

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Hebrews 11:8 (NLT)

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.

Hebrews 11:9 (NLT)

And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith - for he was like a foreigner, living in tents...

Hebrews 11:13 (NLT)

All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth.

Strangers and Exiles

Hebrews 11:8-16

History Close-up

The City-State of Ur

Ur was one of the earliest and largest cities of ancient Mesopotamia. This great trading center and port was home to roughly 30,000 people. Located on the Euphrates River near the Persian Gulf, Ur carried on a rich trade with merchants from distant lands like India. This illustration shows what Ur may have looked like around 2000 BC.

Most of the city was filled with a maze of houses and shops.

Massive walls protected Ur from attack.

A giant temple dedicated to the moon god Nanna and his wife Ningal dominated the city.

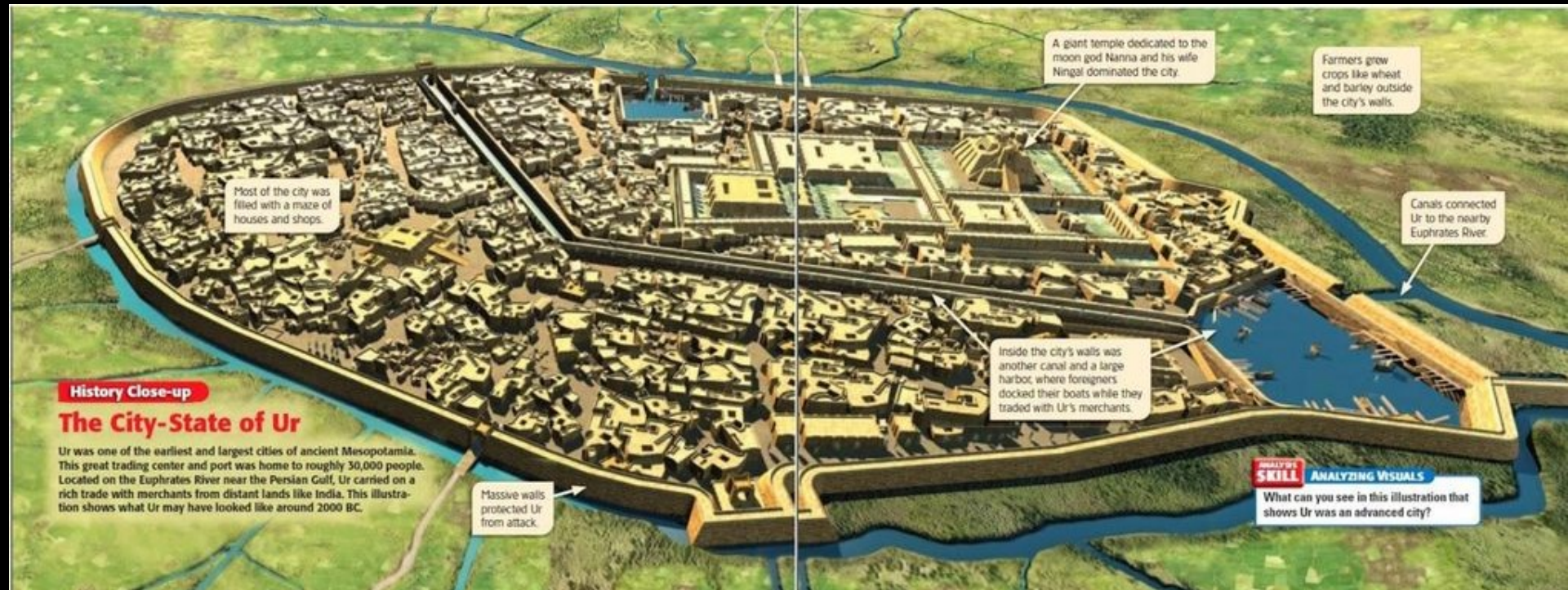
Farmers grow crops like wheat and barley outside the city's walls.

Canals connected Ur to the nearby Euphrates River.

Inside the city's walls was another canal and a large harbor, where foreigners docked their boats while they traded with Ur's merchants.

ANALYZING VISUALS

What can you see in this illustration that shows Ur was an advanced city?











Hebrews 11:10 (NLT)

Abraham was **confidently** looking forward
to a city with **eternal foundations**,
a city **designed** and **BUILT** by God.

⁸ 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.

By **FAITH** Abraham...

- **BELIEVED** - accepted God's Promises as **FACT**
- **OBEYED** - moved his family NOT knowing **WHERE** he was going

- **STAYED - LIVED** as an Alien and Stranger
- Looked for **MORE** - secure **ETERNAL**
foundations

2 Corinthians 5:7 (HCS)

For we **WALK by FAITH**, not by **SIGHT**...

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NLT)

For we **LIVE by BELIEVING** and not by **SEEING**.

11:1 Now **FAITH** is being **SURE** of what
we **hope** for and **CERTAIN** of what
we do **not see**. (NIV)

Titus 2:11 (NIV)

¹¹ For the **grace of God** that brings salvation
has **appeared** to **ALL** men.

Titus 2:12 (NIV)

¹² It teaches us to say **NO to ungodliness**
and **worldly passions**, and to live **self-controlled**,
upright and godly lives in this present age,

Titus 2:13 (NIV)

¹³ while we **WAIT** for the **blessed hope** -
the **glorious appearing** of our great God
and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Titus 2:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ who **gave Himself for us** to **redeem** us from
all wickedness and to **purify for Himself** a
people that are His very own,
eager to do what is good.

Genesis 17:17-18 (NIV)

Abraham fell facedown; he LAUGHED and said to himself, Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety? ¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, **If ONLY Ishmael might live under your blessing!**

Genesis 18:10-14 (NIV)

¹⁰ Then the LORD said, I will surely return to you about this time next year, and **Sarah your wife will have a son...** ¹¹ Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was **past the age of childbearing.** ¹² **So Sarah laughed to herself...**

Genesis 18:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ **Is ANYTHING too hard** for the **LORD? ...**

11:10 ...he was looking forward to the
city with foundations,
whose architect and builder is God.

Exodus 3:6 (NIV)

...**I AM** the **God of** your father, the **God of** Abraham, the **God of** Isaac and the **God of** Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

FAITH is being **SURE** of what we **HOPE** for
CERTAIN of what we do NOT see.

¹⁰ For he was looking **forward to the city** with **foundations**, whose **architect** and builder is God.

...¹⁶ Instead, they were **longing for a better country** - a heavenly one...

1 Peter 2:11 (NLT)

Dear friends, **I WARN** you as
temporary residents and foreigners
to keep away from **worldly desires** that
wage war against your very souls.



