

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

What is Faith?

Faith is understanding something and then accepting it to be true.

Rom. 10:17, "So then faith comes by
hearing, and hearing by the word of
God."

Rom. 14:23, "But he who doubts is
condemned if he eats, because he
does not eat from faith; for whatever is
not from faith is sin."

Rom. 16:26, "but now made manifest,
and by the prophetic Scriptures made
known to all nations, according to the
commandment of the everlasting God,
for obedience to the faith—"

Gal. 1:23, "But they were hearing
only, 'He who formerly persecuted us
now preaches the faith which he once
tried to destroy.' "

Eph. 4:5, "one Lord, one faith, one
baptism;"

- 1. Faith is a response to what is taught in the Bible. Rom. 10:17**

2. Faith is an act of trust in something or someone or belief that something is true.

- 3. Faith is an act of the intellect. It involves understanding the meaning of the proposition. Faith is not a feeling or a commitment.**

- 4. Biblical faith is not faith in itself, but faith in something else. And it is what is believed that is important, not the act of faith.**

- 5. Faith is something anyone can do. Saving faith is saving, not because it is a separate kind of faith, but because it is in the correct object, the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

6. Faith refers to a set of beliefs or body of doctrine.

- 7. So faith can refer to the phase 1 belief in Jesus as our substitute or it can refer to the phase 2 trust in the promise, power, provision, and procedures of Scripture that we follow in order to grow spiritually.**

- 8. So the “faith” in Heb 11:1 is more than phase 1 faith, but refers to that collection of phase 2 beliefs that motivate and propel us forward in our spiritual growth.**

notitia, assensus, fiducia

Understanding, assent, trust

ὑπόστασις *hupostasis*, nom fem sing

**“(1) substantial nature, substance, essence,
actual being;
(2) confidence, conviction, steadfastness.”**

ἐλπίζομένων *elpizo*, pres passive ptcp.

“to hope”

Heb. 3:6, "but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end."

Heb. 6:11, "And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,"

Heb. 6:18, "that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us."

Heb. 7:19, "for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God."

Heb. 10:23, "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."

ἔλεγχος *elenchos* – the act of presenting evidence that something is true (evidence, proof).

“Evidence”

**A sign or an indication of something else;
something that bears witness to something else;
information indicating whether a belief or
proposition is true or valid.**

Heb. 11:2, "For by it [faith] the elders
obtained a good testimony."

μαρτυρέω *martureo*; aor passive indicative

① to confirm or attest something on the basis of personal knowledge or belief, bear witness, be a witness.

The elders' future hope was attested or confirmed.

Heb. 11:3, "By faith we understand
that the worlds were framed by the
word of God, so that the things which
are seen were not made of things which
are visible."

“we understand”

νοέω *noeo*

“to grasp or comprehend something on the basis of careful thought,”

“to perceive, apprehend, understand, gain an insight into; to think over with care, consider, take note of; to form an idea about something, think, imagine; to pay heed with intent to act appropriately, be minded”