

Is it the correct meaning? The Heb. word -- the Gk. word is hupostasis. It is that which is underneath. It is the underpinning. So you can see how the Geneva version can be entirely right but before the Geneva version was made Tyndale translated it: Faith is a sure confidence in the thing hoped for. Is faith simply our confidence or is faith actually a force that brings to pass those things that will happen in the future? Those things in which we have a supreme confidence because God has said them? Well both are true. Both are contained in the verse. But from merely the English you just get much idea of what it means. "Su- "faith is the substance." It may be the ~~xxx~~ word "substance" meant that 300 yrs. ago -- i.e. the underpinning. Today substance is like something you take out of something. It is what it is made of. It does not convey the idea to us at all. Do you have such faith in God that you are supremely anxious to know what His Word teaches. Do you find it more interesting to read a chapter of the Scripture -- a letter from the Lord who is the most important factor in your life than you do to read the newspaper or a magazine? Do you find it more thrilling to read it than to watch something on the TV? Do you find it worth doing the effort of reviewing your Gk. and Heb. It's good to get them, and pass and get a good mark but are you willing to do the effort of reviewing them and keeping them in mind, keeping able to know what the forms are and what the words are? So that you can look at the Bible and not say this is what Chas. Hodge says or this is what C. I. Scofield says but this is what the Lord says, because you are able to read the words in the original? If God is really speaking to you, if you have the faith in God you know He is interested you will be tremendously interested in knowing what He really says. Now of course I don't mean we should put every minute trying to do the Lord's will -- not at all. God wants us to have a certain amount of relaxation. He wants us to do what is necessary to keep ourselves in shape, but it very easy to do three or four times as much relaxing as is necessary to keep ourselves in shape . God wants us to have the faith means that like Moses we see Him who is invisible and we are conscious of His presence today. we are conscious of His presence with us.

So I think at the beginning of the year there is nothing better that we can do -- I think that making resolutions -- I'm going to do this, I'm going to do that, I'm going to do that -- God isn't so interested in that. God does not keep precise books on us.