

05 HLH Faith 761127 PAS E AMp3

Good morning to all of you, I'm glad to see that you all are blue in here, since I felt that way this morning, I'm going to have to clear the driver of olives in order to get out, since I live in an old olive grove, I might mention that any of you are hungry and willing to wait three weeks to process your olives each past, as you know, 40 days. Tomorrow is the day to collect them, they're all fell off to the base in our area. Mr. Harry Rabani and some of you know, tell me how to pick olives in the Middle East, so I decided to, as you know, look like, traditional Western olives, they look like the Middle Eastern olives, so I picked them up for an hour, three weeks in salt, without a brine, salt makes the stone brine, Italian-dewed water, American-dewed lye, and I think the Middle Eastern form is very good, I just put them in a short jar, put about a table spoon of salt in there, close the lid, and every day, just turn the jar upside down a little bit to keep the salt and the moisture circulating, and in three weeks they're about ready. Now you can put them in something after that, but you'll keep them, so I just put them in olive oil, you can put them in vinegar, you're very hungry, you can eat them then.

This at least is a simple way of preparing them. My wife decided not to for two years to act on it, even though we've had them, and I decided that they'll tell you she's letting this crop go. So if any of you aren't considered, you know how, it's really a very simple process to salt, almond, and keep your hands off.

The rule of thumb is like with a lot of other things, and let God do his work. That's the lesson of faith that you already have heard about.

Is there anything in our society here that we can do and make the world around us feel a little more forced than perhaps we have? I want to thank especially Mr. Beirut today. I do however have a request, and we cannot appear here very many times until he performs it for me.

I would like him to have the ensemble through an acapella that's without music, one of the famous Russian hymns and in Russian, one of the most beautiful compositions I've ever heard in my life, which was the Russian acapella and was Mr. Leon Eddington.

And I've never heard it done since. I've never heard more beautiful music because I do believe, having heard Russian music, that in terms of singing without a musical instrument, it would be greatest if I were going to sing anywhere in the world.

That's here. You can always ask him how the words are pronounced. I'm curious if you've got to appreciate that.

The music is incomparably beautiful and a using of a number for this size room expresses the clarity of thought that you heard this morning.

I have decided since I will be speaking with some later time to the congregation as well to reserve the question of prophecy that you have not had for a little while, a little bit later.

For the reason that a number of things are now developing that are pretty mature, and so I have further opportunities to evaluate the music, to get the information from the new girls, I think we should wait.

I draw your attention. However, to the events transpiring in Southern Africa that we normally hear about, from the future of our brethren in Rhodesia, draw attention to the fact that the Vatican is entering into a new kind of progress with Italy the first since 1929 with the Muslim Muslims, in which the role of the church in Italy will no longer be that of a state religion.

But the church must lie above the state of Europe, where the role of the church will no longer have Rome as a holy city, which leaves her free to leave about.

I was told, I did not hear this, that probably, I can't say for sure what the situation is, but it's possible that St. Joseph's South may have decided to develop the Christian Social Union, the actual Bavaria as a country-wide party in Germany.

Now, that might be the implication of what needs to be thought first. You will have to read it, but since I don't have all the information, I know that was intense.

The Christian Democratic Union is nationwide, outside of Bavaria, and is essentially with the Catholic Conservative Party.

Bavaria is a Catholic Social Union linked with it, and then there of course is the Socialist Party, and now the government one in West Germany.

But then the winding down of the events in Lebanon, which means the winding up of events, beginning with Israel.

And the question how, on the United Nations responsive tip of a Palestinian state that includes Gaza, as you think from Gaza once belonging to Egypt, and the Russian bank once belonging to Jordan, it appears that both countries have written off these areas.

But all these things have to be listened to yet, from day to day and week to week.

God has not determined all of those matters that can lead to the crisis. That's why we're told to watch events.

So we can say that perhaps now, under a new administration about to enter into this country, which means four to eight years of new philosophy, so not that much change, is certainly the Soviet Union is quite concerned as to how far it can go, and will most certainly test this present incoming administration sometime during 1977.

It is inevitable to test the Kennedy over Cuba and lost.

You will find that the Soviet Union will see how far it can go with every new administration, and will determine how fast it can push ahead and the acquisition of the whole world for socialism and communism.

In the meantime, however, there are aspects of subject which we should have, especially at this time of year, when you'll just hear that there are individuals who haven't fully remembered the face that was once delivered.

