The Lord's Day

November 1949

"Our Christian Faith" Hebrews 11:1-8

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Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 11:1-8

Text: Hebrews 11:1

Introduction:

- 1. Not everyone has Christian faith.
 - a. Much of world has no knowledge of Christianity.
 - b. We call ourselves Christians.
 - c. What as Christians do we believe?

I. What we Christians believe

- 1. God
 - a. Most everyone believes in first cause
 - 1. Believe in natural laws
 - 2. Universe came into being
 - b. We believe this first cause to be God
 - 1. A personality, not mere law or chance
 - c. Took wisdom
 - 1. Water change
 - 2. Plant life, oxygen and hydrogen
 - d. We believe this God is our Father
 - 1. Silas says most important thing about God is His love.
 - 2. He cares for me.
 - 3. Boy overboard on ship found to be doctor's son.
 - 4. We are God's children.
 - e. Here is something we Christians believe.
- 2. Sin
- a. Men are out of harmony with this God.
 - 1. Do not care for Him.
 - 2. Not obey His wishes.
- b. We believe this lack of obedience to Him brings all the trouble in the world.
 - 1. If anyone loved and obeyed Him would have heaven on earth
- c. This we call sin.
- d. It will send one finally to live eternally out of the presence of this God.
- 3. Christ
 - a. God did not want men to be lost.
 - 1. Men may have thought so.
 - b. Sent Christ

- 1. We believe He was God, not man.
- 2. Seems strange to many, but we believe it.
- c. He showed love of God.
- d. He died to save from sin.
- 4. We believe we are saved from sin.
 - a. Not what we do
 - 1. Not good
 - b. What Christ did for us
 - 1. Silas said greatest thing Christians had to believe was that God saved us if we had faith in Christ.
 - c. What I told Bill Pullen "I knew where he was going because he had faith in Christ, was trusting Him to do all needed to be done for his salvation. I knew Christ was able to do it."
- 5. He will sustain.
 - a. All have troubles.
 - 1. It comes because we are human beings and live on this earth.
 - b. But some have a power, others do not have to meet these troubles.
 - 1. We believe this
 - c. God puts arms around and helps.
- 6. Heaven
 - a. All die
 - 1. We believe this
 - b. Some go to Father's home, heaven
 - c. We believe death is a victory for them.
- 7. As I see it these are the great cardinal secrets of Christians.
 - a. What a glorious thing to believe them.
- 8. But upon what foundation does our faith rest?
 - a. Faith must have a basis.
 - 1. We are not blind to facts, truth, etc.
 - b. What is our faith based on?

II. Revelation

- 1. Other religions have been founded upon the philosophy or teachings of mere man.
- 2. The Christian religion is based upon the foundation of the revelation of God.
- 3. He revealed Himself to Moses.
 - a. Created heavens and earth
 - b. His will as to how to live
 - 1. Ten Commandments
 - c. His holiness
- 4. To the prophets
- 5. Through Christ
 - a. Can here know all need to know about Him
- 6. Our faith not founded upon thoughts of men.

III. Authority

1. This revelation must have authority.

- 2. Bible is our authoritative declaration of this revelation.
 - a. Some reasons believe it is true.
 - 1. Cannot give many
 - b. Nothing contrary to itself
- 3. Must not surrender this authority.
 - a. What Catholic bishop told Dr. McAfee "Protestants would cease to be a church unless held on to authority of Bible."

IV. Experience

- 1. Silas said, "Knew these things were true because he felt in his heart they were so."
- 2. Some of us have experienced these things.
 - a. Answered prayer
 - b. Strength from fellowship with God
 - c. Strength to meet life's troubles
 - 1. Lucy Lacy
 - 2. Virginia Withers
- 3. To face death
 - a. Mother
 - 1. Not afraid

Conclusion:

- 1. It is your privilege to believe these things.
- 2. To have sure basis.