



Living a Life of Faith

An ABF Series on Hebrews 11

Lesson 3 - A Life of Faith Stands Against the Culture

The pressure to conform to the world around us is real, and surrounds us constantly. How can a Christian hope to stand against the world in a culture where living for Christ is becoming less and less popular and is becoming increasingly costly? Noah lived in a time when living for God was tough. Looking at how Noah was able to continue to do right when everyone around him did wrong should help us as we seek to live for God.

Noah Had a Reverent Fear of God

Many today will say that we should have a respect or reverence for Him, but _____ necessarily a fear of him in the normal sense. But if believers need not worry about fearing God, why does God use the normal word for fear (*phobos*) when He says to “fear God” elsewhere (2 Cor 7:1; 1 Peter 2:17)? And why is fear modified by _____ if it is not meant to mean “scared” as we would normally think (Ezra 9:4, 10:3, Phil 2:12)? Fearing God involves a healthy, appropriate fear of His _____ and power, and of the _____ of sin that He will mete out if we disobey. It means that we tremble in the presence of the one who can send hurricanes with the snap of his finger.

Noah Stood against the World

Three NT passages give us a picture of what the pre-flood world in which Noah lived was like (Matthew 24:37-38; Luke 17:26-30, 2 Peter 3:2-6). Here we are told that the people of Noah's generation went about life as normal and were unaware and dismissive of God's coming judgment. **The world**, then, is a way of living life that completely _____ God and His Word (especially warnings of judgment) from their everyday life. Life without God is the way the world lives. Believers if they are not careful can be guilty of _____: when a believer thinks like the world (Romans 12:2) or loves like the world (1 John 2:15-17).

Noah Became an Heir of Righteousness

It may be a little surprising, but tucked away in the story of Noah and the flood is the _____. Noah's faith became the basis on which he inherited righteousness. Noah didn't understand everything we do today about how salvation works, but God gave Noah a command, and Noah responded in faith by obeying that command. God saw Noah's _____ and responded by granting him righteousness as a reward. This is not saying that Noah earned his salvation, but rather that Noah's faith in God was lived out by his _____, and that obedience _____ that Noah believed God.

We too live surrounded by a culture that has no room for God and is growing worse. Like Noah, we must be people of faith by standing against the culture in God's power, not ours. We must accept what He has said by faith, fearing Him and His Word more than what other people think about us, and allowing that faith to result in practical obedience to God's commands.



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