

THE SELF-EVIDENT TRUTH OF THE FAITH CYCLE

In our last study we learned that the writer of Hebrews grouped certain Old Covenant believers listed in (Heb.11:4-40) into four groups.

- Group 1 Antediluvian period (Heb.11:4-7)
- Group 2 Patriarch period (Heb.11:8-22)
- Group 3 Jewish period (Heb.11:23-38)
- Group 4 Church age period (Heb.11:39-40)

We also learned that the writer gave a specific doctrinal principle in each grouping regarding the Faith Cycle.

- Group 1 (Heb.11:6) _____
- Group 2 (Heb.11:13-16) _____
- Group 3 (Heb.11:38) _____
- Group 4 (Heb.11:39-40) _____

We will study these specific doctrinal principles of Faith Cycle from each of the four groupings.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Four aspects of doctrinal principle entitled, Self-Evident Truth of Faith Cycle taken from the Antediluvian period.</u></p>
--

1. The writer picked three out of ten spiritually mature believers to present the importance of consistency of applying the faith cycle (Abel, Enoch and Noah) (Heb.11:4-7).

The first believer introduced was **Abel** not Seth. This is a clue that the emphasis is not on the genealogy of the messianic seed; but rather on the mechanics of the faith cycle even unto death [martyr] (1 John 3:12).

Hearing (Rom.10:17)

Completing (Jas.2:22)

Believing (Heb.4:2)

Applying (2 Cor.5:7)

2. Note where the writer placed doctrinal principle of the faith cycle. He placed it between Enoch and Noah (Heb.11:5- (6) -7).

Enoch (dedication) was the 7th in genealogy and Noah (rest) was the 10th (Gen.5).

The genealogy between Enoch and Noah was Methuselah (when he dies, it will be sent) [The oldest man/969] (2 Pet.3:9) and Lamech (strong, victor) (Rom.15:1; 2 Cor.12:9-10; Eph.2:8-10; 2 Tim.2:1-2; 1 John 5:4-5).

Here is what the writer placed between Enoch and Noah - “And without faith (it is) impossible to please (Him), for he who comes to God must believe that **He is** and (that) He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

The Greek word for **without** is an unusual preposition, *choris*. Wuest introduced *choris* as an axiomatic truth or a Self-Evident Truth of the Faith Cycle - “without faith it is impossible to please God.”

3. The Greek grammar helps us understand the doctrinal principle of the Self-evident Truth of the Faith Cycle stated in (Heb.11:6).

We will examine it in four parts.

- **1st** - “To please” is an **aorist infinite** (absolute fact) subject working with the main verb (“He is/ eimi”) and with “impossible (adunatos)” as a predicate adjective of it.
 - **Idea:** It is not impossible to please God if the faith cycle functions properly.
 - Now the writer gives three additional points regarding the Self-evident Truth of Faith Cycle.
- **2nd** - “For (gar/ explaining) he who comes (ton proserchomai/ present m.ptc.asm) to God must (dei/ p.m.impv 3ps) **believe** (pisteuo/ **aorist infin**/ second absolute fact).
- **3rd** - “That (hoti) He is (eimi/ **p.a.ind.3ps**) – Essence of God backs the faith cycle (Rom.4:21).
- **4th** - “And (kai/ adjunctive conj.) He is (ginomai/ **p.a.ind.3ps/ becomes**) a rewarder of those who seek (ekzeteo/ **p.a.ptc.dplm**) Him.” (completing of faith cycle/ Jas.2:22)

4. Enoch (dedicated to the faith cycle) and Noah (rest by means of faith cycle) (Gen.2:2; 5:29; Eph.2:8-10) were spiritually mature Old Covenant believers walking consistently by the faith cycle (Gen.5:22, 6:8).

They were spiritually mature believers who lived in the last days of the Antediluvian civilization (Gen.6-9) [Rainbow].

They were spiritually mature believers who preached the coming Divine Judgment upon the world

- [By Water] (Gen.6:5-9; Jude 14-15; 2 Pet.2:5) and (Luke 17:24-27; 2 Pet.3:5-9)
- [By Fire] (Matt.3:12)