

# Sermon Outline

*Faith, Worship, and the Reward*  
Hebrews 11:1-6

## The Background: Hebrews 10:1-39

1. *Christ has made us Priests and Kings with him, and we enter the heavenly holy place by his blood of the covenant that sanctifies us and cleanses our conscience that we might be true worshipers. (10:1-2, 19-25)*
2. *The danger for these people is that somehow they would turn from this immense privilege, spurning the Son of God, and profaning the blood of the covenant. (10:26-29)*
3. *God will judge “his people” (those who bear his name), vindicating those who are his and taking vengeance on the covenant breakers, the false sons, consuming them, Nabab and Abihu like, with a furious fire. (10:30-31)*
4. *The only way to live before God is then in constant faith; by faith the righteous live, not shrinking back to destruction, but persevering to “preserve their souls.” (10:32-39)*

## **I. The Faith by Which We Live:** Hebrews 11:1-3

- A. Substance and Evidence
- B. The Instrument of “Rightness” in God’s Sight.
- C. It is a Gift from God

## **II. The Faith by Which We Worship:** Hebrews 11:4-6

### **A. True and False Worship – An Acceptable Sacrifice**

• *Note: Hebrews 12:28-29*

1. Heaven’s “Amen” to Abel’s worship-sacrifice
2. Heaven’s “No!” to Cain’s worship- sacrifice
  - Cain did not bring the blood sacrifice – the animal substitute – needed for the “tribute” offering before God.
  - Cain didn’t bring the first fruits, just whatever was “left-over”, whatever he deemed sufficient.
  - Cain needed to go to Abel to obtain the lamb. Abel became his prophet-priest, the younger brother elevated to rule the older.

### **B. True and False Worship – A Vital Faith**

1. Not one sacrifice or the other: both elements have always been included
  - Abel – the lamb from the flock
  - Cain – the fruit of the ground
  - Blood and Grain Offerings always together, one preceding the other; bread and cup are still elements of acceptable worship.
2. The Difference in acceptance is that Abel worshiped by faith and Cain did not. Abel trusted in the blood and Cain didn’t.
3. WHY oh WHY is the blood and grain, the cup and the bread, left out of so much that passes for Christian worship?
4. And why would we hesitate to put our trust in One who was willing to show us such amazing love?

### **C. True and False Worship – An Incredible Reward**

- Genesis 15:1; Matthew 5:12; Colossians 3:24
- What is the reward, the inheritance, of priestly people?

*“Whom have I in heaven but Thee, and besides Thee I desire nothing on earth.  
My heart and my flesh may fail, but Yahweh is the strength of my heart and my portion forever  
...for me it is good to be near God” - Psalm 73:25-26, 28*