But before I get to today's topic, I want to express an appreciation for those of you who did attend the further case of the flight day of Cibo from Mr. and Mr. Pujon Thomas in the introduction to the little record that each one who attended the funeral service had, was printed the 121st song at the first. Please forgive the fact that it was chosen as one of the songs to be sung this morning.

I think that you ought to reread it. Sometimes you sing, you forget the meaning of the words, and it doesn't hurt to look at all of these things once more.

The Lord will preserve you from all evil. He will preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth and evermore.

The way it flows is a very interesting sound. This gives, in fact, the second one of the series of 15, beginning with number 120, that most certainly were sung in the autumn season for the first 15 days of the month of fifth week, beginning with the feasts trumpet to ending with the first holy day, that is the night meeting on the first day of the Feast of Cabernet.

That's why they are all together a specific sound, and the day has 15 and the 10th and the first all have special meanings pertaining to each of the holy days, and then of course there's a thread of thought running through all of it.

What I would like to do today is to discuss a chapter which we all are very familiar with, and maybe we all understand, but if we all understood, none of us would be leaving.

The fact that some have left throughout the first, with the number of people who attended the Feast of Cabernet this year in the United States, in contrast to the previous year, which from 80,000 fewer brethren, whether we like to face it or not, reflects the spiritual state of too many individuals who apparently don't even understand the meaning of the most fundamental chapter on faith, Chapter 11 of the Book of Hebrews.

We are at risk today in a world that wants to make everything turn out just right, that doesn't want to have problems, that wants to have the law of God wherever possible compromise with the world, that would say, well, if you have to break the law in order to solve your personal needs and problems, then that's the way to go.

There are too many who compromise with God's law because they're not willing to endure a crisis.

We no longer want to endure suffering, upwards of one quarter to one third of all men in the army have said that in the eventuality of war, they would not fight, not because they're conscientious objectors, but because they're, but the word is spelled, feel, w, a, r, d, s.

We have people today who will lift and bend the law, or who will say, well, God's law truly can't be for us now because then I'd have to deny my family this, or I'd have to deny this, and who wants to deny one's best? The book of Peter chapter 11 is the story of faith in an entirely different light than most people can see of it.

Faith, as we normally perceive it, is the belief that what we ask God to do for you, he will perform in accordance with his will.

We normally recognize that framework, but you can ask God and he will do things for you.

As the time when Mr. Armstrong first asked me to speak with the chief of Cabernacles, and I was a junior, I guess, a junior it was, in college, I didn't have a proper care of him, so I prayed about it.

I was waiting before I was finished praying, but not staying at the door, and when we met here about him, he brought an extra pair of pants for me, he said, maybe I could use them, and he couldn't.

I don't know who told him, but that's getting what you ask God for.

That is only a part of the story, and that's unfortunately where many people limit faith, merely to acquire what you would like to have from God that he had promised to do for you.

The faith involves much more, an entirely different aspect than merely receiving.

It involves fundamentally an aspect that we call endure, and because so few have wanted to endure to the end, they have come and gone, and some here will go, because you will not want to act on faith that requires you to endure before you receive, as well as to receive.

Let us look at the illustrations and see whether we have given serious enough thought to the kind of faith that the church must have, especially in a world if you please, with a Southern Baptist president who will more likely than not have to deal with a major revolution in religion, which is quite different from Southern Baptist Europe, which can affect the ability, ultimately, to buy, to sell, to hold a job, and to eat, because religion, as we read very clearly in the book of Revelation chapter 13, will ultimately play such a role in the Western world, in order to prevent the final conquest of communism, that unless a single religion is agreed to, there will be no freedom to survive, unless it comes from a little work, or unless you have faith from God to endure it.

Faith is the substance of things most poor, we all generally understand that.

Once you have the substance and you no longer open for it, faith is not relevant to that matter.

Faith is the evidence of things not seen, the comprehension, and understanding that there are ideas, there are beings, there are realities that we do not see with a human eye.

We were not here when God created the world.

Faith is that aspect whereby the election done is God as a Creator.

Now by faith, the elders obtained a good report, those who are of earlier generation.

Through faith, we understand that the world was framed by the word of God.

We are, therefore, through faith not misled by evolution, which of course would like to, and more often than not, could make headway into this institution of education we call ambassador college, unless we remain on guard.

