

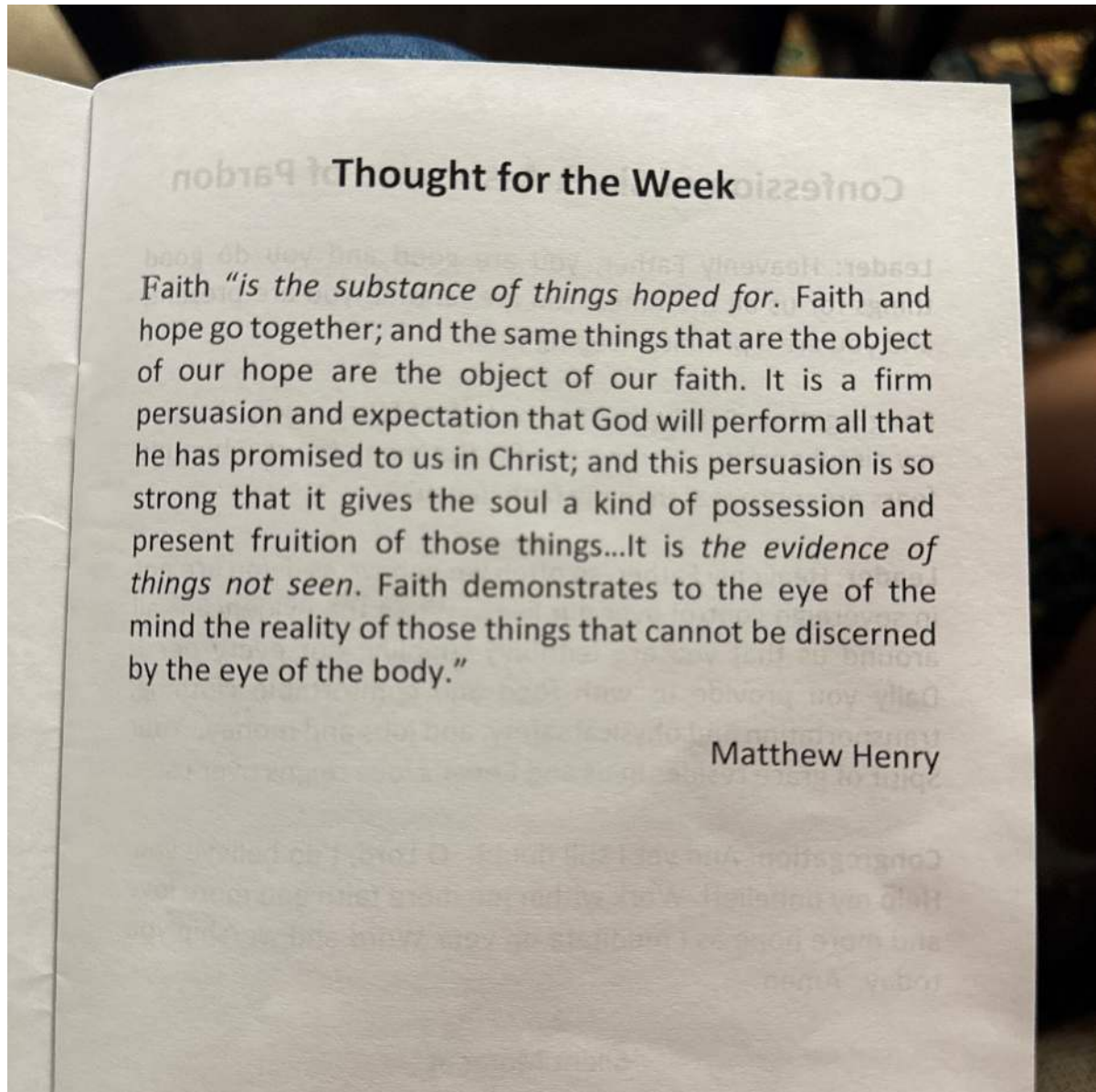
Sermon Notes

By Faith

KURT GRAY

HEBREWS 11:1-7

Thought for the Week



Intro

- The author uses "by faith" 18 times in Chapter 11
- Sandwiched between two chapters of endurance (10, 12), there is a whole chapter dedicated to faith (11)

Definitions of Faith in our Culture

1. Positive outlook on life
 2. Naively believing something
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Verse 1

Scriptural Definition of Faith

1. Faith is the *substance* of things hoped for, and the *evidence/conviction* of things unseen.
- The things hoped for are God's promises to us; all the spiritual blessings that we will receive in their fullness in glory
 - Faith in hope in Scripture, are almost synonymous
 - Faith lays hold of what is promised, as something *real and solid*, although yet unseen.
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Verse 2

- By *faith*, all who were saved in the Old Testament received their commendation/award
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Verse 3

- Although there is evidence that there is a Creator, we ultimately have to trust God since we were not there
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Verse 4

- Cain came with faith as he gave his sacrifice to God
 - He was commended as righteous through this sacrifice (see verse 2)
 - Cain still speaks today
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Verse 5

- Enoch, by faith walked with the Lord. God approved of him, and ∴ took him
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Verse 6

- It is **impossible** to please God with *anything we do without* faith.
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Verse 7

- Of all the millions or billions of people, only one man (Noah) believed, and through this faith he condemned the world.
 - One way he condemned the world because God promised not to wipe out humanity permanently, and he was a single vessel God used to keep the human race alive
 - Every nail that went into the boat, was Noah communicating to the world, through action, that they have no excuse for their unbelief
 - Actions of Faith either are/can be used to convert, or to condemn

Application

1. Cling to God's promises as if we have already received them

In walking with God, a man will always go as far as he believes, and no farther. All of his works will be according to his faith. **JC Ryle**