

Hebrews 11:1-3

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Meaning of Faith

11 Now faith is the assurance^[a] of things hoped for, the conviction^[b] of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith^[c] our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.^[d]

Footnotes

- a. 11.1 Or *reality*
- b. 11.1 Or *evidence*
- c. 11.2 Gk *by this*
- d. 11.3 Or *was not made out of visible things*

< [Hebrews 10](#)

[Hebrews 12](#) >

Hebrews 11:8-16

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Faith of Abraham

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. **9** By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. **10** For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. **11** By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered^[a] him faithful who had promised. **12** Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

13 All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, **14** for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. **15** If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. **16** But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Footnotes

- a. 11.11 Other ancient authorities read *By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered*

New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright ©
2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United
States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved
worldwide.