

The Witness of Faith Series- Hebrews 11:6-16: "Faith's Architecture"

Intro: We're discerning reasons why faith pleases God; these reasons also reveal how God creates and sustains our faith, namely – faith's architecture or roadmap for the believer. This roadmap aims to deliver God's promise and fulfillment in Christ as the only hope for sinners.

- 1) Faith pleases God because it rests in or embraces God's character: His promise, His Word, His gifts, His grace, His provision, His Kingdom, and His fellowship for His glory VS. our own expectations, plans, declarations, goals, efforts, works, pursuits, and pleasures.
- 2) Faith pleases God because through it God delivers unto us His life freely in Christ by the gospel, amid the weakness/infirmary/corruption/suffering/death of our flesh, for the hope of everlasting fellowship and participation with God in a new creation or kingdom gathered in the church.
- 3) The reasons why faith pleases God open up faith roadmap or God's faith architecture to create, nourish, grow, and keep us in Christ. God's faith architecture stands in opposition to the ways of the flesh, Satan, and the world by the way of the cross- namely, death and resurrection.
- 4) God's faith architecture leads sinners down the roadmap of God's calling, exodus, testing, suffering, provision, deliverance, and perseverance in hope as exemplified in the lives of Noah, Abraham, and Sarah. The personal journey flows and parallels the historical journey of and unto Christ through promise and fulfillment in Him.
- 5) Noah received God's promise to save him and his household by Grace. He would spend long years in the trying task/journey of building the ark and waiting for God's deliverance. He and his family are saved through baptism in the ark of judgment/salvation- death and resurrection.
- 6) Abraham went out by God's calling on a trying journey of not seeing God's provision, until when all seemed lost God provided. And, Sarah was tested in the need and sufferings of her dead womb until she was filled and delivered with and by God's child- death and resurrection.
- 7) God's faith architecture and roadmap for these led the way for the ultimate destination, Christ Jesus! Both, the Noahic and Abrahamic covenants were God's provision in history to advance and fulfill the promise of Christ, and thus gather a people unto an everlasting Kingdom through the gospel by burying the old and resurrecting the new, Christ as the head of the church and thus of all creation- the New Jerusalem!
- 8) God's architecture of faith not only delivers Christ historically, but also personally and corporately in the now, as the elect are presently being gathered, fed, sustained, and purified in the hidden glory of His kingdom for the glory of His name soon to be displayed at His return!