

SUMMARY

“Only By Faith” ♦ Hebrews 11:1-6

The book of Hebrews is said to have been written at the end of the first century to a church that had lost its zeal over time since the birth of Christianity. Believers who had once endured severe persecution "*continued to sin willfully*" (10:26).

The author of the Epistle quotes the Old Testament often. He warned them not to be like Esau, who easily sold away his firstborn's rights, that is, his precious things, in exchange for a single meal (12:16-17); the words "*by faith*" are repeated seven times in chapter 11 verses 3-12. It is still an enlightening passage for those who read it. He encourages those who follow Christ to remember to hope. Faith is a conviction, and because of faith, one is made good to God. Even the creation of all things in heaven and earth began with "*Let there be light*" and the Word of the invisible God. It was also faith that Abel was valued by God more than his brother Cain. Enoch's faith pleased God, and he was taken away (Genesis 5:24). If we think of the Greeks as academic people, Hebrews would be the historical people. Once, at Horeb, God came to Moses. As a great man, he was respected even then. Christ is the great High Priest, even greater than Moses, died on the cross to atone for the sins of man. He was the promise of eternal life.

In these days of grim coronavirus crisis, our faith in the Lord will guide us to a sense of hope.

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