### Faith is an amazing thing. It is the main thing God looks for in us.

Luke 18:8

**8** I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

 [**Mark 11:22**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+11:22&version=KJV)

And Jesus answering saith unto them, *Have****faith******in****God.*

The word "Faith is found only a couple times in the O.T., But in the N.T. is found abundantly.

Two version, the least of which is the greek for Little Faith.

### It changed the world over and over again -- and it can change your world.

Martin Luther,

### [Romans 1:17](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+1%3A17&version=ESV) ESV / 3

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

**you of little faith, why didn't you believe.**

**Faith can heal**

### [Mark 10:52](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A52&version=ESV) ESV /

And Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

### [Matthew 21:22](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+21%3A22&version=ESV) ESV /

And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

**faith overcomes**

### [1 John 5:4](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+5%3A4&version=ESV) ESV /

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

### [1 Peter 1:8-9](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+1%3A8-9&version=ESV) ESV /

Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**The Hall of Faith.**

# Hebrews 11 King James Version

**11**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**2**For by it the elders obtained a good report.

**3**Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

**4**By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

**5**By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

**6**But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**7**By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

**8**By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

**9**By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

**10**For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

**11**Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

**12**Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

**13**These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

**14**For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

**15**And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

**16**But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

**17**By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

**18**Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

**19**Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

**20**By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

**21**By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

**22**By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

**23**By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

**24**By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

**25**Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

**26**Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

**27**By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

**28**Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

**29**By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

**30**By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

**31**By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

**32**And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

**33**Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

**34**Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

**35**Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

**36**And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

**37**They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

**38**(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

**39**And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

**40**God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

**Christians grow in faith by holy walking. Living with Jesus,-and to live with him we must be consistent in holiness,-we get to know him better, and to trust him more. It is said of some men that "the better they are known, the less they are trusted," but it is not so with the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Heb 11:6

**6** But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarded of them that diligently seek him. KJV

1. Serves Him – Deut 11:13
2. Loves Him – Deuteronomy 30:6 , Matthew 22:37
3. Keeps His Word – Deuteronomy 26:16
4. Follows Him – 1 Kings 14:8
5. Seeks Him – 2 Chronicles 15:12
6. Praises Him – Psalm 86:12
7. Trusts Him – Proverbs 3:5
8. Believes Him – Romans 10:9,10

Joel 2

11And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

12Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

13And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: **for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.**

**1. God is looking for faithful people.**

God is physically, visibly, actively taking the initiative to look for faithful people that he can bless. Second

**Chronicles 16:9 says, “The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him” (NLT).**

God is looking for faithful people that he can use.

**2. Faithful people are hard to find.**

**The Bible says in Proverbs 20:6, “Everyone talks about how faithful he is, but just try to find someone who really is!”** (GNT).

 A lot of people talk the talk, but don’t really trust God.

They trust in themselves, in money, in modern medicine. They say they believe in God, but they don’t really trust him when it comes to their finances, health, or job.

**Psalm 53:2-3 says this: “God looks down from heaven on the entire human race; he looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God. But no, all have turned away; all have become corrupt. No one does good, not a single one!” (NLT).**

**3. Faithfulness is the key to blessing and victory.**

**1 John 5:4-5**

**4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

**5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?**

**The Bible says in Proverbs 28:20, “A faithful man will have many blessings” (HCSB)**.

**What God is Looking For**

1. ***“The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose heart are fully committed to Him.” 2 Chronicles 16:9***

**The Children of Israel were almost wiped out**

Num 14:40-45

40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the Lord hath promised: for we have sinned.

41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the Lord? but it shall not prosper.

42 Go not up, for the Lord is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies.

43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the Lord, therefore the Lord will not be with you.

44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and Moses, departed not out of the camp.

