

The Walk of Faith-Trust

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A Study in Hebrews 11- Overview of Faith Part 1 of 2

Jewish Concepts of Faith.

The proper counterpart for the general English term "faith" -as occurring in the expression "principles of faith"- would be the concept of *Emunah*^[1] in Judaism. While it is generally translated as *faith* or *trust* in God, the concept of *Emunah* can more accurately be described as "an innate conviction, a perception of truth that transcends (..) reason."^[1] *Emunah* can be enhanced through wisdom, knowledge, understanding and learning of sacred Jewish writings. But *Emunah* is not simply based on reason, nor can it be understood as the opposite of or standing in contrast to reason.¹

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_principles_of_faith

18 Definitions of Faith

#1. Substance of things hoped for

Biblical Faith gives us hope for our future even when our circumstances are telling us just the opposite. Our faith can only be based upon the faithfulness of God, past, present and future.

#2. Evidence of things not seen

The Word of God is our evidence that what we are hoping for will manifest in His timing as long as our faith is based upon His Word and His promises.

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of realities not seen. TLV

Heb 11:1 Trusting is being confident of what we hope for, convinced about things we do not see. CJB

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [*the conviction of their reality--faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses*]. Amp

Webster's 1825 Dictionary

Substance

SUB'STANCE, n. [L. substantia, substō; sub and stō, to stand.]

1. In a general sense, being; something existing by itself; that which really is or exists; equally applicable to matter or spirit. Thus the soul of man is called an immaterial substance, a cogitative substance, a substance endued with thought. We say, a stone is a hard substance, tallow is a soft substance.

2. The essential part; the main or material part. In this epitome, we have the substance of the whole book.

3. Something real, not imaginary; something solid, not empty.

#3. Receive approval by God

The great men and woman of The Bible were great, not because of their intelligence, not because of wealth or power, but because they believed what God said and acted upon it.

Heb 11:2 For by this [*kind of*] faith the ^{N1}men of old gained [*divine*] approval.
Amp

Heb 11:2 It was for this that Scripture attested the merit of the people of old.
CJB

Heb 11:2 For by it the elders received commendation. TLV

#4 Creative Power of Divine Works

God spoke and it came into being.

God said (Genesis 1-2)— This phrase, which occurs so repeatedly in the account means: willed, decreed, appointed; and the determining will of God was followed in every instance by an immediate result. Jamieson-Fauset-Brown

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen did not come from anything visible. TLV

Heb 11:3 By faith [*that is, with an inherent trust and enduring confidence in the power, wisdom and goodness of God*] we understand that the worlds (universe, ages) were framed *and* created [*formed, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose*] by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible. AMP

#5 Faith Produces Righteous Actions

In Jewish terms, Faith is an action. If you believe, you act on what you believe. Faith is an action Word.

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which it was testified of him that he was righteous (upright, in right standing with God), and God testified by accepting his gifts. And though he died, yet through [*this act of*] faith he still speaks. [Gen. 4:3-10] AMP

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain. Through faith he was commended as righteous when God approved of his gifts. And through faith he still speaks, although he is dead. TLV

#6 Faith Can Cancel Natural Laws

We see that even natural laws had to obey when confronted with mighty power of God in the lives of great men of old.

Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was taken so as not to see death, and he was not

found because God took him. For before he was taken, he was commended as pleasing to God. TLV

Heb 11:5 By faith [*that pleased God*] Enoch was caught up *and* taken to heaven so that he would not have a glimpse of death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD HAD TAKEN HIM; for even before he was taken [*to heaven*], he received the testimony [*still on record*] that he had walked with God *and* pleased Him. [Gen. 5:21-24] AMP

#7 Faith Basis For Pleasing God

Faith is not a suggestion, but a spiritual law that is to be obeyed.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to [*walk with God and*] please Him, for whoever comes [*near*] to God must [*necessarily*] believe that God exists and that He rewards those who [*earnestly and diligently*] seek Him. AMP

Heb 11:6 Now without faith it is impossible to please God. For the one who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. TLV

Heb 11:6 And without trusting, it is impossible to be well pleasing to God, because whoever approaches him must trust that he does exist and that he becomes a Rewarder to those who seek him out. CJB

