Speaker: Matthew Smith Date: 17th February 2008 Reading: Romans 5:1

One thing that is lacking for the world today is peace, not just globally because of wars but also in the lives of individuals. The majority have turned their back on God yet still seek peace.

Faith is the key to peace with God.

To be justified is to be made right with God.

In Hebrews 11:1, Faith is the grounds of our confidence in things we have not seen.

In verse 3, we can have to come by faith to the fact that God created the world.

In verse 6, we learn that if we want to please God we need to have faith

In verse 7, Noah had faith in respect of God's warning

God looked at men and women and only one brought Him pleasure – Noah. People had turned their back on God and He would send judgment Noah received the message of the flood, having never seen the floods before. Very simply Noah had faith in God's word, Noah believed the judgment was coming and he built the ark.

"God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained" (Acts 17:31)

Today we see sin unpunished and people living as they like, turning their back on God.

"God is not mocked" (Gal 6:7)

What's the basis of God's judgment going to be?

"The wages of sin is death" (Rom 6:23)

Because each one is a sinner it is enough to be banished to hell for all eternity. There is not one individual who needs to stand and be judged for sin. When he went to the cross, He died for sins and the individual who turns from sin, confessing it to God and relies on the death of calvary, serving a new master – the Lord Jesus Christ will not face judgment.

In Hebrews 11:30, the children of Israel had faith in God's power and method. The children of Israel entered the land, facing big armies and there seems to be nothing they can do.

God tells Joshua how they will get the victory. It may not have made sense to man, it may not have seemed like a good battle plan but it was God's way.

It would seem the same in the story of Naaman (2 Kings 5). He wanted some great thing but he just had to have faith in the prophets words and do what was asked of him.

Not until the children of Israel have completely obeyed God's instructions did the walls fall down.

"God commands all men everywhere to repent" - To acknowledge you are a sinner, to confess sins

to God, to acknowledge He paid the price for salvation.

God has a means of salvation - "I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6). The Lord Jesus has opened a way, He has paid the price.

Don't try and do it yourself, don't try and earn salvation. The Bible says there is only one way.

"Not of works" (Eph 5:9):- Think of the dying thief. He confessed what His deeds deserved and asked the Lord to save. The Lord gave Him salvation and very soon He died. He had been promised paradise that day. No good works, church attendance etc.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

In Hebrews 11:17-19, Abraham had faith in God's promise. He is asked to slay his son, the promised one, he went as if he would do it.

Why did he do it? - "He accounted God was able".

No matter the situation Abraham knew God was able.

If you have never trusted Christ as your Saviour, why?

If you have the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour. He is able

- To remove sin as far as East from West.
- To remove barrier that prevents you entering heaven.
- To make you righteous so God can accept you for all eternity.

God's way is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will present the believers before God absolutely faultless.

Rely wholly on Him for salvation – On the Lord Jesus and the work of calvary.