Hebrews 11:1-3

-Faith Is Not Blind...Nor Reckless

-Acts 6:7 (ESV) And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

-Acts 13:8 (ESV) But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.

-Acts 14:21-23 (ESV) 21 When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. 23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

-2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-unless indeed vou fail to meet the test!

-1 Timothy 5:8 (ESV) But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever

- -Hebrews 11:1 (ESV) Now faith is the <u>assurance</u> of things hoped for, the <u>conviction</u> of things not seen.
 - -(KJV) Now faith is the <u>substance</u> of things hoped for, the <u>evidence</u> of things not seen.
 - -(NASB20) Now faith is the <u>certainty</u> of things hoped for, a <u>proof</u> of things not seen.
- -(NET) Now faith is <u>being sure</u> of what we hope for, <u>being convinced</u> of what we do not see.

-The word translated as "assurance/substance/ certainty/being sure" is ὑπόστασις and literally means "the state of standing/placing under" or "that which stands under."

-Hebrews 3:14-18 (ESV) 14 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. 15 As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." 16 For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? 17 And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient?

-John 11:47-48 (ESV) 47 So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. 48 lf we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

-Hebrews 1:3 (ESV) He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint (χαρακτήρ) of his nature (τῆς ὑποστάσεως αὐτοῦ), and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

-Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV) 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

-Acts 14:26-27 (ESV) 26 and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. 27 And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

-Acts 15:8-9 (ESV) 8 And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, 9 and he made no distinction between us and them, <u>having cleansed their</u> hearts by faith.

-1 Corinthians 16:13 (ESV) Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

-Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV) 19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

-John 12:42-43 (ESV) 42 Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

-Matthew 25:23 (ESV) His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; l will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

-For in/by this (reality of faith manifesting in the lives of the believers in the form of prioritybased decisions that reflect an expectation of heavenly, eternal, real things that exceed any earthly reward) the people of old were well-testified of.

-Romans 4:16-22 (ESV) 16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring--not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"--in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. 18 In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." 19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. 20 No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, 21 fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. 22 That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness."

-Romans 1:18-20 (ESV) 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

-If one doesn't believe in a Creator, then he/she HAS to believe ultimately that ABSOLUTELY NOTHING created EVERYTHING.

-Milky Way Galaxy=100 billion stars -One of at LEAST 100 billion galaxies

-If you started counting right now it would take you 10,000 yrs to count to 100 billion!

-Jupiter: 1 unit of energy in

2 units out

-Neptune: 1 unit in

2.6 units out

-Earth's magnetic field: 20 x greater 6000 yrs ago

-Only 60,000 yrs ago magnetic field = neutron star

-Moon recedes ~1 1/2 inches per year

-1.4-1.5 billion yrs ago the earth and the moon would have been in the same place at the same time

-Romans 1:12 (ESV) that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

-Romans 1:16-19 (ESV) 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

-Faith is...not blind nor reckless.