

A *Central* ASSEMBLY SERIES

# FAITH

THAT MOVES US FORWARD

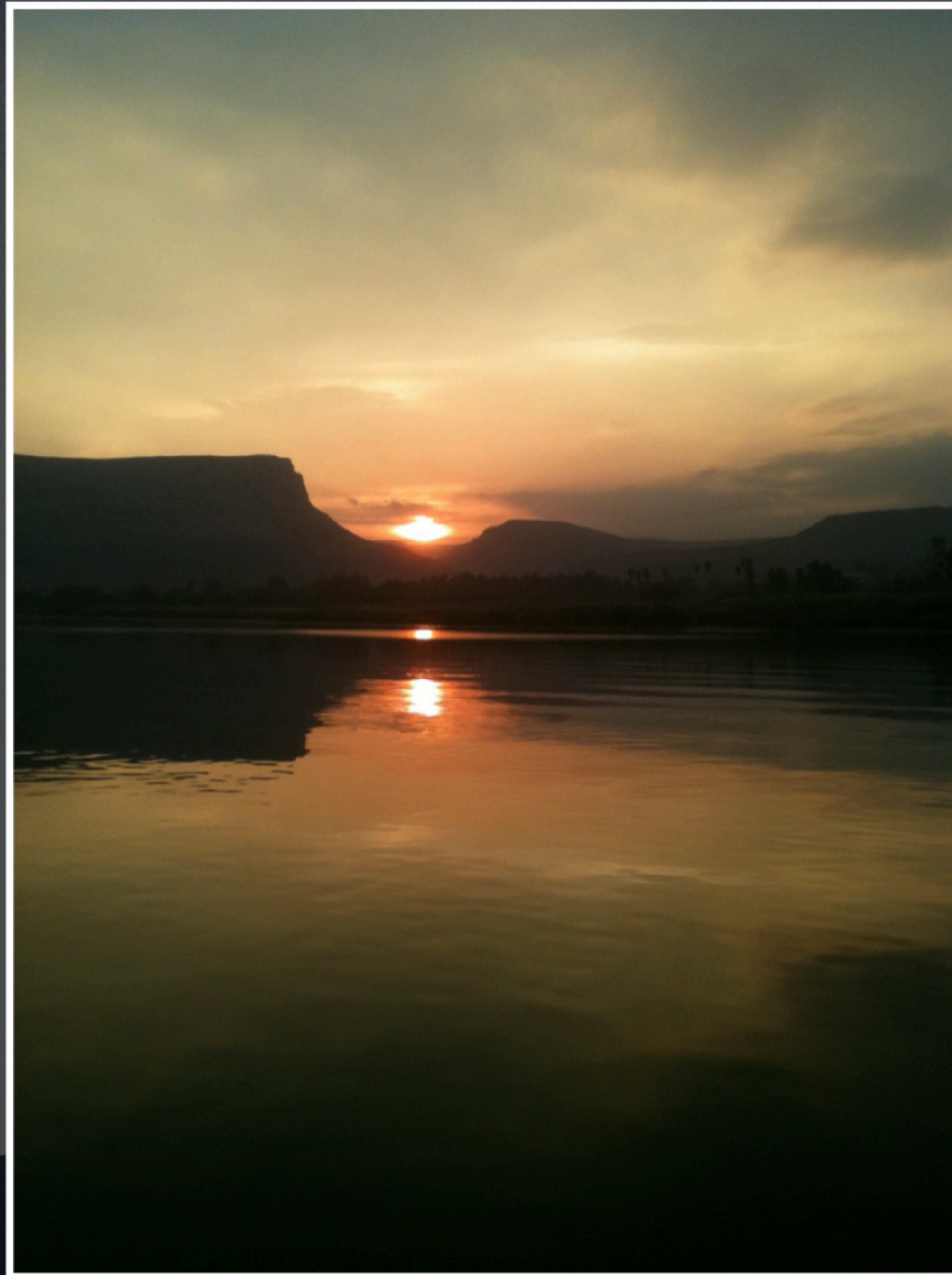


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CREATION AND  
THE UNSEEN

## HEBREWS 11:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup> This is what the ancients were commended for. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.







Hubble Ultra Deep Field

HST • ACS



NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith (STScI) and The HUDF Team

STScI-PRC04-07a

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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<sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

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<sup>3</sup> And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

GENESIS 1:1-3





## HEBREWS 11:3

<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

HOW DOES FAITH  
ENGAGE THE UNSEEN?

## HEBREWS 10:36-37

<sup>36</sup> You need to **persevere** so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has **promised**. <sup>37</sup> For, “In just a little while, **he who is coming will come and will not delay.**”

## HEBREWS 11:1,3

1 Now faith is confidence in what we **hope for** and assurance about what we **do not see**....<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of **what was visible**.

HOW DOES FAITH  
ENGAGE THE UNSEEN?

Faith roots our hope in the second coming of Christ.

## TITUS 2:11-13

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ...

## REVELATION 19:11-16

<sup>11</sup> I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.



## REVELATION 19:11-16

<sup>13</sup> He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. <sup>14</sup> The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

## REVELATION 19:11-16

<sup>15</sup> Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

## REVELATION 19:11-16

<sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

*KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS*

# HOW DOES FAITH ENGAGE THE UNSEEN?

Faith roots our hope in the second coming of Christ.

Faith sees past a temporary present to an eternal future.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

<sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

“...faith consistently acts with regard to the future (e.g., God’s promises) and the unseen (e.g., the location of the believers’ inheritance in the eternal realm), and only thus finds the strength to endure hardship in its present, visible circumstances.”

ROBERT S. RAYBURN

# HOW DOES FAITH ENGAGE THE UNSEEN?

Faith roots our hope in the second coming of Christ.

Faith sees past a temporary present to an eternal future.

Faith ultimately focuses us on Jesus himself.



## COLOSSIANS 1:15-16

<sup>15</sup> The Son is the **image** of the **invisible** God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were **created**: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

## COLOSSIANS 1:19-23

<sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,  
<sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things,  
whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making  
peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

## COLOSSIANS 1:19-23

<sup>21</sup> Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup> But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—<sup>23</sup> if you **continue in your faith**, established and firm, and do not move from the **hope** held out in the gospel.

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