

**Sermon Quotes**  
**July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Study of Hebrews- What Is Faith?**

*Guarantee of More to Come -*

“...Faith is like the deed of a house. The deed is not the house itself. But the deed assures you that the house belongs to you. And so faith is something which underlies our hope guaranteeing its reality. It is the instrument which God has chosen to guarantee the realities of promises that He has made to us, but which none of us have fully experienced yet.”

—Ligon Duncan

*Inward Assurance of God's Faithfulness -*

“When the Preacher names faith as the ‘assurance of things hoped for’ he is describing what faith has: it already possesses in the present what God has promised for the future...Inwardly, people of faith have a confidence today, here and now, when all hell is breaking loose around us, that **the promises of God** for peace, justice, mercy, and salvation **can be trusted**. Faith, in this inward sense, is then a **response** to the **trustworthiness of God**.”

—Thomas G. Long

*Contrasting Faith and Hope –*

“Faith is living in a hope that is so real it **gives absolute assurance**...Faith is not a wistful longing that something may come to pass in an uncertain tomorrow. True faith is an absolute certainty, often of things that the world considers unreal and impossible.”

—John MacArthur

“Conviction of things not seen carries the same truth a bit further, because it implies a response, an outward manifestation of the inward assurance. The person of faith **lives** his belief. His life is committed to what his mind and his spirit are **convinced** is true.”

—John MacArthur

“Society is built on a foundation of faith. We drink water out of a faucet, with perfect confidence it is safe. We eat food in a restaurant, confident that it is not contaminated. We willingly receive our pay in the form of a check or paper money—neither of which has any intrinsic value at all. We accept them because of our faith in the person or the company or the government that issues them. We put our faith in a surgeon, and in medical science in general, though we may not have the least training, competence, or experience in medicine ourselves. We submit to the surgeon’s knife entirely by faith. The capacity for faith is created in us.”

—John MacArthur

**1 Corinthians 2:14** “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is **not able to understand them** because they are spiritually discerned.”

**Ephesians 2:8** “For by grace you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is **the gift of God**...”

**Ephesians 1:18** "...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you..."

**Ephesians 2:4-5** "But **God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our trespasses, **made us alive** together with Christ..."

**Hebrews 3:12** ESV "Take care, **brothers**, lest there be in any of you an evil, **unbelieving heart**, leading you to **fall away** from the living God."

"The foundation of the believer's faith is **Christ Jesus himself**. The believer receives doctrine because Christ has taught it; but still it is not a doctrine which is the foundation of his confidence; it is **a person**, 'He that believeth on him.' The Lord Jesus himself, as the Son of God, is the object of our faith: it is **upon him that we lean**. The apostle does not say in the Epistle to Timothy, 'I know **what** I have believed,' though that would be true, but 'I know **whom** I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed to him.' The faith which saves the soul is confidence in a person, reliance upon one who will certainly effect the salvation of those who trust him."  
—Charles Spurgeon