#8 Faith Is Dependent On Gods Word

Heb 11:7 By trusting, Noah, after receiving divine warning about things as yet unseen, was filled with holy fear and built an ark to save his household. Through this trusting, he put the world under condemnation and received the

righteousness that comes from trusting. CJB

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, when warned about events not yet seen, in holy fear prepared an ark for the safety of his household. Through faith he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. TLV

Heb 11:7 By faith [*with confidence in God and His word*] Noah, being warned *by God* about events not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his family. By this [*act of obedience*] he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness which comes by faith. [Gen. 6:13-22] AMP

#9 Faith Is Trust In God In An Unknown Future

Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place he was to receive as an inheritance. He went out, not knowing where he was going.

Heb 11:9 By faith he migrated to the land of promise as if it were foreign, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob— fellow heirs of the same promise.

Heb 11:10 For he was waiting for the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. TLV

#10 Faith Believes What It Can Not See

This is key, because faith goes beyond sight to the very throne of God and His ability and might to bring about supernatural provision and answers to prayer.

Heb 11:11 By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive when she was barren and past the age, since she considered the One who had made the promise to be faithful.

Heb 11:12 So from one—and him as good as dead—were fathered offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven, and as uncountable as the sand on the seashore. TLV

Rom 4:17 (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”). He is our father in the sight of God in whom he trusted, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence that which does not exist. TLV

Rom 4:17 (as it is written [*in Scripture*], “I HAVE MADE YOU A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS”) in the sight of Him in whom he believed, that is, God ^{N1}who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. [Gen. 17:5]

#11 Faith Sees The Invisible

Faith is bases upon God’s vision and that we see through the eyes of God via His Word.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith without receiving the things promised—**but they saw them and welcomed them from afar**, and they confessed that they were strangers and sojourners on the earth.

Heb 11:14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

Heb 11:15 If indeed they had been thinking about where they had come

from, they would have had opportunity to return.

Heb 11:16 But as it is, they yearn for a better land—that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. TLV

#12 Faith Believes In God’s Faithfulness and Promises

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. Yes, he who had received the promises was offering up his one and only son—

Heb 11:18 the one about whom it was said, “Through Isaac offspring shall be named for you.”

Heb 11:19 He reasoned that God was able to raise him up even from the dead—and in a sense, he did receive him back from there. TLV

#13 Faith Is Confident In Things To Come

Heb 11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even concerning things to come.

Heb 11:21 By faith Jacob, as he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and he bowed in worship while leaning on the top of his staff.

Heb 11:22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the exodus of Bnei-Yisrael and gave instructions about his bones.

Heb 11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was an extraordinary child and they were not afraid of the king’s decree. TLV

Heb 11:24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Heb 11:25 Instead he chose to suffer mistreatment along with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.

Heb 11:26 He considered the disgrace of Messiah as greater riches than the treasures of Egypt—because he was looking ahead to the reward.

Heb 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger—for he persevered as if seeing the One who is invisible.

Heb 11:28 By faith he kept the Passover and the smearing of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch them. TLV

Heb 11:29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as if on dry ground. When the Egyptians tried it, they were swallowed up.

Heb 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were circled for seven days.

Heb 11:31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she welcomed the spies with shalom. TLV

Heb 3:6 But Messiah, as Son, is over God's house—and we are His house, if we hold firm to our boldness and what we are proud to hope. TLV

Heb 3:14 For we have become partners of Messiah, if we hold our original conviction firm until the end. TLV

Heb 10:35 Do not, therefore, fling away your [*fearless*] confidence, for it has a glorious *and* great reward.

Heb 10:36 For you have need of patient endurance [*to bear up under difficult circumstances without compromising*], so that when you have carried out the will of God, you may receive *and* enjoy to the full what is promised.

Heb 10:37 FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

Heb 10:38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE [*the one justified by faith*] SHALL LIVE BY FAITH [*respecting man's relationship to God and trusting Him*]; AND IF HE DRAWS BACK [*shrinking in fear*], MY SOUL HAS NO DELIGHT IN HIM. [Hab. 2:3-4] AMP

Eph 3:12 In Him we have boldness and access with confidence through trusting in Him. TLV

1Jn 3:21 Beloved, if our heart does not convict us [*of guilt*], we have confidence [*complete assurance and boldness*] before God;

1Jn 3:22 and we receive from Him whatever we ask because we [*carefully and consistently*] keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight [*habitually seeking to follow His plan for us*].

