

Church of the Valley
God's Divine Story Revealed through (Otherwise) Ordinary People
Part 4 - Faith Positions Us to Believe the Invisible
January 24, 2021

Sermon Text

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for. 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. Hebrews 11:1-3

Sacrifice of old...did not take away guilt

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. ² Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshippers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. ³ But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. Hebrews 10:1-3

Sacrifice of Jesus...makes us holy.

⁸ First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Hebrews 10:8-10

Sacrifice of Jesus...forgiveness of all sins!

Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary. Hebrews 10:17-18

Persevere in Faith

and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:21-23

Description of Faith

1.) CONFIDENCE IN WHO GOD IS
confidence in what we hope for

2.) CERTAINTY IN GOD KEEPING HIS PROMISES
assurance about what we do not see.

3.) GOD CREATED WHAT WE SEE OUT OF NOTHING!

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. Hebrews 11:3

Embodying godly sorrow...

God reveals, what is in our heart. The spiritual response is godly sorrow which leads us to turn to God!

"Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—9 yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. 10 Godly sorrow brings repentance..." 2 Corinthians 7:8-10

Life Question?

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. 37 For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay." 38 "But my righteous one will live by faith. Hebrews 10:36-38

What emotion do you experience when you reflect on 2020? If it is despair or discouragement what promise of God do you need to embrace? Pray for God to give you confidence in what He is doing.