By faith, we understand that the world was framed by the word of God, not evolved on their own.

So the things which are seen, recognized, to have been made not of things with a cue, which is, of course, fundamental to the science of creation, as to whether God created all things at will, out of nothing, or of things which do not appear.

It's the question of the relationship of the divine energy which is God, transformed into a form of energy which is structured, as we recognize as mass, which can be released.

We cannot comprehend the great power of God, who has built in these to this universe, the energy that is there, unless we comprehend how much could be released in a common explosion, or a stick of dynamite if you want to get down to a lower level.

There is immense energy in a very small amount of mass.

And when God structured matters, He structured it in such a way that all that energy is, in effect, captured and retained, and is innate to the pattern of matters.

Now, to have structured all that energy in that matter is not a matter of care, it's a matter of creation, and the power of God.

Things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

They will come after the issue of creation to a whole new complex, the issue of human experience and faith.

By faith, able offers to God a more excellent sacrifice than change.

Now, by faith, able perceives what God would approve.

He trusted that God would approve His offering, because he comprehended in some way the character of God, which was reflected in what he was willing to do.

He offered something able, of course, offered as little as he could.

This sacrifice is something that able gave up.

It is clear that he obtained witness when he was licensed.

The animal, as that able offered, was an animal whose blood was shed, which pre-created the coming of the Messiah, who would pay the penalty of sin.

And in faith, able comprehended that the Messiah should have to die in order that he himself should be forgiven.

And, therefore, he obtained witness that he was licensed because he pursued God would forgive him.

An example of the animal he offered was able's way of conveying the comprehension of what God would do.

God testifies of his gift.

That's written in the scripture.

God testifies his approvals.

Now, what was able to reward? And three, God forgives.

Oh, the God is what you would expect of God, isn't it? A God who approves your sacrifice, a God who bears witness, which you're righteous, and who testifies it, allows your brother to do it.

By faith, he deemed dead, yet faith, says the scripture.

That's the other side of the coin that we haven't always looked at.

Abel knew that his example, even in death, would not be lost on the world.

As of course, many other people who've died have had their example lost.

But he trusted that since he was the first of all of the human beings in which we have a record, he sought God that that example would not be lost on the world thereafter.

Now you might ask, why didn't God protect Abel from faith? Well, why don't you ask him in a resurrection? Find out someday.

We'll look back, perhaps, which the French was pointing out on occasion, and we'll see a whole new view as to why problems occurred.

Now what kind of a world might have been we cannot comprehend, because it never existed if the world had in great measure descended from Abel.

God didn't suppose that.

God allowed the first man who ever sought him to be killed.

And by faith he trusted God.

As you will read later, that he would be raised from the dead.

And God put him through the ultimate, even at the family level, not to mention the national level.

By faith, Enoch was translated that he could not see death, which is not always a clear way of rendering it, but it conveys a general thought.

By faith, Enoch was removed.

On the one hand, that his body was not found, as it says a little later that I haven't read that yet, by faith, Enoch was translated that he could not see death and was not found, because God had translated it.

And the word translated may mean merely to lose, to be transplanted.

It's not some unknown spiritual mystic word at all.

You translate a language, you render it from one form to another.

By faith, if you want Enoch had, he was, if you please, prayed into or begotten into the family of the kingdom of God, that he should not see that death, which is the second death.

Because if we have been begotten of God, the second death has ultimately no power over it, once Christ resurrected from the dead.

And furthermore, by faith, he was not found, so his body was not abused, because God had in fact removed him from those who would pray him.

Before his translation, he had this testimony that he pleased God.

Now, you might say, well, why this age if Enoch had faith in God was to claim it.

The youngest man of whom he had any record, prior to the flood, apart from able himself.

Why did God allow him to die so prematurely? Where was God? Where was faith? Well, the answer is, by faith, he enjoyed death.

The first death, that he did not see the second.

And if pillars, if you please, were those who might have compromised, that they wouldn't have to endure the first death, and who ultimately they faced the second, unless they can find forgiveness from God.

So we have faith here, interestingly, reflected in Abel, but not the murder of Cain, reflected in Enoch, but not in his murdering.

And in each of the two cases we have here, God shows that faith is significant in terms of their enduring through life.

Through faith they avoid the second death, through faith they become righteous, through faith they have the testimony that God has pleased with them, and in faith, for a while they have it, they are filled.

And that didn't stop faith.