1Jn 3:23 This is His commandment, that we believe [*with personal faith and confident trust*] in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and [*that we unselfishly*] love *and* seek the best for one another, just as He commanded us.

1Jn 3:24 The one who *habitually* keeps His commandments [*obeying His word and following His precepts, abides and*] remains in Him, and He in him. By this we know *and* have the proof that He [*really*] abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us [*as a gift*]. AMP

#14 Faith That Obeys

Heb 11:32 And what more shall I say? For time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets.

Heb 11:33 By faith they conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

Heb 11:34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, and made foreign armies flee.

Heb 11:35 Women received their dead raised back to life; and others were tortured, after not accepting release, so they might obtain a better resurrection.

Heb 11:36 Others experienced the trial of mocking and scourging—yes, and even chains and prison.

Heb 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they were murdered with the sword. They went around in sheepskins and goatskins; they were destitute, afflicted, mistreated.

Heb 11:38 The world was not worthy of them! They wandered around in deserts and mountains, caves and holes in the ground.

Heb 11:39 And all these, though commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised—

Heb 11:40 because God had provided something better for us, so that only with us would they reach perfection.

Heb 12:1 Therefore, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also get rid of every weight and entangling sin. Let us run with endurance the race set before us,

Heb 12:2 focusing on Yeshua, the initiator and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame; and He has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God. TLV

#15 Faith Is a Lifestyle of Trust In God

Heb 10:38 But My righteous one shall live by emunah; and if he shrinks back, My soul takes no pleasure in him.”

Heb 10:39 But we are not among the timid ones on the path to destruction, but among the faithful ones on the path to the preservation of the soul. TLV

Heb 10:38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE [*the one justified by faith*] SHALL LIVE BY FAITH [*respecting man's relationship to God and trusting Him*]; AND IF HE DRAWS BACK [*shrinking in fear*], MY SOUL HAS NO DELIGHT IN HIM. [Hab. 2:3-4]

Heb 10:39 But ^{N1}our way is not that of those who shrink back to destruction, but [*we are*] of those who believe [*relying on God through faith in Jesus*]

Christ, the Messiah] and by this confident faith preserve the soul. AMP

#16 Faith Is a Shield

Eph 6:16 Above all, lift up the [protective] ^{N1}shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil *one*. AMP

Eph 6:16 Always carry the shield of trust, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. CJB

Eph 6:16 Above all, take up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. TLV

#17 Faith Has Hope In the Future

Heb 3:6 But Messiah, as Son, is over God's house—and we are His house, if we hold firm to our boldness and what we are proud to hope. TLV

Heb 3:12 Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you has an evil heart of unbelief that falls away from the living God.

Heb 3:13 But encourage one another day by day—as long as it is called “Today”—so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Heb 3:14 For we have become partners of Messiah, if we hold our original conviction firm until the end. TLV

Heb 6:11 But we long for each of you to show the same eagerness for the certainty of hope to the very end—

Heb 6:12 so you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those inheriting the

promises through trust and perseverance. TLV

Heb 6:11 And we desire for each one of you to show the same diligence [*all the way through*] so as to realize *and* enjoy the full assurance of hope until the end,

Heb 6:12 so that you will not be [*spiritually*] sluggish, but [*will instead be*] imitators of those who through faith [*lean on God with absolute trust and confidence in Him and in His power*] and by patient endurance [*even when suffering*] are [*now*] inheriting the promises. AMP

Heb 10:22 let us approach [God] with a true *and* sincere heart in unqualified assurance of faith, having had our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Heb 10:23 Let us seize *and* hold tightly the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is reliable *and* trustworthy *and* faithful [*to His word*]; AMP

Heb 10:35 Do not, therefore, fling away your [*fearless*] confidence, for it has a glorious *and* great reward.

Heb 10:36 For you have need of patient endurance [*to bear up under difficult circumstances without compromising*], so that when you have carried out the will of God, you may receive *and* enjoy to the full what is promised.

