

current sermon series

BATTLING UNBELIEF

A medieval knight in chainmail armor is shown from the chest up, holding a sword and a shield. The knight's right hand is on the hilt of a sword, and the left hand is on the edge of a shield. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric. The text 'BATTLING UNBELIEF' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.



Romans 4:13-25

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath,

Romans 4:13-25

but where there is no law there is no transgression. 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,

Romans 4:13-25

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,

Romans 4:13-25

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.

Romans 4:13-25

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 4:13-25

²³ But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

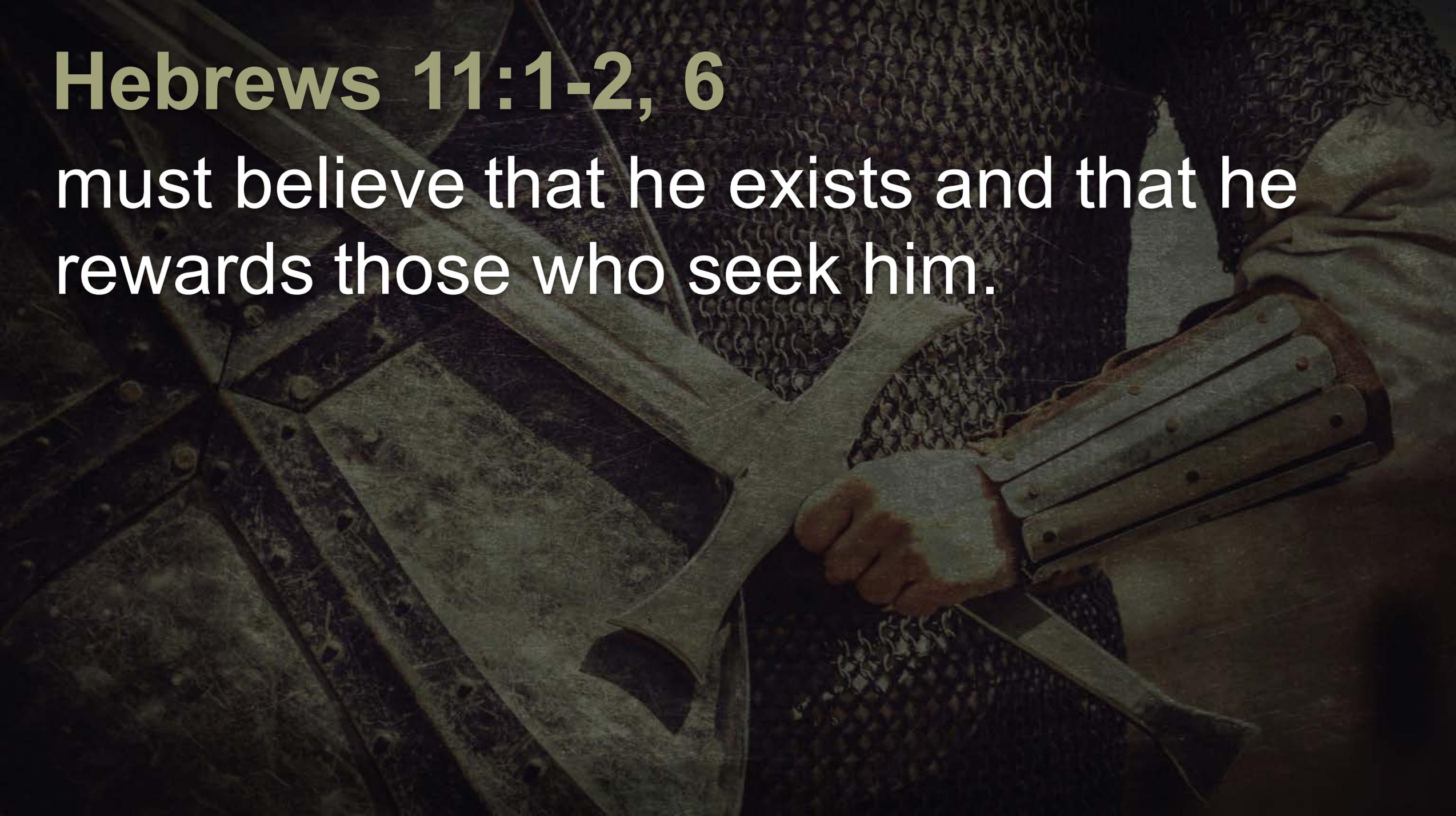


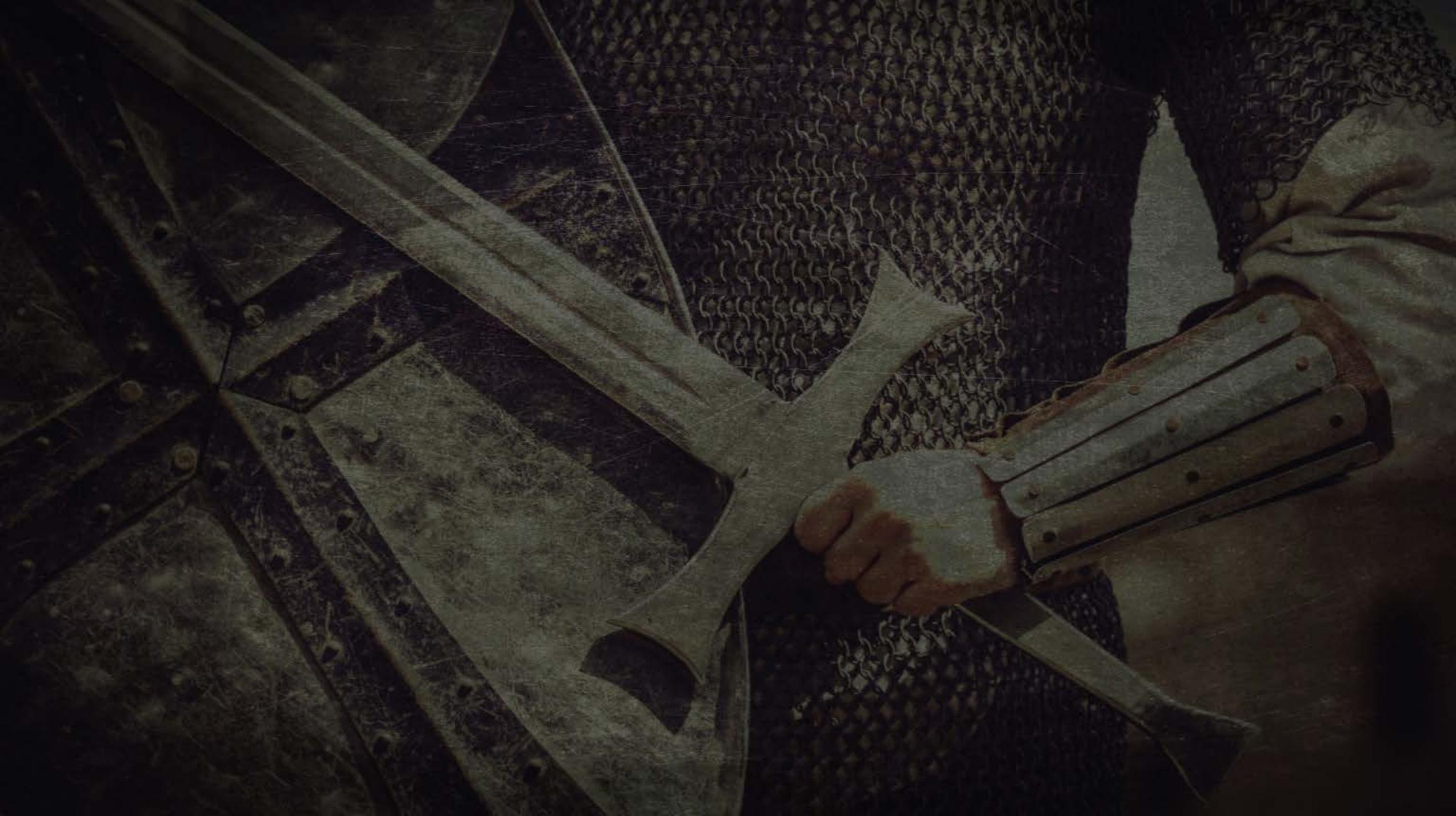
Hebrews 11:1-2, 6

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. . . . ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God

Hebrews 11:1-2, 6

must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.





Genesis 15:5-6

And he brought Abram outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶ And Abram **believed** the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.



Romans 4:4-5

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.

