

DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH CYCLE

This lesson comes from (Heb.11:1) and is a key text for the doctrine of the Faith Cycle.

There are three things that are important to the foundation of the doctrine of Faith Cycle from (Heb.11:1).

- **First**, (Heb.11:1) was not written as a definition for faith but rather to call believers to Live by Faith. The rest of the chapter gives examples of the doctrine of Faith Cycle.
- **Second**, (Heb.11:1) was founded on Habakkuk 2:4 in Heb.10:38 (10:36-39) – “But My righteous one **shall live** (zao/ f.m.ind.3ps) **by** (ek+ablative of means) **faith** (pistis).”
- **Third**, the Greek grammar shows two sides to the mechanics of faith cycle in Heb.11:1. “**Now faith is** _____, _____.”

<p>This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of the doctrine of Faith Cycle taken from (Heb.11:1).</p>
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1. The quotation of (Hab.2:4) in (Heb.10:36-39) is foundational Scripture for (Heb.11:1).

(Heb.10:38) is one of three references to this (Hab.2:4) Scriptural concept in the New Testament (Rom.1:17; Gal.3:11; Heb.10:38).

This teaches that the Faith Cycle was an important doctrine in both the Old Covenant and New Covenant, or through-out the entire Bible.

The three quotes of (Hab.2:4) are interesting because it shows that the doctrine of Faith Cycle was an important doctrine to both Jews and Gentile believers.

2. The Greek grammar of (Heb.11:1) teaches two sides of the modus operandi or mechanics of the Faith Cycle.

“**Now faith is** assurance of things hoped for, conviction of things not seen.” Please note that there are no definite articles in original text translation.

In Greek language, this is important because it shifts emphasis. Faith is nominative (subject of main verb) and both Assurance (stand firm in faith) and Conviction (steadfast belief of faith) are predicate nominative (faith is emphatically defined by them).

- Put on your thinking hat (2 Pet.3:16).

FAITH CYCLE

Hearing (Rom.10:17)

Conviction of things not seen

Completing (Jas.2:22)

Assurance of things hoped for

Believing (Heb.4:2)

Applying (2Cor.5:7)

3. **The Greek grammar plays another important doctrinal role in the mechanics of (Heb.11:1). The action of the present participles occurs at the same time as main verb.**

Things hoped for (elpizo/ p.p.ptc.gpl) and things not seen (ouk blepo/ p.p.ptc.gpl) are occurring at the same time as **is** (eimi) [Main Verb/ p.a.ind.3ps] (Absolute Status Quo of existence) of FAITH.

“Now faith is **assurance** (standing firm in what you believe) of things hope for, **conviction** (steadfast belief/ FRT) of things not seen.”

4. **Our final Greek grammatical point involves the English word (things) in (Heb.11:1).**

The Greek word for things is pragma. It is used only with conviction of things (pragma/ gpln).

Pragma refers to practical matters in the reality of life. It was used three times in Book of Hebrews (6:18; 10:1; 11:1).

It is interesting that it was used with **conviction** (steadfast belief) **of things** (practical matters of reality of life) **not seen** (ouk blepo) [to see with natural such as rationalism or empiricism but not by faith] (1 Cor.2:14).

Now it makes sense for the writer of Book of Hebrews to make Creation the first example of Faith Cycle –

“**By faith** we understand that the worlds were prepared by the **word (rhema/ Categorical Bible Doctrine) of God**, so that **what is seen (to blepo/ p.m.ptc.asn) was not made out of things which are visible.**” (Heb.1:3/ bara)

This was Paul’s argument in (Rom.1:17) by using (Hab.2:4) for Creation in (Rom.1:18-32).

- We walk by faith on earth so that we can walk by sight in heaven (2 Cor.5:6-8).