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**Faith
is the
Substance
of
Things Hoped For**

(Heb. 11:1)

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Faith is the Substance of Things Hoped For.

- **Hebrews 11:1–3** Now faith is the substance (assurance in ESV) 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.

The word, substance, means foundation, it carries the idea that the ground the Christian faith is built upon, is faith, this means two things:

1. It matters little, if a scholar knows the Bible inside out from Genesis to Revelation, if they do not have faith, all their intellectual knowledge is simply intellectual knowledge for without faith, knowledge no matter how vast, has no power to save.
2. No matter how much a believer may attend church, bible classes, memorise Scriptures, help the poor and do good, if all they do lacks faith, it all counts for nothing.

This is because all we do, must be done in faith, in contrast to doing things to earn salvation, for the instant we attempt to save ourselves, is the instant we nullify the grace of God, and make Jesus' death on the cross count for nothing. Doing things in faith, means we are doing things because we are in Christ, and in Christ, we are counted righteous, not because of our own works, but because of Christ's righteousness imputed to us, and understanding this enormous blessing, all good deeds and works we do, should not be motivated by any attempt to save ourselves, but motivated from a heart that is filled with love that the Almighty Holy God of all creation, our heavenly Father would set His love and grace upon us, and from gratitude for the love our Saviour manifested toward us on the bloodstained cross of Calvary.

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It is true the law is done away with as a means of earning salvation, but it is not done away with as a means of manifesting our love and devotion toward God. For it is by endeavouring, I say endeavouring because not one of us attains to God's Holiness, or to Christ's perfect character, or to keeping every detail of the law perfectly, (if we could Christ died for no reason). However, our aim in life should always be to keep the law and walk in the fruits of the Spirit, for in this way we honour God, and bring a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith.

The following verse shows that Christians are to see their hope and salvation through the eyes of faith.

- **Romans 8:24–25:** For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
- **2 Corinthians 4:17–18:** For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Many Christians will experience troubles, sorrows, and hardships in life that they do not understand, and if they look with open eyes, upon the enormous sorrows, injustices, and troubles of the world, and try to understand God's ways on earth as Job attempted to do, they will be left, like him bewildered, for the Scriptures state:

- Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek *it* out, yet he shall not find *it*; yea further; though a wise *man* think to know *it*, yet shall he not be able to find *it*. (Ecclesiastes 8:17).

This is one of the reasons Scripture calls Christians to walk by faith and not by sight, and through the eyes of faith, see the hope of their salvation, and the righteousness, and crown of life, promised to all faithful believers in Christ who cross the finish line.

- **Galatians 5:5–6:** For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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