But there are too many, you see, in the world today, who would compromise through in terms of faith our spiritual powers.

Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Faith to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently teach him.

But the reward doesn't always come in this life.

It may, in part, but that is not the primary reward.

Without faith it seems most people would say it's impossible to be pleased because they want to have themselves pleased.

When it comes to God, the general idea is, must believe that God is, and that he is a rewarder here and now of all the things he loves, and wants.

But that's not the sense of it, though it is not excluded that there are rewards now.

He is a rewarder of those who diligently teach him, the diligently you should all have comprehended.

That doesn't mean half-heartedly, it means with real intent and purpose, and without compromising with the world.

Which, of course, is the new grip.

It's the way the practice of everybody in the world has been gripping.

The world has all kinds of compartments and philosophies and ideas that we can laugh on through, that we can feel comfortable with.

And so people want to, before they're converted, go along in one direction or another so they can feel comfortable in the world.

And too many in God's church, reared in his church, not ever having tasted of the world directly, he went through somewhere along the line.

And that is where the big problem is.

People who didn't test and prove and evaluate their own spiritual faith before they said, well, I'll call them the name of Christ.

Who decided after they called them the name of Christ that they wanted to know what the world was really like instead of looking into the lines of such people around them as lived in the world.

Now, by faith Noah, being warned of God, of things not being as yet, moved with fear, and there is a time to have such fear, he prepared an arc for the fading of his house.

And, of course, without doubt, he was ridiculed in the process.

They decided in this case there was something to be done to protect others by which action, of course, the rest of the world was condemned because they did not listen to him.

And he became the heir of the life dismissed with him by faith.

Now, Noah was not murdered.

So they might have tried to dodge it all out.

In this case, Noah represents someone like Abraham who lived through a life-old age and died.

In different periods of time, peace, peace, all behaved in different ways.

There are ages in place.

Opposition is clamped down in which anybody who disagrees is forced into prison.

You know the story of Sabbath keepers in England with 1,500 and 1,500.

Under Queen Elizabeth, you will know that even to keep the Sabbath was sufficient to have you put in prison.

And the dear Queen Elizabeth I, an enlightened daughter of David, what was the darkness like in Gentile faith? And today there are people who would say, I have a certain privation of their little problems and I don't think we should bother with the Sabbath any longer.

We'll find some way around the problem because we no longer seem to want to endure.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he didn't afterwards receive as an inheritance which he hadn't seen yet, he obeyed, so faith enabled Noah to do something that he probably would have been unable to and was not to explain otherwise.

It enabled Abraham to decide that the journey containing was worth it.

However, less pleasant it would have been than some other's journey where other people lived in his own family.

So he went out, not knowing whether he went, he had never been in this area of the world before the land of Kings.

So by faith he sojourned in the land of Pumatim and he certainly had troubles there.

With his strange country and his wealth and tabernacles and not any foully built one or two story houses, he dwelt there with Isaac and Jacob up to the time when Jacob was about 15.

He errs with him of the same promise.

Now at the same time he looked for a city which has foundations whose builder and maker is gone and he never found that city.

There were plenty of peninsulas found around but he never found that city.

He must have comprehended in the long run that whatever city Melchizedek built and Melchizedek is the one in whom Josephus says from tradition the Jerusalem had its foundation that the real city would yet become the new Jerusalem.

So Abraham looked forward to something in this way that is not really revealed and described until he comes to Revelation chapters 21 and 22.

A city whose builder is gone.

So much more must have been revealed of these men in reality than we might understand.

It was only written down later that it was verbalized events.

So we have Abraham enjoying living in a country such as this.

Through faith also, Sarah, herself received strength to complete peace since he was already beyond that period of time and she normally could have children change the life that already occurred.

She was delivered of a trial when she was past eight because she had just gone face to face further.

Despite the fact that she first left and thought it impossible.

And the more she thought about it the more real it came to be because God is real.

So she received certain things.

Therefore, praying there even of that one, Isaac I should say of that one, Abraham in this case and him as good as had so many children as the stars of the sky and multitude.

And as a fan which is by the sea shore innumerable.

No way to remember the children of Abraham all of which came as an act of faith.

Now, God promised that Abraham had the trust.

Now there's the other way around that sometimes people don't know where people want a child that God hasn't given and they ask long enough and hard enough and God brings pregnancy.