45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah. KJV

1. He’s looking for men and women who resist their natural inclination towards self-reliance and choose God-reliance instead.
2. And when the Lord finds these types of individuals, He is eager to shower them with His strength and enable them to do His work in the world.
3. What about you? Do you want the eyes of the Lord to find you drifting towards self-reliance?
4. I know I don’t.
5. Let’s profess our utter dependence on Him today and every day.
6. In fact, let’s do it right now:
7. *“Father, you know my needs better than I know them myself. Please help me have a heart that is totally surrendered and dependent on You every hour of every day. Help me to seek Your face in everything I do. I ask this in the holy and powerful name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.”*

### [Isaiah 41:10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+41%3A10&version=ESV) ESV / 4 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

### [Ephesians 2:8-9](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+2%3A8-9&version=ESV) ESV / 3 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

### [Galatians 2:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+2%3A20&version=ESV) ESV / 3 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

### [2 Corinthians 5:7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+5%3A7&version=ESV) ESV / 3 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

### [Hebrews 12:2](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+12%3A2&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

### [1 Timothy 6:12](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+6%3A12&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

### [1 Thessalonians 1:3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Thessalonians+1%3A3&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

Remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

### [1 Corinthians 16:13](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+16%3A13&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

### [1 Corinthians 2:5](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A5&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

So that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

### [2 Timothy 4:7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+4%3A7&version=ESV) ESV / 2 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Israel and The End times

30 out of the 55 countries Christians are being persecuted by Islam.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Persecution Source | Region | Main Religion |
| 1**North Korea** | **Communist and post-Communist oppression** | **Asia** | **Agnosticism** |  |
| 2**Somalia** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 3**Yemen** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 4**Eritrea** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 5**Libya** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 6**Nigeria** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 7**Pakistan** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 8**Iran** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 9**Afghanistan** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 10**Sudan** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 11**India** | **Religious nationalism** | **Asia** | **Hinduism** |  |
| 12**Syria** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 13**Saudi Arabia** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 14**Myanmar** | **Religious nationalism** | **Asia** | **Buddhism** |  |
| 15**Maldives** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 16**China** | **Communist and post-Communist oppression** | **Asia** | **Agnosticism** |  |
| 17**Mali** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 18**Iraq** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 19**Algeria** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 20**Mauritania** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 21**Uzbekistan** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 22**Colombia** | **Organized corruption and crime** | **Latin America** | **Christianity** |  |
| 23**Burkina Faso** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 24**Central African Republic** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 25**Vietnam** | **Communist and post - Communist oppression** | **Asia** | **Buddhism** |  |
| 26**Turkmenistan** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 27**Cuba** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Latin America** | **Christianity** |  |
| 28**Niger** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 29**Morocco** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 30**Bangladesh** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 31**Laos** | **Communist and post-Communist oppression** | **Asia** | **Buddhism** |  |
| 32**Mozambique** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 33**Indonesia** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 34**Qatar** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 35**Egypt** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 36**Tunisia** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 37**Congo DR (DRC)** | **Islamic Oppression** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 38**Mexico** | **Organized corruption and crime** | **Latin America** | **Christianity** |  |
| 39**Ethiopia** | **Christian denominational protectionism** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 40**Bhutan** | **Religious nationalism** | **Asia** | **Buddhism** |  |
| 41**Turkey** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 42**Comoros** | **Islamic Oppression** | **Africa** | **Islam** |  |
| 43**Malaysia** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 44**Tajikistan** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 45**Cameroon** | **Islamic oppression** | **Africa** | **Christianity** |  |
| 46**Brunei** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 47**Oman** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 48**Kazakhstan** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 49**Jordan** | **Islamic oppression** | **Asia** | **Islam** |  |
| 50**Nicaragua** | **Dictatorial paranoia** | **Latin America** | **Christianity** |  |

According to Open doors.org.

## More than 360m Christians suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith.

5,621 Christian were killed for faith related reasons last year

###### North Korea 1

[North Korea](https://www.opendoors.org/persecution/countries/north-korea/) has returned to no. 1 with the highest levels of persecution ever seen. **Its score of 98, an all-time high**, reflects an increase in arrests of Christians, and house-churches discovered and closed – under the new ‘anti-reactionary thought law’.

