



Hebrews Lesson 17 Chapter 11 Rahab and Prophets

God has acted mightily in history doing what His sovereign will has determined to do to redeem mankind. But all through that history He has used human beings that were sinful, weak, and even immoral to be key players in His eternal plan. The only thing required of those individuals was that they would believe that God was able and faithful to do what He said. That believing, or faith, enabled them to be partners and witnesses of God's mighty power to accomplish good for all people. The author of Hebrews will go on to identify many more acts of faith in which God used broken people. These examples are to solidify his message that the suffering his readers are experiencing is worth the sacrifices they will have to face to stay with Jesus. People of faith see something more than just this existence and the reality of this tangible world. They see a greater reality that is worth risking their lives for. Hebrews 11 with this definition of faith, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the

men of old gained approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible" (Hebrews 1:1-3). Faith sees an unseen reality, and then its actions respond to that sight. The author wants these struggling Hebrews to see that faith isn't easy, and many times leads to great hardship; but the result is worth the struggle. And the result that they can see is Jesus. His life made God visible. His actions made God beautiful. His sacrifice made God's heart experiential. His life revealed what God required in righteousness, and His death revealed His desire to give us back the life we had forfeited. His resurrection gave us that new life, both here and in the world to come. All we need for life and godliness is Jesus. "For He delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" Colossians 1:13-14.

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 11 Moses

"All these _____ in _____, without receiving the _____, but having _____ and having _____ them from a _____, and having _____ that they were _____ and _____ on the earth." Hebrews 11:13 NAS

1. *What son of Jacob was Moses in the lineage of? Exodus 2:1*

2. *Who was Moses' brother who was a key player in the exodus events? Exodus 4:14. What important position did he fulfill later? Exodus 28:1; Numbers 18:1-7*

3. *What point has the author already made to his readers about Moses and Aaron in comparison to Jesus? Hebrews 3:5-6; 7:11-28*

READ HEBREWS 11:30-40



The people of Israel didn't do well in following and trusting God in the desert on their journey back to the promised land. Therefore, God disciplined that generation and they wandered in the desert for forty years until the last person except Joshua was dead. It would be their children who would actually move into and inhabit the land under the leadership of Joshua.

4. *Explain how faith brought the walls of Jericho down. Joshua 6*

5. *What part did Rahab play in that event? Joshua 2 Besides saving her life and the lives of her family, what benefit did Rahab's faith produce? Matthew 1:1-5*



As the tribes of Israel inhabited the promised land, they separated into different regions of Canaan. Unfortunately, many of them started to intermingle with the pagan nations around them, and their awareness of God's presence dwindled and sin took over. Many of those pagan nations oppressed them, and eventually they would cry out to God in desperation for deliverance. Because of His mercy, God sent judges to them to help them restore their land and their relationship with Him. This took place over several hundred years because each time God delivered, they soon fell back into sin. Eventually, the nation cried out to God for a king to rule them, and under the rule of David and Solomon the nation prospered greatly. But over the next several hundred years, many kings would arise and some would be good, but many were bad. They led the people away from God to the worship of false gods. Because of their idolatry, God disciplined them through many hardships to call them back to true worship. Eventually He sent them prophets to declare to them the eventual outcome of their adultery. God would raise up the pagan nations of Babylonia and Assyria to overcome the Israelites and take them into captivity away from their land. The author of Hebrews highlights these judges and prophets as more people of faith.

6. *Who were some of the nations that the Israelites got involved with, and how did God use them? Judges 3:1-8*

7. *How did Gideon defeat the Midianites by faith? Judges 7*

8. *What were some of the difficulties these people of faith encountered and had to overcome? Hebrews 11:33-38*

9. *Why didn't they receive all that God had promised when they had been so faithful? Hebrews 11:40*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
