**Lesson 3 What Pleases God**

Lessons from Hebrews

**Hebrews 10:8**  Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and *offering* for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure *therein;* which are offered by the law;

The sacrificial system sustains sin consciousness

Which makes it impossible to walk in our God given inheritance.

**9**  Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10  By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all.*

Maintaining a sin conscious attitude does not bring God pleasure because it isolates us from him.

**Psa 40:4**  **Blessed** *is* that man that **maketh the LORD his trust,** and respecteth not the proud, **[proud of self accomplishments]**nor such as turn aside to lies.

**Psa 40:5**  Many, O LORD my God, *are* thy wonderful works *which* thou hast done, and thy thoughts *which are* to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: *if* I would declare and speak *of them,* they are more than can be numbered.

**Psa 40:6**  Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.

Philemon 1:6 our faith becomes powerfully active by acknowledging every good thing in us in Christ Jesus

**Hebrews 11:1**  Now **faith** is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. **2**  For by it the elders obtained a good report. **3**  Through faith we understand that the worlds were **framed** by the word of God**,** so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

I applied this to creation (evolution) but as we look at it within the context of Hebrews 11, we have to look at it in light of how we view our own lives. How do we obtain a good report. It is not made of things which appear.

**Heb 11:6**  But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him:*

What does it take to please **[satisfy, gratify]** God-what completes God-perfects

Faith-faith in God as distinct from faith in man

Firm persuasion that you can rely on God/Christ

The big question is: Where does persuasion come from? How do we become men and women of faith?

A lot of my Christian life was tied up in endlessly trying to become a woman of faith:

I believe I Believe I believe **[self effort]** with the evaluation based on what I saw in myself.

Hebrews 3:10-13 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways. 11 So I sware in my wrath **[emotion of extreme passion]**, They shall not enter into my rest **[no more struggle]** . 12Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness **{delusion** (mistaken, unfounded, opinion-to get off on the wrong track)**}** of sin.

What is the true source of a good report?

**Hebrews 10:14** by one sacrifice perfected forever.

2 Peter 1:2  Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 2 Peter 1:3  According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 2 Peter 1:4  Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Hebrews 12:28  Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably **[agreeably, well pleasing]**with reverence and godly fear:

**Grace**-God’s inspiration is is the source of my motivation, my faith

**Reverence**, respect is what pleases God (gives God a sense of fulfillment)we please God in awe and tender devotion” (submission). Refer to the teaching on *The Bride.* We were created in the image of God

Man needed a helpmeet, God needed a helpmeet

Ephesians 5:30-33, John 15:1-8

The world was framed by the word of God; We were framed by the word of God.

Isaiah 45:11-13Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me. 12 I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, *even* my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. 13 I have raised him up **{opened his eyes}**in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

Focus on Sin-deceitfulness-Hardens heart to truth-enemies tool

Focus on righteousness-opens eyes-brings rest-in Him, according to the power of His might in me

Abraham was looking for a city whose builder and maker was God. Hebrews 11:10

The god of this world shifts our focus from God to the work of our hands

Genesis 11:4  And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

Where does faith come from?

Worked up self effort..behavior modification according to law system?

Or does it come by Grace-divine life changing inspiration moments with God/spiritual training

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God

Hebrews 7:19  For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. Hebrews 7:22  By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament: Hebrews 7:25  Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Jesus learned faith:

Hebrews 5:8-9Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered **[to experience a sensation or impression]**; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.

What profession?

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

If we look to the Spirit in the midst of situations, we will find an answer in our time of need.

Luke 11:11-13If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Heroes of faith in Hebrews 11 went through a process

They learned to trust God in the midst of their weaknesses

By it the elders obtained a good report

Hebrews 11:11  Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Hebrews 11:17  By faith Abraham, when he was tried,[**tempted]** offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, (Romans 4:3  What we read in Scripture is, "Abraham entered into what God was doing for him, and that was the turning point. He trusted God to set him right instead of trying to be right on his own.")

Hebrews 11:27  Moses-By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

If he was not afraid, why did he run to the desert?

Hebrews 11:32  And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Go back and read the Old Testament account-God did not call them faithful based on their performance. They became faithful as they entered into what God was doing for them.

Hebrews 11:34  Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens

Hebrews 11:39  And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

**Heb 6:11**  And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

**Heb 6:12**  That ye **be not slothful**, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**13** For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself,

**14**  Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.

Everything hinges on what GOD SAID. Faith comes by hearing the Word.

**Heb 6:15**  And so, after he had patiently endured, **[standing on the Word in the midst of contradiction]** he obtained the promise.**16**  For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation *is* to them an end of all strife.

**Heb 6:17**  Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability **[unchangeable]** of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath: **[boundary, limit]**

**Heb 6:18**  That by two immutable things, in which *it* ***was* impossible for God to lie, w**e might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Heb 6:19  Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

Hope that comes from God writing faith in our hearts by grace, made sure by Jesus