

#4 The Faith God Is Proud Of *Hebrews 11*

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

WHAT FAITH IS...

Faith Is being Sure of what we Hope For—All of the **FUTURE REWARDS** that God Promised His People.

Faith Is being Certain about the existence of **UNSEEN THINGS**—Invisible Realities that God says are really real.

HOW FAITH IS EXPRESSED...

Confident Assurance in the Face of the Invisible

Continual Seeking in the Face of the Impossible

Complete Reliance in the Face of the Intangible

Courageous Obedience in the Face of the Incomprehensible

Continuing Perseverance in the Face of the Intolerable

Abraham: Hebrews 11:8-12,17-19

Because He trusted God's Word, Abraham...

1. Obeyed God, even though he didn't fully **UNDERSTAND**
2. Heeded God's call to **GO**, even though he was unsure of the destination
3. Waited on God's **TIMING**, even though His destiny had been clearly promised
4. Trusted God to keep His promise, even though he knew it would take a **MIRACLE** for it to come to pass
5. Valued God's promised **REWARD**, even though he never saw it during his earthly life
6. Released his most **TREASURED POSSESSION** to God, even though it didn't seem to make any sense

Faith That Makes God Proud

Hebrews 11:13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.

¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. **Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God**, for he has prepared a city for them.

Isaac, Jacob, Joseph: Hebrews 11:20-22

Moses' Parents: Hebrews 11:23

Moses: Hebrews 11:24-28

- A. Embraced **GOD-IDENTITY** above Royal Identity
- B. Chose Mistreatment and Suffering over **SINFUL PLEASURES**
- C. Regarded Heavenly Rewards more highly than **EARTHLY TREASURE**
- D. Focused on God's Mission over **SELFISH AMBITION**
- E. Trusted **GOD'S WORD** over Cultural Custom and Conventional Wisdom

Two Generations Of Israelites: Hebrews 11:29-30

Rahab: Hebrews 11:31

The Rest: Hebrews 11:32-40

Hebrews 11:32 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again.

Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. ³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. ⁴⁰ God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.