

THE CLUTTERED BODY AND SOUL

VERSES

THE SIMPLE SPIRIT

We are going to take our example from Hebrews for an example of how we are supposed to live.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith <4102>₁ is the substance <5287> of things hoped <1679> for, the evidence of things not seen. ₂

4102 - pistis 1) conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it

5287 – hupostasis 1) a setting or placing under 1a) thing put under, substructure, foundation 2) that which has foundation, is firm 2a) that which has actual existence 2a1) a substance, real being 2a1) a substance, real being 2b) the substantial quality, nature, of a person or thing substance, real being 2c) the steadfastness of mind, firmness, courage, resolution 2c1) confidence, firm trust, assurance

1679 - elpizo 1) to hope 1a) in a religious sense, to wait for salvation with joy and full confidence 2) hopefully to trust in (translated most often as trust in the King James 18/32)

sub·stance (sŭb'stəns) n.³

1. The tangible matter of which a thing consists
 - a. That which has mass and occupies space; matter.
 - b. A material of a particular kind or constitution.

It says here that faith (pistis in Greek) is the substance IE: the tangible example of things hoped for. Tangible is generally related for something we can wrap our senses around. Here God uses this word (pistis/faith) as the foundation for hoped, (**of things hoped for**, faith is the foundation for our trust in God's Word). It is faith that holds up the words of God that we trust in. Even though our senses cannot detect the things that are of the spirit, the spiritual things, our

trust can still be on God's Word because the Faith of Jesus Christ made God and this Word accessible to us.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

We don't have to worry about this because we now have a spiritual connection to God through Jesus Christ. The comforter, Jesus Christ, is now in us continuously.

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

This pistis – faith cross over into the spiritual realm giving our prayers substance, a tangibility for us to trust in. Faith become our bridge to God for our prayers to travel on.

I was once giving a literal translation of this verse in Hebrews 11:1; **faith is the title deed of things prayed for, the evidence that they are yours before they are seen⁴**

A title deed in our culture is a piece of paper that is a legal document. It represents a ownership of a tangible piece of property that is described in that document. Here faith is our proof of ownership of the things that we have prayed for.

While faith is our spiritual connection to God for the things we pray for, the words in God's Word are the tangible evidence that we grasp with our senses while we trust God through His Word. When we stand this trust of God's words upon the faith we have been given from God we are applying ownership of what we are praying for.

11 Peter 1:1 ¶ Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: 2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

God has already given us every spiritual thing we need in life. It is through acting upon the knowledge found in God's Word that we receive the things that God has already given us. One part of acting upon the Word of God is prayer: Prayers of thankfulness for what we have been giving, Prayers of intercession to support and tend to others (those of the body of Christ and those who are not), this is the foundation of how we bring the fruit of God's Word into our lives.

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To understand faith better we need to compare two words in the Greek text, *pistis* and *pisteuo*. These are usually translated faith and believe. We also need to compare two words we learned in our grammar lessons. Sorry I know that some of you thought you put this behind you years ago. We are going to be looking into the parts of speech noun and verb.

Noun - a member of a class of words that can function as the subject or object in a construction, are often formally distinguished, as by taking the plural and possessive endings, and typically refer to persons, places, animals, things, states, or qualities, as cat, desk, Ohio, darkness.

Another words the function of a noun names persons, animals, places or things. In this naming of the subject or object, the idea is framed in our mind giving substance in our thoughts of what is being spoken of. Because our thoughts have substance we have confidence in what we are talking about. If I told you a chair was to drive you would think I was confused. The definition of what a chair is does not change. Therefore the substance or the foundation of what a chair is remains the same, and we have trust of what a chair is for.

Verb - a member of a class of words that function as the main elements of predicates, typically express action, state, or a relation between two things, and are often formally distinguished, as by being inflected for tense, aspect, voice, mood, or agreement with the subject or object.

A verb of the other hand gives substance to what that noun is doing. Like that chair is sitting there, or Joe is sitting in that chair. In the first case the chair is the subject that is doing the

action (which is sitting); in the second case the chair is the object that Joe is sitting in. In both cases the action is around the chair.

Verbs always relate to action, when they relate to us it means that we are doing something or that we have something to do. It might be a hobby, or a job or just something that we have decided to do at that time. Often when it is the same word for both the noun and the verb then the verb describes the action needed for the noun: like run, runner; work, worker; sing, singer; and dance, dancer. The words are related to each other.

The same is true for the words in the New Testament faith and believe (pistis and pisteuo). God asks us to believe His Word and when we are faithful to Him uses the word faith.

¹ All Greek or Hebrew definitions are from the Online Bible Greek Lexicon

² All scripture is from the King James Translation unless otherwise stated.

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