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OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER 11:

1. **General description** of faith, v1
2. **Aim** of faith, v2
3. **Fundamental presupposition** of faith, v3
4. **Biblical examples** of faith, vv4-40
 - a. Conclusions interspersed throughout
 - b. Faith: foundational to salvation in all ages
 - c. Q. Greater light = *greater responsibility*?
5. **Leads to** great “Therefore” of chapter 12
 “Therefore...since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of **witnesses**...”

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RECAP OF HEBREWS 11:1-3:

1. **General description** of faith, v1
2. **Aim** of faith, v2
3. **Fundamental presupposition** of faith, v3
 - “Faith **sees** the reality of God’s promises and **embraces** them.”
 - “Saving faith **relies** upon God’s word. It **expresses** hope in God’s promises. It **rests** confidently in God fulfilling them. It **produces** good works in God’s kingdom.”

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THIS SUNDAY:

4. **Biblical examples** of faith, vv4-40
 - a. Abel
 - b. Enoch
 - c. Noah
 - d. Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob | wife Sarah
 - e. Moses
 - f. Rahab the harlot vs. unbelieving Jericho
 - g. Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel & the prophets, et al

***All living by faith in light of a future reality**


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“
The faith that saves is a faith that perseveres—
 in every circumstance
 & against all ungodly opposition,
 with no expectation of
 immediate gratification or reward.”
“Saving faith perseveres in hope.””

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¹³These all **died in faith**,
not having received the things promised...”
 Heb 11: 13

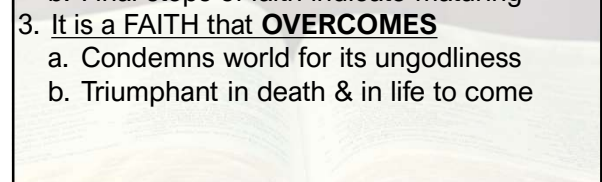
³⁹And all these,
 though **commended through their faith**,
did not receive what was promised...”
 Heb 11: 39



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What are characteristics of saving faith?

1. It is a FAITH that **OBEYS**
 - a. Heeds divine warnings of judgment
 - b. Adjusts life to God’s commands
2. It is a FAITH that **GROWS**
 - a. Initial steps of faith may appear small
 - b. Final steps of faith indicate maturing
3. It is a FAITH that **OVERCOMES**
 - a. Condemns world for its ungodliness
 - b. Triumphant in death & in life to come

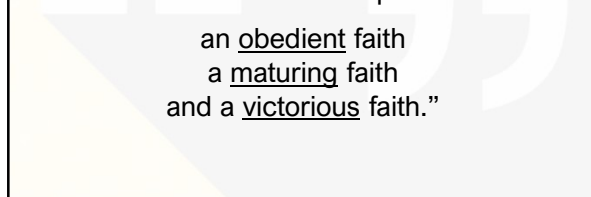


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“

We can see these three characteristics
 shining through in all of the biblical examples
 noted in this chapter:

an obedient faith
 a maturing faith
 and a victorious faith.”




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Biblical examples of faith, v4

1. Abel:

- obedient worship, right sacrifice
- his own faith; firm vs. family hostility
- died victoriously—commended by God




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Biblical examples of faith, v5

2. Enoch:

- obedient in a pleasing walk w/God
- firm vs. godless generation (Ju 14-15)
- translated into heaven’s court



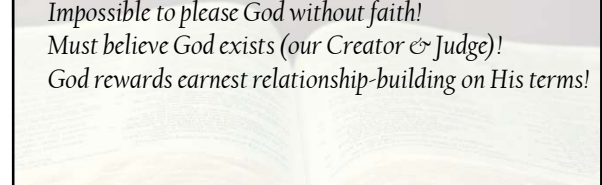
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Biblical examples of faith, v6

1st Lesson:

- Abel had faith and pleased God
- unbelieving Cain did not
- Enoch had faith and pleased God
- his unbelieving generation did not

*Impossible to please God without faith!
 Must believe God exists (our Creator & Judge)!
 God rewards earnest relationship-building on His terms!*

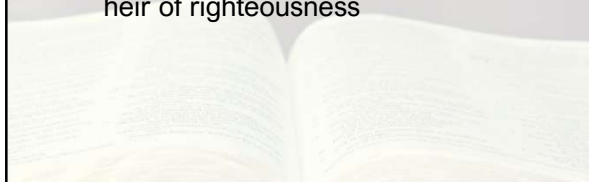


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Biblical examples of faith, v7

3. Noah:

- obedient to warning & instruction
- firm over **120** years vs. ridicule, etc.
- saved from global deluge
condemned the world
brought into the new world
heir of righteousness

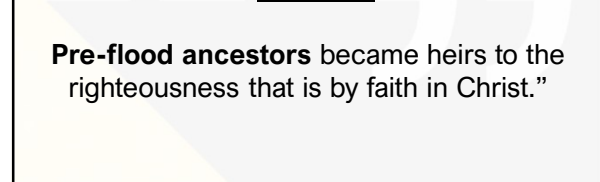


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“

Abel, Enoch, & Noah demonstrated:
an obedient faith
a maturing faith
and a victorious faith

Pre-flood ancestors became heirs to the
righteousness that is by faith in Christ.”



