



THE FAITH OF THE FEARLESS

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (1-3-10 - PM)

Text: Hebrews 11:1-6

Introduction: The eleventh chapter of the book of Hebrews teaches us that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (v.1). It also reveals that “without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6). The writer illustrates his point by telling stories of men and women that were so fearless to live their lives for God that they were killed in the line of duty. What made them so fearless?

Discussion:

I. Some Possess “Incomplete” Knowledge

Psalm 8:1 = “O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.”

Psalm 19:1-2 = “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.”

Romans 1:20-21 = “For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Consider the human body

II. Some Possess “Intellectual” Knowledge

Deuteronomy 7:9 = “Know therefore that the LORD your God is God.”

Psalm 46:10 = “Be still, and know that I am God.”

Titus 1:16 = “They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.”

Consider the book of Genesis

III. Some Possess “Intimate” Knowledge

Psalm 139:1-2 = “O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.”

Psalm 139:13-18 = “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.”

1 John 2:3-4 = “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

Consider the Hall of Fame of Faith

Conclusion: Before the Hebrew writer closes out his discussion on faith, he reminds his readers of the faith of the men and women who have known God and lived their godly lives in front of others. He describes their fearless faith in Hebrews 11:33-40. Would this describe your faith? Are you faithful? Are you fearless?

WORD OF THE DAY = “FAITH”