>27</sup> The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"  
➤ *Delivering*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Matthew 14:26** ...they were frightened, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."  
➤ *Comforting*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Isaiah 55:11** So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.  
➤ *Victorious*



## The Necessity of Faith

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 4:2** For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.
- **Hebrews 11:1** faith is the foundation of continuous hoping, conviction of deeds not seen ... <sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 3:12** Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God.
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Isaiah 7:9** .... If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."<sup>4</sup>
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Galatians 5:6** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.



## The Challenges of Faith

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:13** All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Romans 4:18** Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed ...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:36** and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated <sup>38</sup> (men of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.



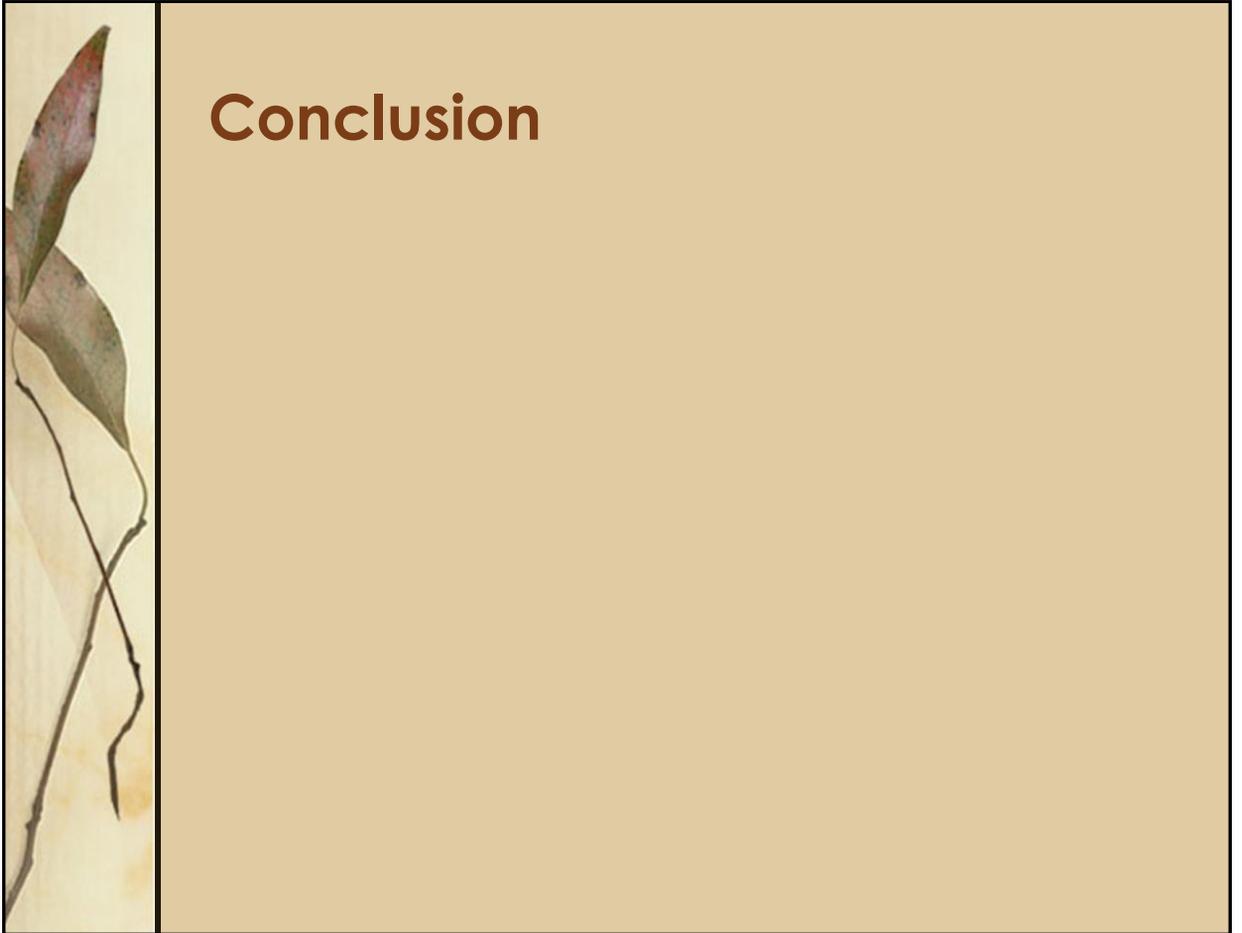
## OT Outline of Hebrews 11; By Faith

1. Primeval History (Genesis 1-11); vv. 3-7
  - *Creation, Abel, Enoch, Noah*
2. Abraham; vv. 8-19
3. Isaac; v. 20
4. Jacob; v. 21
5. Joseph; v. 22
6. Exodus; vv. 23-29
7. Conquest; vv. 30-31
8. Judges; vv. 32-38
9. Samuel/Kings/Chronicles; vv. 32-38
10. Prophets; vv. 32-38



## The Blessings of Faith

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:16** But as it is, they desire a better country, that is a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:39** And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 16:33** "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."



## Conclusion



## Trust God's Word

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Isaiah 55:8** "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup> "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup> "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth, And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; <sup>11</sup> So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup> "For you will go out with joy, And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.



## Trust God's Perfect Provision

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:40** because God had provided something better for us, ...
  - *Jesus is God's perfect provision for us.*
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 7:19** ... there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 7:22** so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 9:23** Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Hebrews 12:24** to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.



## By Faith

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Hebrews 11:6** And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Corinthians 1:20** For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Philippians 3:20** For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Revelation 22:20** He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.