Living by faith 2. Faith and assurance (Hebrews 11v1-3)

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Introduction

What is faith?

A DESCRIPTION of faith (v1)

- Confident assurance about...
 - the "not yet"
 - > the "not seen"
- ... based on what God has said

An EXAMPLE of faith (v3)

- God made the world
- How God made it
 - > by his Word
 - out of nothing ("ex nihilo")
- How we know God made it

Conclusion

Bible references: Heb. 10:36, Tit. 2:13, 2 Tim. 2:12, 1 Jn. 3:2-3, Heb. 13:5, 11:7, 1:1-2, Gen. 1:1, Psalm 33:6, 9, 1 Peter 1:8-9

Hebrews 11v1-6 (NIV)

- ¹ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.
- ³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.
- ⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.
- ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.