

FAITH AND VISION

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Hebrews 11:1 describes the following: 'Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen'. This one statement implies a very special message - that faith is literally the building blocks for building the future we seek and strive for. It is through our faith that we envision our future yet to come, our invisible future so to speak. Vision is about having faith.

There are a lot of motivational speakers and self-empowerment programs in the marketplace that teaches us about envisioning our future, and visualizing the things we seek, and then these things will materialize. In a sense, these encourage us to have a type of faith - to believe that we will receive the things we seek. In some way I think those speakers and program developers would love Hebrews 11:1, as it directly states that faith is the substance of things hoped for. However, what they, and so many people, completely miss out on in this type of advice, is the that the vision we have through faith, is not our vision as such, but God's. Hebrews 11:3 continues to say that 'by faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible'. God's word created the worlds and all things seen. The things we seek and the future we envision, is then created by God. Vision is indeed about having faith in the things yet to come, but it is the word of God that creates those things yet to come. Vision is about having faith, AND understanding the source from which the vision will manifest.

So what am I really trying to say here? Well, firstly, without vision we create nothing in our lives - we wander through life aimlessly. So, we need vision. We need something we strive for. But, vision without faith does not manifest anything. Faith is what creates the future we envision. Or at least that is what we are led to believe from Hebrews 11:1. Indeed, without faith, our vision is merely a wishful dream which we don't really believe is achievable. Thus, we need both faith and vision.

Second, the vision we have, must also be in line with God's vision. According to Hebrews 11:3, the worlds were framed by the word of God, so consequently, whatever it is that we envision, can then only be created by God. The future envisioned cannot be created by us alone, but only through God. Thus, our vision for the future must then also be God's vision, because God is the source for all things created.

The conclusion of my argument? For us to create the vision we have, we must have faith that God will create the vision He has, and that our vision is also His vision. The only question left now, is whether our vision is also God's vision?