

Persevere:

Warning #4: Don't Persist in Faithless Rebellion (Part #5)

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. ⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. Hebrews 11:1-7 (ESV)

How do we obey this warning?

#1: By heeding, 10:19-25.

#2: By looking, 10:32-39.

#3: By imitating, 11:1-12:2.

Three truths about the faith we are called to imitate:

1. He tells us how faith behaves, v.1.

A. It's assured of things hoped for.

B. It has conviction of things not seen.

2. He tells us what faith believes, v.6.

A. We believe in God.

B. We believe God.

3. He tells us what faith brings, vv.2-3; 4-7.

A. Faith brings understanding, v.3.

B. Faith brings commendation, vv.2; 4-6.

C. Faith brings communion, v.6.

D. Faith brings no condemnation, v.7.