If I may speak very plainly in one case I know in the church where there was such great desire to have a child it is very interesting that when the child came by faith at the urgent request of one of the parents it's not at that time, folks when the child was being born the doctor fractured the neck and it never changed the view.

You should realize that sometimes you can ask too much and God may know what's better for you than you realize.

That's a real story.

I think that we live in a world where we want so many things and we think God must give them.

Instead of letting God work sometimes out and then God says what he's going to do he has faith in the trust of God will whether it's in our lives or in others I just warn you what can happen.

These all died in faith not having received the promises but the ultimate promise.

You see the bulk of all the promises whether it be eternal life with able thought righteousness when you could be born into the kingdom and the family of God or the enough thought the heirs that Abraham looked forward to all he ever saw were Isaac and Jesus in terms of heirs and all the rest of the multitude he never got to see the new Jerusalem.

These all died in faith they didn't receive then the promises but having perceived them or seen them in that sense afar off they were persuaded and they embraced those promises and confessed that meantime they were strangers and children on the earth for they to say such things declare plainly that they speak a country with origin is from heaven not one of the nations of this world and truly if

they had been mindful of that country from which they came out they might have indeed had an opportunity to return but now they desire a better country that is one with origin is from heaven wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God for he has prepared for them a city or a capital city far greater than a Babylon or an earthly Jerusalem or a Cairo and if you've ever seen the great capital cities of the world you will realize why Abraham decided he wanted a better one ever been to Washington DC ever been to Paris I over have their glory old Babylon did too ever been to Cairo ever been to Rome quite a place that's where confusion is hallowed it is interesting to note as you go through here that these people did not put their confidence in the country in which they live they did not put their confidence in the civilization the society, the cities they came from they decided in a sense what Abraham did he had to leave the world behind him and journey and route to another world yet to appear but unfortunately we have too many who have left God's birth in the last year or three years who have decided that it isn't the new Jerusalem the city he filled their God's airs if they want on his country but they want what the world has to offer and the world has some very interesting things to offer after all it was created by God in terms of the earth and then there is the world that man has created on it the society, the present order of things but they desire something better so by faith Abraham when he was tested offered up Isaac and he that had received the promises offered up was only the drop in cuts here he was asked to perform something which was incomprehensible except that perhaps Abraham saw it as the example the fact that God, the Father must be willing to give up his sons the same as Abraham must be willing to give up his and so he offered up his only sons of whom it had been said that in Isaac shall your things be told so that he perceives that if Isaac were to be playing there would have to be a resurrection he counted that God was able to recognize his sons even from the dead from whence also who received him in a figure that last phraseology is called allusion to what the audience must have understood in this sense Abraham perceived twice in this figure or representation and comprehended the nature of the sacrifice that would have to be done when the final pass over Jesus Christ was to come and not nearly a series of wins by faith Isaac blessed Jacob and he saw concerning things to come that is though he could not see there was nothing he could do he trusted God that what had been fed of each could occur even after his death and indeed Isaac and he saw were both blessed one was blessed with blessings and the other was blessed with the absence so look at what's going on in the Middle East in the Earth great countries today people living in the center of what once was civilization and the trims he mentioned the mud-brick houses that come down not a very blessed land in many ways not a very blessed land in many ways were some of the children that he saw it well but by faith Jacob when he was dying blessed both the sons of Joseph blessed both the sons of Joseph and he worshiped God while leaning upon the top of his staff because he had to rise up and hold himself it doesn't mean that he worshiped the top of his staff as the old Catholic version was Jacob trusted God to fulfill the blessings that God had promised to Abraham and that God had bestowed through Abraham to Isaac to God promised Abraham certain things the inheritance so to speak was passed from Abraham to Isaac and Isaac to Jacob not excluding Esau because Esau would have to survive on his own and then it passed in terms of the birthright to Joseph and when Jacob was dying he was in a sense bestowing his inheritance which he really had not received but only was an heir to and the full blessings of the birthright were yet to come they were only bestowed in part on Jacob as a man they were not bestowed in the great multitudinous form which we share in it today by faith Joseph when he died made mention of the departing of the children of Israel so he perceived and he knew by faith that God would deliver them out of the land of Egypt and would bring them back to the promised land which had been promised to Abraham and he also gave commandment at this time concerning not leaving his bones in Egypt now by faith Moses when he was born was his three months of his parents that is the face of his parents was involved here you see the playing of the male children must have been decreed sometime in that three year period

