

Substance of Faith

Hebrews 11:1 “*Now faith is the SUBSTANCE...*”

The word substance is very interesting word. I know you have heard a 1000 definitions, and now one more.

Studying the original I found that this word was used as a basis of foundation, frequently applied by the church fathers as in a distinct person of the Godhead. (Heb 1:1) Also applied to the mind as a firm confidence (Heb 11:2)

GODHEAD: God the Father - his will

God the Son - his authority

God the Holy Spirit - his power

I. GOD THE FATHER – HIS WILL: Usually in reference to his will.

1. Most references to God the Father have to do with his will

A. II Peter 3:9 – Father’s will of Salvation for all

B. III John 1:2 – For all to be well and prosper

C. Eph 2:10 - God prepared before Christ that we should walk in good works

A. Matt. 15:4 Fathers will to honor our Father and Mother

2. Father’s will is seldom a mystery!

A. Romans 12:1,2

B. To prove the will of the Father

1. Do not conform to carnal reasoning

2. Become transformed as in metamorphose in the renewing of your mind’s thinking in Grace reasoning.

3. Begin putting into practice who we are in

Christ i.e. - Righteousness, I will begin to see

myself as righteous, then I will begin to think of myself as righteous.

4. I do not perform to achieve righteousness

5. I am righteous, therefore I practice righteousness – I John 3:7

C. Thereby proving the Will of the Father in your life!

D. To be in the Will of God

1. How fellowship with God

a. Prayer life - Heb. 10:22

b. Read the Word -

2 Fellowship with his Church

a. Fellowship = Joint sharing

b. Heb. 10:25

c. I John 2:19

3. Develop and practice ethical work habits

a. I Tim. 4:11, 12 – Being faithful

b. Study to be quiet

c. Attentive to own business

d. Earn living with own hands

e. Command respect of world by habits

f. II Tim 3:10

g. Duty balanced with devotion

h. Work balanced with family

i. Believing we can do the possible leaving the impossible to God

4. Obedience to principle of giving

a. Mal. 3:10

b. Obedience to the Word teaches us to give

c. Obedience to the Word teaches us to honor God

- d. Obedience to the Word teaches us tithing is New Testament principal
- e. God cannot meet daily need if we continue to not align up with the Word of God in Giving.
- f. Vertical prayers
 - (1. Pray to walk in the light
 - (2. Pray to govern our fellowship with church
 - (3. Pray to be covered with the blood of Jesus to cleanse us
 - (4. Pray for power of Holy Spirit to direct our steps

- 5. Believe it is the Will of the Father to prosper you
 - A. God promises that if we are in His will, the multitude of blessings will “overtake” us
 - B. Mk 10:29, 30 – We cannot out give God
 - C. Phil. 4:19 – In the Will of the Father we are never deficient of needs.
 - D. III John 3:2 – His will to prosper and heal us

II. God the Son – The Word presents Him as in Authority

- A. Salvation – John 1:12 – power or authority
- B. The Father in Old Testament established his sovereignty in “I am that I am”
- C. Jesus in New Testament establishes his Authority in the “I am’s” of Jesus
- D. Right with power – denying the presence of hindrance
- E. Power or empowerment – Represents the authority granting the power – Faith
 - a. When we know the Will of the Father

d. Matt 4:17 Foundation of the Gospel.

1. First level of knowing the will of the Father is submitting to Lordship

2. We can never know the true will of the Father for our lives until we submit to the Lordship of the Kingdom.

3. Salvation:

1. Not repenting of sin but change of heart TO Lordship.

6. Submitting our sin to the Lord that he can deal with our sin.

7. Submitting our live for Jesus to live through us!

3. Faith is practiced:

A. Vs 4 – Abel acted in faith knowing the Fathers will.

B. Vs 5, 6 – Enoch Pleas'd the Father by exercising faith or confidence in God

C. Vs. 7 – Noah knowing the will of the Father moved in godly fear.

D. Vs. 8-19 – Abraham and Sara follow the will of the Father

E. Vs. 23 – Moses' parents hid for three months following the Fathers will.

F. Many others mentioned in Hebrews 11 and through out the Bible which display seeking the Father's will

G. New Testament – Disciples learned:

1. To find the Fathers will

2. Walk in the Authority of Jesus

3. Demonstrating the power of the Holy Spirit

4. Demonstrating the Substance of Faith of things hoped for; the evidence (confidence) of things not seen.