###### Afghanistan 9

Despite its drop in ranking, persecution remains extreme in [Afghanistan](https://www.opendoors.org/persecution/countries/afghanistan/). Fewer Afghan Christians were killed for their faith in 2022: many have fled or were killed when the Taliban took over. Christian converts who remain are in deep hiding – and would likely face death if discovered.

###### Nigeria 6

Christians continue to be brutally attacked in Northern [Nigeria](https://www.opendoors.org/persecution/countries/nigeria/). Boko Haram, ISWAP, Fulani militants and other armed bandits have conducted devastating raids on Christian communities. The government continues to deny this is religious persecution, so violations of Christians' rights have been carried out with impunity.

#### 5,621

Christians murdered

#### 2,110

Churches attacked

#### 4,542

Christians detained

5,621 Christians were killed for their faith last year. 90% of these were from Nigeria alone.

###### **China** 16

In [China](https://www.opendoors.org/persecution/countries/china/), the use of digital surveillance technology is spreading, adding to persecution and intimidation.

###### **Nicaragua**50

[Nicaragua](https://www.opendoors.org/persecution/countries/nicaragua/) has entered the top 50 for the first time.

**Solomon's Prayer**

**1 Kings 8:22-53**

**22**Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven; **23**and he said: “Lord God of Israel, *there is* no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep *Your* covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts. **24**You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled *it* with Your hand, as *it is* this day. **25**Therefore, Lord God of Israel, now keep what You promised Your servant David my father, saying, ‘You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk before Me as you have walked before Me.’ **26**And now I pray, O God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David my father.

**27**“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! **28**Yet regard the prayer of Your servant and his supplication, O Lord my God, and listen to the cry and the prayer which Your servant is praying before You today: **29**that Your eyes may be open toward this [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Kings%208%3A22-53&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9015a)]temple night and day, toward the place of which You said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place. **30**And may You hear the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. Hear in heaven Your dwelling place; and when You hear, forgive.

**31**“When anyone sins against his neighbor, and is forced to take an oath, and comes *and* takes an oath before Your altar in this temple, **32**then hear in heaven, and act, and judge Your servants, condemning the wicked, bringing his way on his head, and justifying the righteous by giving him according to his righteousness.

**33**“When Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and when they turn back to You and confess Your name, and pray and make supplication to You in this temple, **34**then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them back to the land which You gave to their fathers.

**35**“When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them, **36**then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.

**37**“When there is famine in the land, pestilence *or* blight *or* mildew, locusts *or* grasshoppers; when their enemy besieges them in the land of their [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Kings%208%3A22-53&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9023b)]cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness *there is;* **38**whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, *or* by all Your people Israel, when each one knows the plague of his own heart, and spreads out his hands toward this temple: **39**then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and act, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men), **40**that they may fear You all the days that they live in the land which You gave to our fathers.

**41**“Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who *is* not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name’s sake **42**(for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple, **43**hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as *do* Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.

**44**“When Your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever You send them, and when they pray to the Lord toward the city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name, **45**then hear in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Kings%208%3A22-53&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9031c)]cause.

**46**“When they sin against You (for *there is* no one who does not sin), and You become angry with them and deliver them to the enemy, and they take them captive to the land of the enemy, far or near; **47***yet* when they [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Kings%208%3A22-53&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9033d)]come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You in the land of those who took them captive, saying, ‘We have sinned and done wrong, we have committed wickedness’; **48**and *when* they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies who led them away captive, and pray to You toward their land which You gave to their fathers, the city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name: **49**then hear in heaven Your dwelling place their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Kings%208%3A22-53&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9035e)]cause, **50**and forgive Your people who have sinned against You, and all their transgressions which they have transgressed against You; and grant them compassion before those who took them captive, that they may have compassion on them **51**(for they *are* Your people and Your inheritance, whom You brought out of Egypt, out of the iron furnace), **52**that Your eyes may be open to the supplication of Your servant and the supplication of Your people Israel, to listen to them whenever they call to You. **53**For You separated them from among all the peoples of the earth *to be* Your inheritance, as You spoke by Your servant Moses, when You brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord God.”