between the birth of Aaron when there was yet no problem and the birth of Moses now that there was a problem and instead of playing like compromisers and cowards would have done instead of playing Moses their mother decided to trust God that this remarkable child who was handsome or beautiful at this age let us say and had a build that was quite different even from most Israelite because Josephus implies the same thing that Moses was a remarkable looking human being probably would have made it in Hollywood at least he made it with Pharaoh's daughter and when she saw that he was a proper child or a beautiful child to look upon they decided not to be afraid of the king's commandment now they could have trusted God and God would have removed the king's commandment no God didn't do any such thing he let trials stand and he worked problems around them so Moses was accepted of Pharaoh's daughter adopted and by faith when he was come to fullness of years he was now about 40 to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter he decided to reject being heir to the throne that's what it means he chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season so Moses in this account illustrates exactly why most people who depart from faith go out into the world they would like to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time now sin does have its pleasures they are brassy they are loud they are noisy they may seem to taste alright but they don't last very long our students some years ago were taken on a senior trip by a company and was planned that on the way back from the beauty of the Grand Canyon they should be blessed by seeing Las Vegas nightlife and next morning I asked one who went through it what it was like and her description one of the students about the graduate said it was loud and brassy that's all you can say but there are certain pleasures that people somehow find titillate their senses intellectual, emotional physical and it lasts for a little while because you've gambled too long you won't have any more money so it can't last forever he has seen the reproaches of Christ that is the way Christ was reproached the way all who are reproached for him and he of course was the Yahweh who was the God of Israel to whom they normally spoke he esteemed the reproaches that were heaped upon the God of Israel far greater riches than all the treasures of Egypt that came by being an heir of Pharaoh's daughter he had respect to the recompense of a reward that will last now if you want to know how enduring the prosperity of Egypt is go look at it today the kingdom of God will endure forever so by faith he for took Egypt that means he was willing to forsake or give up the world around him not fearing the wrath of the king who was quite angry for he endured as seeing him who is invisible Moses endured the wrath of the king comprehending the invisible God God was more real than Pharaoh now when you're afraid of the greatest ruler on earth he seems very real and there are a lot of people who would compromise Moses saw God as the ultimate ruler and Pharaoh as nothing we have too many people today who children who will compromise with parents even after the children are of age I'm not talking about proper respect and honor employees who compromise with employers employers who compromise with society women who compromise with the pressures of society and all the ads in women's magazines you can read not between the lines but the lines there and see just how far most of these pressures are from God's way hence the ad says there is a little ease in every one of us the implications are obvious and that's what is incurring if you brothers could only pluck the fruits of the tree of knowledge what these ads are suggesting if you haven't cried it you can't imagine what you don't know you can try all these things change your hair color replace your eyebrows you can flick things other than what God made then you see somebody when they fall off he says I've got to put them on again I'm glad that the way God made women and men they didn't just fall apart but what man does the ad and all this came out of Egypt if you want to see the paste pops out there and the goop that the Egyptian women put on would go to a museum you'll see where it all came from these were all the pleasures that were available in Egypt in the United States and the rest of the world the interesting thing is that Moses saw who was really an authority and he therefore trusted that God would deliver him later through faith he kept the Passover in Egypt after you know 40 years that he left he trusted that God