Heb 10:37 FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

Heb 10:38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE [*the one justified by faith*] SHALL LIVE

BY FAITH [*respecting man's relationship to God and trusting Him*]; AND IF HE DRAWS BACK [*shrinking in fear*], MY SOUL HAS NO DELIGHT IN HIM. [Hab. 2:3-4]

Heb 10:39 But ^{N1}our way is not that of those who shrink back to destruction, but [*we are*] of those who believe [*relying on God through faith in Jesus Christ, the Messiah*] and by this confident faith preserve the soul. AMP

#18 Faith Guarantees Answered Prayer

Mat 21:21 Jesus replied to them, "I assure you *and* most solemnly say to you, if you have faith [*personal trust and confidence in Me*] and do not doubt *or* allow yourself to be drawn in two directions, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen [*if God wills it*]. [1Jn. 5:14]

Mat 21:22 And whatever you ask for in prayer, believing, you will receive."

AMP

Mat 21:21 Yeshua answered them, "Amen, I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen.

Mat 21:22 And whatever you ask in prayer, trusting, you shall receive." TLV

Mar 11:22 And Yeshua answered, saying to them, "**Have faith in God!**

Mar 11:23 Amen, I tell you, if someone says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and **does not doubt in his heart but trusts that what he says is happening, so shall it be for him.**

Mar 11:24 For this reason I say to you, whatever you pray and ask, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mar 11:25 Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your transgressions." TLV

Mar 11:22 Jesus replied, "Have faith in God [*constantly*].

Mar 11:23 I assure you *and* most solemnly say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea!' and ^{N1}does not doubt in his heart [*in God's unlimited power*], but believes that what he says is going to take place, it will be done for him [*in accordance with God's will*]. [Mat. 17:20; Luke 17:6; 1Jn. 5:14]

Mar 11:24 For this reason I am telling you, whatever things you ask for in prayer [*in accordance with God's will*], believe [*with confident trust*] that you have received them, and they will be *given* to you. AMP

Jas 1:2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

Jas 1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

Jas 1:4 And let endurance have its perfect work, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Jas 1:5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all without hesitation and without reproach; and it will be given to him.

Jas 1:6 But let him ask in faith, without any doubting—for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. TLV

Jas 1:2 Consider it nothing but joy, my ^{N1}brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials.

Jas 1:3 Be assured that the testing of your faith [*through experience*] produces endurance [*leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace*].

Jas 1:4 And let endurance have its perfect result *and* do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [*in your faith*], lacking in nothing.

Jas 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom [*to guide him through a decision or circumstance*], he is to ask of [*our benevolent*] God, who gives to everyone generously and without rebuke *or* blame, and it will be given to him.

Jas 1:6 But he must ask [*for wisdom*] in faith, without doubting [*God's willingness to help*], for the one who doubts is like a billowing surge of the sea that is blown about and tossed by the wind.

AMP

Jewish Thoughts on Faith

1. "With faith, there are no questions; without faith there are no answers. " ~~ The Chofetz Chaim

2. "Faith is not a series of theorems but a way of life." ~~ Shmuel Hugo Bergman
3. "With faith, there are no questions; without faith there are no answers. " ~~ The Chofetz Chaim
4. "Faith is not a series of theorems but a way of life." ~~ Shmuel Hugo Bergman
5. "Man can never be happy if he does not nourish his soul as he does his body." ~~ Rebbe Manachen Schneerson
6. "Faith is the root and foundation of all holiness." ~~ Nachman of Bratslav
7. "Faith is the essence of Torah." ~~ Mivchar Hapeninim
8. "There is no love without total faith." ~~ No'am Hamiddot
9. "The righteous man shall live by his faith. " ~~ Habakkuk (Chabakuk) 2:4
10. "Faith is beyond intelligence and perception." ~~ Shneur Zalman, Tanya
11. "There is nothing greater than faith." ~~ Mivchar Hapeninim
12. "No man is rewarded because God owes it to him, but God

grants reward out of His grace."

-- Moshe Ben Ezra

From our Book "But The Righteous
Shall Live By His Faith" A Primer on the
Halacha of Faith

Available from our website:

<http://www.deborahsmessianicministries.com/Book%20Nook.htm>