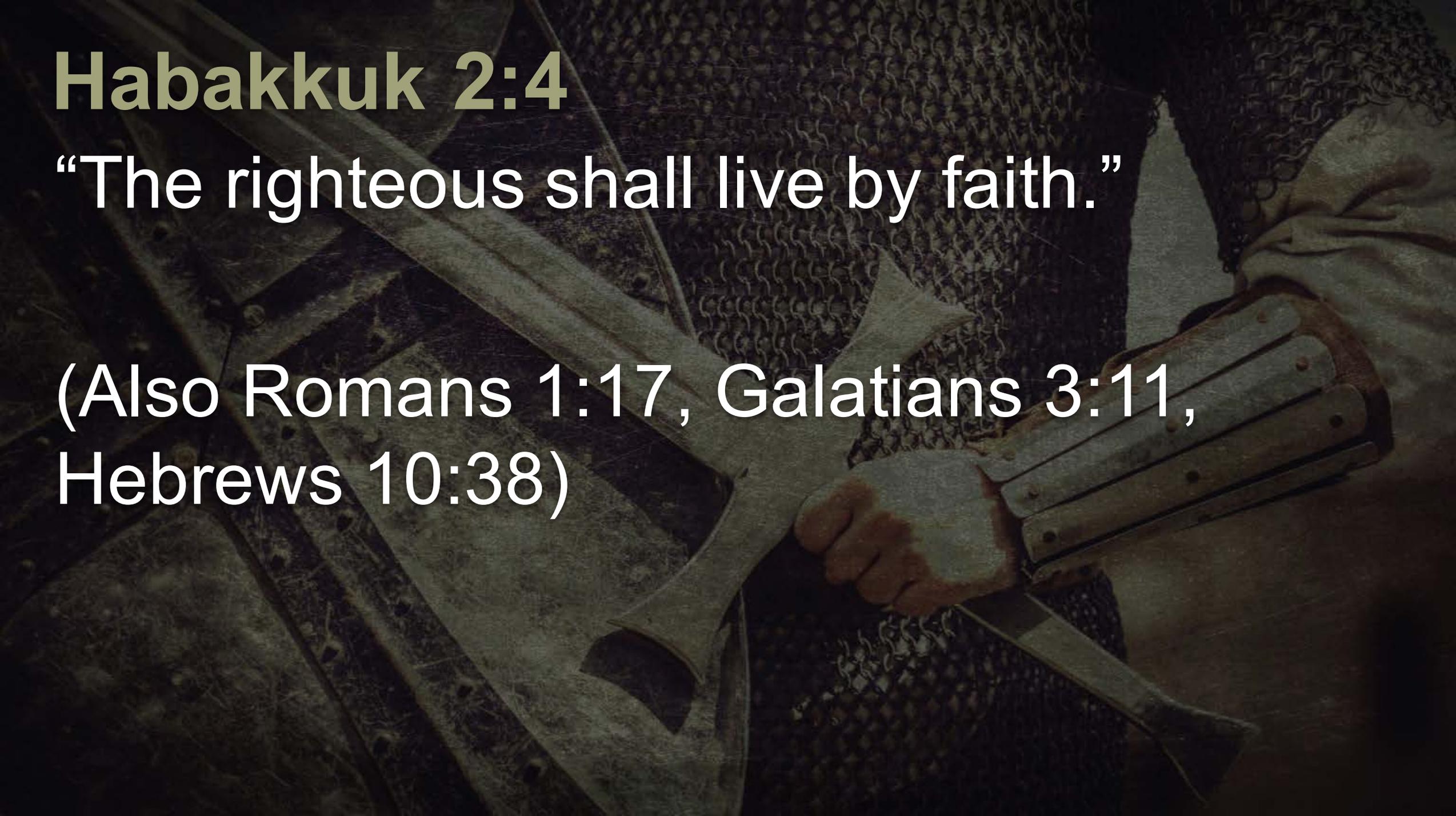
⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,



Habakkuk 2:4

“The righteous shall live by faith.”

(Also Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11,
Hebrews 10:38)





Hebrews 11:8-19

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

⁹ By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him

Hebrews 11:8-19

of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore

Hebrews 11:8-19

from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. ¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from

Hebrews 11:8-19

afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.

Hebrews 11:8-19

¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city. ¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in

Hebrews 11:8-19

the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.