“By Faith” Pt. V

Intro: After defining ______ as that which “is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” the Author of the Hebrews letter made a remarkable statement announcing that it was by faith that the men of old __________ the ________________ of God.

A. Of the patriarchs whom the Hebrews most revered none exceeded ________________ the father of their Hebrew nation Israel. If the Hebrews were going to truly recognize that salvation is by faith alone it would have to be revealed that this fact was ________________ to their father Abraham.

I. “___ __________ Abraham ...”

A. Abraham obeyed when he was called. His obedience to the divine call was the result of faith. ________ in God proceeds and _______________ obedience.

1. There was no delay on Abraham’s part but a faith driven instantaneous ________________.

B. Abraham did not act on his own but upon the Word of God. Abraham’s faith was _________________ upon the _______ of God. He heard and he obeyed.

1. Puritan Thomas Manton wrote, “Observe that ______, wherever it is, _______eth forth obedience ... Faith and obedience can never be severed; as the sun and the light, fire and heat. ... ______________ is faith’s daughter.”

2. This is what true ______ in God _______: it makes us who were unwilling willing; us who did not believe believers; us who did not know or _______ God to know and love Him; us who did not obey Him obedient, trusting Him implicitly even when He has not revealed the full details of His will. This is not a blind faith but that faith that _______ ______ and believes Him at His Word.

C. It was by faith in God that Abraham _______ his life. Abraham __________________ lived (in the on-going present tense) by faith.
1. It was not for Abraham to do more than God instructed. By ______ he obeyed and ______ as instructed and then by faith he waited upon the Lord to fulfill what He had promised. Not only does faith initially obey but it patiently ______ upon the Lord to do what He said He would.

2. Philip Hughes writes, “He who begins by ______ must continue by faith, for faith is the principle not only of initiation but also of ____________________.”

3. To Abraham it was ______ a question of ___ God would do it ______ ______ and so did Abraham live by faith and so must we live by faith.

D. Abraham’s faith was not ______________ on earthly fulfillments but ______ the ultimate ______________ heavenly fulfillment.

Closing: Beloved, if we ______ with our sight fixed on this present world and our present circumstance then we are soon to stumble and to try to take things in our own hands, to make things work out, to6 doubtfully press God for the fulfillment of His promises as if He’s forgotten them, but if we walk by faith in God, ______________ in Him, His person and character then so will our eyes be cast on the great heavenly reward, where there is a city with permanent, eternal foundations established in the heavens, of whom ______ Himself is the architect and builder – the city that will have no end.

Our time on this earth is just a little while, then comes eternity! Let us who began by faith finish by faith for the Lord is a rewarder of those who seek Him, and without faith it is impossible to ______________ ______.

As Hebrews 12:1 & 2 says, “… let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 ______ing our ______ __ ____________, the author and perfecter of faith ...”

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