

Starting Points of Faith

One of the most memorable passages on faith is Hebrews 11:6. Faith makes it possible to please God. Minimally, this faith is in His existence and in His being a giver. I say minimally because this seems to be a starting point of faith, not the end. There is so much more we need to believe about God, His Son, and the Holy Spirit. But this seems to be entry level. You will not get very far if you are an atheist or have a view of God like Deism which says God is not involved in our lives. We need to give God a toehold into our lives. So, we start with the evidence of God's existence and then proceed to define what kind of God He is. Though these are starting points, they are big steps. Each conclusion opens a world of possibilities to the believer. It helps us know we are not alone and the One we cannot see wants to help us. God is and He is our friend. What a relief that the One we cannot see does not mean to harm us but to reward us. I fear that we Christians take too much for granted in faith. We talk too casually about it. We make it seem like it is not a big deal to believe in a God who is good and wants to help us. This is not the view that many pagans have had throughout the history of the world. Even if they believed that the supreme Maker of Heaven and Earth existed, as opposed to some lesser petty gods, they often thought of this God as mean, needing to be appeased and kept happy in order to keep the crops growing. We need to remember the context of the lives of those in the Hall of Fame of Faith. They did not grow up in Christian homes and most of them did not grow up in what we know today as Jewish homes. They were pagans living in a predominantly pagan society. Their escape was a change of belief, i.e., there is a God who is and who rewards those who seek Him. They became seekers and then the blessings flowed and ultimately, they became faith-heroes. Perhaps we need to go back to the starting line of faith and get our "awe" back; we serve a REAL God who loves us.



Reflection and Discussion



Read Hebrews 11:6. What are the two points of faith here?

Why do we need a starting point of faith? Why are these two points starting points?

How do these two points open a world of possibilities for us?

Allow yourself to imagine how profound these two points are and how life changing they can be.

Memory Verse: Heb.11:6

“Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”