

**Hebrews 11:6 reads, "And 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."**

There are two important concepts we learn from this verse:

- (1) You cannot please God without faith.
- (2) Faith as our *modus operandi* consists in two fundamental concepts:
  - (a) We must believe in the existence of God.
  - (b) We must believe that He is also a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Point: Heb. 11:6 says that we are totally dependent on God for our existence, for our happiness, and for our security.

God cares about us intimately. **1 Pet 5:7**

Application: For many Christians, the Christian life is devoid of God's power. Why?

Our best is not what God wants. He wants faith in His best--the Lord Jesus Christ -- His very own Son and the fullness of blessing He has made for us is in Him.

### **An Explanation of the Details of Faith**

#### **The New Testament Word for Faith**

The New Testament word for "*faith*" is πιστις.

It means a belief in someone or something *confidence, faith, trust, reliance on*; conviction of the truth or reality of anything.

#### **Definition of Biblical Faith**

1. Biblical definition of faith is given in **Heb 11:1**.
2. Faith is a system of thinking that is \_\_\_\_ to all members of the human race.
3. Faith is a system of \_\_\_\_\_ that accepts an established criterion as the basis for reality.
4. Faith then is confidence, trust in the authority and veracity of another or another's \_\_\_\_\_.  
The criterion is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Because this established criterion is outside the capabilities of the individual, \_\_\_\_\_ is the only system of thinking that is non - meritorious.

6. Faith as a system of thinking stands in contrast to the two meritorious systems of thinking:
- a. Rationalism - what you think, conclusions you make is the criterion, the only basis for action or belief. Rom 2:3; Prov. 14:12 [16:25]
  - b. Empiricism - what you experience through the senses is the criterion. 2 Cor 5:7 cf. 4:18