Hebrews 11:1-2 (NIV)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. [2] This is what the ancients were commended for.

Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Hebrews 11:9 (NIV)

By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 15:5-6 (NLT)

Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!"

[6] And Abram **BELIEVED the LORD**, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

Here IS the PROOF

James 2:20-26

Justified- to be Declared Righteous

Romans 5:1 (NIV)

Therefore, since we have been JUSTIFIED through FAITH, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...

Justified- Vindication to SHOW or prove someone is Right or Justified

1 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: **HE** appeared in a body,

was VINDICATED by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations,

was **BELIEVED ON** in the world, was taken up in glory.

→ Paul and James AGREE about
HOW we are Saved and the
IMPORTANCE of good works

Titus 3:4-5 (NLT)

But - When God our Savior revealed His kindness and love, [5] He saved us,

NOT because of the righteous things we had done, BUT because of His mercy.

He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:6-7 (NLT)

He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior.

[7] Because of His GRACE

He declared us RIGHTEOUS and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

James 1:18 (HCS)

By His own CHOICE,

He GAVE us a NEW BIRTH

by the message of TRUTH

so that we would be

the firstfruits of His creatures.

Titus 3:8 (NLT)

This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that

ALL who TRUST in God will DEVOTE themselves to DOING good...

James 2:26 (NIV)
As the body without the spirit is dead,
so FAITH without deeds is DEAD.

→ Abraham's FAITH was a GROWING and Developing FAITH

Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

By FAITH Abraham, when CALLED

to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance,

OBEYED and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Hebrews 11:9 (NIV)

By FAITH he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Genesis 15:1 (NIV)
...Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield, your very great reward.

Genesis 15:6 (NIV)

Abram BELIEVED the LORD,

and He credited it to him

as righteousness.

The word **BELIEVED** here is the biggest word in the chapter, one of the greatest in the Old Testament...

...it is the **FIRST** instance of the verb

BELIEVE in Scripture.

As a result of this OBEDIENCE,
God drew Abraham into a closer
fellowship with Himself and called
him God's friend. HNTC

Hebrews 11:17 (NIV)

By FAITH Abraham,

when God TESTED him,

offered Isaac as a sacrifice.

He who had received the PROMISES

was about to sacrifice his one and only son...

Signs that Our FAITH is REAL...

- Desire to see CHANGE in our own Lives
- THIRST for the Word of God
- Longing to OBEY and HONOR God
- Desire to see others come to FAITH in Jesus

→ Nobody is beyond the GRACE of God

Hebrews 11:31 (NIV)

By FAITH the prostitute Rahab,

because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

Joshua 2:9, 11 (NIV)

...I know that the LORD has GIVEN this land to you and that a great FEAR of you has FALLEN on us...

[11] ...the LORD your God IS God in heaven above and on the earth below.

In Jewish thinking Rahab was considered the MOTHER of all who turned to Judaism from paganism, the first example of a true CONVERT.

→ Nobody is beyond the GRACE of God

Genuine FAITH IS...

- not an EMPTY claim
- not merely MENTAL Acceptance
- Faith that PROVES itself through Obedience

→ Faith is NOT Believing in spite of the Evidence, but OBEYING in spite of the Consequences

Hebrews 11:17 (NIV)

By FAITH Abraham, when God TESTED him, OFFERED Isaac as a sacrifice.

He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son...

In Jewish thought the **offering of Isaac**was the **END**

of a long string of OBEDIENCE
beginning when God called Abraham
to leave Ur of the Chaldeans. DACarson

Hebrews 11:31 (NIV)

By faith the prostitute Rahab,

because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

Faith is NOT Believing in spite of the Evidence, but OBEYING in spite of the Consequences

Wiersbe

Redeemed, and with the price of blood Which You have shed for me,
I stand, a monument of grace A witness, Lord, for Thee.

Redeemed, and made by simple faith An heir of Heaven above
Oh, love surpassing human thought Oh, vast, unmeasured love