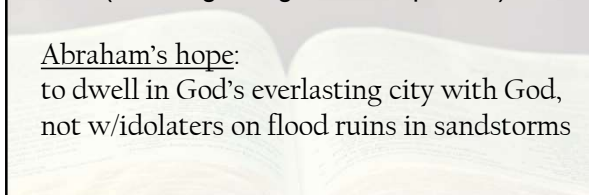
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Biblical examples of faith, vv8-10

4. Abraham:

- obedient to command to leave idolatry
- not knowing where, but still going
- dwelling in the Promised Land
patiently waiting in hope of future
(teaching son/g'son to hope too!)

Abraham's hope:
to dwell in God's everlasting city with God,
not w/idolaters on flood ruins in sandstorms




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Biblical examples of faith, vv11-12

4. Sarah:

- obedient to try to conceive at 90;
judged God able to fulfill promise
- from initial laugh to labor pains
- dying in faith after a generation of
motherhood; the start of thousands



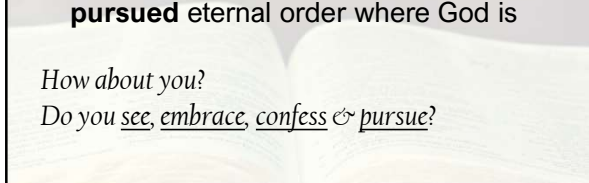
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Biblical examples of faith, vv13-16

2nd Lesson:

- all died in faith (saving faith, persevering)
- did not receive eternal blessings here
- under trial, **saw** them from a distance
embraced them
confessed their alienation from this world
pursued eternal order where God is

*How about you?
Do you see, embrace, confess & pursue?*



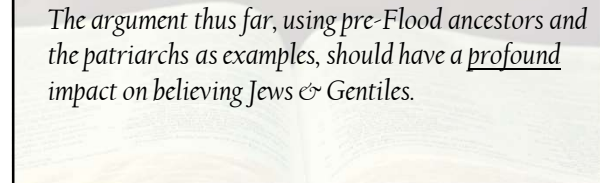
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Biblical examples of faith, vv17-22

5. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph:

- Can you see their obedient faith?
- Can you see their faith having grown?
- Can you see their victory over the
worldly by faith in the world to come?

*The argument thus far, using pre-Flood ancestors and
the patriarchs as examples, should have a profound
impact on believing Jews & Gentiles.*



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“

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, & Joseph demonstrated:

an obedient faith
a maturing faith
and a victorious faith

The patriarchs became heirs to the righteousness that is by faith in Christ.”

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Biblical examples of faith, vv23-29

6. Moses:

- Fearless parents’ belief in a deliverer
- Adult Moses identifying w/Israel
- Fearless Moses confronting Pharaoh
- Obedient Moses keeping Passover
- Leading God’s people thru what appeared to be the impossible

See the glimpses of obedient faith, maturing faith, and victorious faith in Moses?

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Biblical examples of faith, vv30-31

6. Israel & Rahab vs. unbelieving Jericho:

- Joshua’s generation were **obedient** to God’s instructions for defeating Jericho
- Their faith **grew** w/each day as they circled the “disobedient” city
- Their faith was **victorious** as God leveled the city acc. to His word
- Foreigner Rahab & her family were rescued from destruction by faith—
believing Gentiles & Jews together

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“

Moses & Joshua’s generation demonstrated:

an obedient faith
a maturing faith
and a victorious faith

OT believers became heirs to the righteousness that is by faith in Christ.”

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Biblical examples of faith, vv32-38

7. OT Martyrs “of whom the world was not worthy”:

- These ones **died in faith**—some under the most extreme circumstances
- Their **faith grew** from small beginnings to remarkable conviction & action
- They **did not immediately receive** what was promised...BIG POINT!

“God provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.” (v40)

35

“

All the biblical examples in chapter 11, demonstrated:

an obedient faith
a maturing faith
and a victorious faith
THAT SAVES!

OT & NT believers are heirs together of the righteousness that is by faith in Christ Jesus.”

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