would perform what he had promised at that time and he kept the sprinkling of blood left he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them children of Israel by faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land now you notice these are not all benefits that you get while staying in Egypt these are facts of history and the scriptures that indicate the trials you go through that you have to trust God to perform it it would have been a lot easier to say let's forget the problem let's not stir up the Egyptians by playing all these animals in their presence crossing the Red Sea was preceded by a series of problems and God delivered them the Egyptians trying to do the same thing of course drowned by faith later in the days of Joshua the walls of Jericho fell down after they were compassed about for the seven days of unleavened bread as Josephus tells us and when those seven days of unleavened bread that represents the pudding of sin out were being fulfilled Jericho which is a city where by sin in the land of Canaan was obliterated whereby in a sense the children of Israel and Joshua were perceived that God was going to obliterate sin from the world but it wouldn't be done until seven thousand years of human history have been recorded now by faith the harlot or prostitute Rahab who was in Jericho did not perish with those who did not believe when she had received the spies with faith of course she's been receiving all kinds of other men before but she comprehended something unusual in this case that these spies came for a different purpose I would presume in fact that when you read the lineage of Jesus Christ that it is most likely that one of the two men who are the spies I think there were the two my memory serves me correctly is one of the men who married Rahab later I would suspect that that is the case you know sometimes God works out circumstances so that you can't exercise faith and God makes it easier that these had been ugly unattractive men it is less likely perhaps that Rahab might have done what she did than perhaps being attracted to one of them and trusting that those were the people who were going to survive she might as well survive with them and what shall I say more for the time would fail me to tell you of Gideon and of Barak and of Samson of Jesu of David also and Pamela and the prophet now it would also drag the sermon out so we'll move on who through faith Paul was not about to be cut short of at least commenting on what he said a subdued kingdom now I noticed what happened through faith they accomplished certain things they subdued kingdoms that gained a victory for the nation they wrought righteousness faith enabled them to conquer faith enabled them to conquer the self and to perform the law of God God's law is righteousness through faith they obtained promises they stopped the mouths of lions in this case perhaps a reference of even later individuals they quenched the violence of fire so we presume now he's surely referring to Daniel whom he did not previously refer to and of course the three Hebrews associated with Daniel they escaped the edge of the sword notice they escaped the edge of the sword through faith whether the sword was used or not able and enough did not but there were some who did and out of natural weakness such as David they were made strong David was just a young person couldn't even carry the armor that most of the others did they waxed valiant and fight and turned to fight the armies of the aliens these are all great things that God performed in this life as he delivered men some problems now we're not all asked to do all of these things remember the church in Baton was a very physical church and God raised judges up to deliver that nation he has not raised up strong to become president of the United States and to make political decisions he has raised him up for another purpose but he did raise David up to head a country he raised up Daniel to both bear witness to the king Nebuchadnezzar and to carry out a form of government which would make it powerful for the Jews to live in Babylon now women also received their dead children raised to life again now these are all the remarkable things that face wrong I want you to see all the positive things that God did in delivering people enabling them to accomplish what couldn't have been done otherwise but most people don't want to face the other side of the coin you see through faith others were tortured not accepting deliverance that they might obtain a better resurrection others had trial of dual mockings and scourging of being put in chains and imprisonment others through faith endured stoning or presumably like Isaiah and

probably others since they is plural they were saw on a thunder this is not something ancient to know in the high middle ages after the word high we will put a question mark they hanged people drew them and then quartered them that was the Anglo-Saxon solution the children of Israel were doing it only a two centuries ago and what goes on in the Gentiles we all should know so people were stoned they were saw on a thunder they were tempted to sin they were slain with the sword they wandered around in sheep skins and goat skins they were destitute and afflicted and tormented of whom the world was not worthy they wandered in desert and in mountains and in dens and caves of the earth now you would say well how could there be a god who allows these things how could there be well you see god is in control of all things and he does allow what is ultimately going to be good for the human family and if he says that you have to endure he will give you the faith to endure so that Stephen when he was being stoned didn't have his mind on the rock as they were coming he saw Jesus Christ at the right hand of god the father and he wasn't even aware of the stone that finally knocked him out and crushed his skull but without faith Stephen would have been very aware of the rock faith is what enabled you to overcome temptation there are too many who are tempted and like it we must learn what Mr. Armstrong has learned long ago the fundamental purpose of faith is not to heath upon ourselves all the things that we would like merely because we trust god to do it the fundamental purpose of faith is to keep our mind on god and his promises and to endure and to perform what god asks us to in a world governed by spirit who are in rebellion and who seek to influence myth to stamp out the truth and to organize a society which doesn't allow for the kind of proper freedom that the law of god would create if it were being enforced all these having obtained a good report through faith receive not the promise because there is no resurrection yet god having provided some better things for us that they without us should not be made perfect because we are all going to rise in the resurrection at the same time and furthermore since Jesus Christ came something even better has been promised because we now have access to god the father in heaven directly which was never possible before this is elsewhere described in the book of Hebrews they address the one whom we know as Jesus Christ chapter 12 continues a bit of the theme of the next two verses wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses these are not coward let us lay aside every weight and the sin would so easily be sent to us which may be different from mine may be different from yours each one may have his own particular problem and let us run with patience the rate that is set before us now normally you run with speed to run with patience means that it's going to take a lot of endurance over the obstacles that are in the way because it's not the one who gets their first who gets the reward it's the one who gets their gets the reward however many looking to Christ as the author and finisher of our faith he both originated in terms of imparting it through the Holy Spirit and he will accomplish it through the Holy Spirit in us who in his own life for the joy that was set before him endured the crucifixion and that was endured by faith defying the shame that was attached to such a method because any honorable Roman citizen would have said be hit instead but putting one on a state or across whatever form and several forms were used was considered the worst form of execution and he is now sat down at the right hand of the throne of God for consider him who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself lest you also be weary and faint in your mind now we could go on but I'm going to stop with this particular theme there are people who are weary and faint who are unable to comprehend the responsibility that God imposes both as individuals and as a church on us we have only seen if you please problems at a distance we have seen a few court trials we have yet to begin to see what is to come I hope brethren that this particular congregation measures up well in the question of faith many of you are old enough you certainly should have it there are some of you who have been in this church for many many years I see Mabel Lisman here who has a daughter here and grandchildren in the church she has been here many years I think a good illustration of the meaning of faith she has endured the ups and downs within the church she endured the loss of her husband years ago some

