

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Faith That Sees Beyond May 23, 2023 Suzi Armstrong

Faith that sees beyond will break the limitations of before. Faith clears out the old and makes way for the new. Faith goes beyond current understanding and experience. Faith breaks open and defines the future. Faith is rooted in relationship with God Himself. God is building into our identity His order of “beyond” so that we go through, clear the way, and build up the highway for others to follow. A banner of faith is being raised over Detroit and Michigan.

Hebrews 11.1-3 TPT

¹ Now **faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen.** ² This testimony of faith is what previous generations were commended for. ³ **Faith empowers us to see** that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated by the power of God’s words! He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen.

- Faith is the substance of what is hoped for.
- By faith we lay hold of the promises of God. The promises of God are not maybe if, or perhaps – they are certain.
- By faith we grasp or comprehend, have knowledge of, recognize, observe, envision, hold on to an opinion of what is real and what is the future.
- Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word.

Hebrews 11.23-30 NIV

²³ **By faith** Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they **saw he was no ordinary child**, and they were **not afraid** of the king’s edict.

²⁴ **By faith** Moses, when he had grown up, **refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.**

²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ **He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt**, because **he was looking ahead to his reward.** ²⁷ **By faith he left Egypt, not fearing** the king’s anger; **he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.** ²⁸ **By faith** he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

²⁹ **By faith the people passed through the Red Sea** as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

³⁰ **By faith the walls of Jericho fell**, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

- Being persuaded of truth.
- Putting confidence in God alone as your supply.
- Faith cleared the way.
- Moses went beyond the identity of being the son of pharaoh’s daughter, beyond the identity of being an Egyptian, beyond the identity of being a shepherd in the desert.
- Moses persevered because he could SEE Him who was invisible. Seeing links us to hope and faith, giving us the courage to go beyond our current reality in the natural realm.
- Faith and hope ignite passion and desire that propel us forward – keep us from returning to the old form and substance of a past season that keeps us locked in a false identity.

Habakkuk 2.1-4 NIV

¹ I will stand at my watch

and station myself on the ramparts;

I will look to see what he will say to me,

and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

² Then the LORD replied:

"Write down the revelation

and make it plain on tablets

so that a herald may run with it.

³ For **the revelation awaits an appointed time;**

it speaks of the end

and will not prove false.

Though it linger, wait for it;

it will certainly come

and will not delay.

⁴ "See, the enemy is puffed up;

his desires are not upright—

but **the righteous person will live by his faithfulness.**

- Complaint in Hebrew means argument or reasoning. Habakkuk looked at the situation through his mind and could not see God – Habakkuk was not in faith.
- The Lord tells Habakkuk to write down the vision and make it big and plain. Vision is linked with faith – linking you to the supernatural supply of God.
- God tells Habakkuk that the RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH. Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things unseen. It is by faith that we advance into the fullness of our identity and into the fullness of who we were created to be. It is by faith that the WAY becomes visible, and we walk in it. Faith is a highway.
- Bring every thought or reasoning that exalts itself or sets itself against the knowledge of God captive to truth.

2 Corinthians 10.7a NIV

⁷ You are looking only on the surface of things...

- Superficial faith blows away with the first winds of adversity.
- Faith grows out of honor and reverence for God's character.
- By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death. This faith was birthed in deep, deep relationship with God.
- Faith is not emotional hype – it is believing and trusting God like a child.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

Psalm 37.3-7a TPT (personalized for Detroit)

³ **Keep trusting in the Lord, Detroit, and do what is right in his eyes.**

Detroit, fix your heart on the promises of God and you will be secure, feasting on his faithfulness.

⁴ **Make God the utmost delight and pleasure of your life Detroit,**

and he will provide for you what you desire the most.

⁵ **Give God the right to direct your life and rebuild you as his city,**

and as you trust him along the way,

you'll find he pulled it off perfectly!

⁶ He will appear as your righteousness Detroit,

as sure as the dawning of a new day.

He will manifest as your justice,

as sure and strong as the noonday sun.

⁷ Quiet your heart in his presence and pray;

keep hope alive as you long for God to come through for you.