of us still remember who were here then but she hasn't yet endured all that the church must and I think that we have to consider what kind of a price to pay for us and then comprehend if he could do that for us should we be unwilling to endure some measures of trial for the sake of others in the church because there is no doubt that we have passed through and they still be passing through a period when we can become tolerated and can still bear witness to the world but there is coming a time when we will not be tolerated when the doors before this work will be shut and no man with all his persuasion can open this and hand in hand with a shutting of those doors to this work will go the shutting of all the privileges that we have had to do the work and to live as citizens in whatever country we are in because the time is coming when the devil is going to be very angry with those who dwell on earth whom God has called and he is going to stir up the nation and he is going to try to prevent what is the inevitable but because he doesn't have faith in God and he has some kind of self-confidence that is warped out of all proportions he still thinks that he can fort what God is going to do we are going to have to endure what we have never had to endure yet and how far that pressure will be before God makes a separation between those who have faith and live by it and are delivered from the world and taken to a place where there is faith in Hebrew sorry in Revelation chapter 12 we are not told we are told that some of you they shall put to death so how far it will go before God acts we are not given full understanding of yet but then on the other hand there are those who are obviously short of faith who don't have the faith to perform righteousness who compromise with the world around and they are going to have to prove whether they are in faith in their hearts and minds and they are going to have to endure things to test whether there is faith in them because let me tell you a primary indication of the presence of the absence of faith and trust in God is how close you are to wanting to copy what the world does because if you really have faith and confidence in God to lead you to guide you to make decisions that were in accordance with his law you wouldn't want to use the world as your standard of conduct and see how much of the world you can bring into your life how much of the world you can permit before God says no no we need to go back and reflect on the life of Bala Bala was like a lot of people today in the world and some in God's church who want to see how far they can go before God clamps them how much we can get away with before God says no and means it faith runs in the other direction it doesn't seek the pleasures of sin for a season if necessity takes shape it means seeking the Sinai for 40 years as Moses did willing to live as a shepherd wandering in the fields of the Sinai instead of the courts of Pharaoh's house we all ought to go back over this chapter which ministers have from time to time commented on and I think is fundamental now that we're approaching a new turn of events on the world's scene without a question we want to see where faith places us with respect to God and whether we are able to trust God to shut out these temptations of the world or whether we are so lacking that the world seems important and God seems old and thinner now give us some serious thought this congregation perhaps hopefully needs this less than others and if you think let's say that there is faith and if you want to let that be an example then let this congregation be an example of faith and put it to work if there are other people who are perhaps not as old in the faith as many of you because I think the age of this congregation happens to be greater than many others across the United States let's have some trust in God let's look to him for the solution instead of so many of the options that are open to people today who see the God of medicine instead of the God the Creator who gave his son Jesus Christ to pay the penalty of sin in our faith now hopefully apply faith in that area that we have always understood which has to do with divine healing but I didn't make that the primary emphasis today because that's a separate subject with a separate approach this is a general approach but the other is something we should have already heard for years as discussed here Mr. Herbert Armstrong has mentioned the importance of it with respect to divine healing but here we are dealing with respect to survival in the world and that I think is the next major event on the world scene that is now building up I hope all of you had a fine thanksgiving in the sense that this land has

been blessed and we do thank all of those who we don't know who you are who helped others and on behalf of those who were recipients I will extend their thanks to those of you who did bless others through your bounty