

Hebrews 11:5-19

Topic: This is one of the most neglected books of the bible. We don't know who the author is, but we do know it was written for the instruction of the temple before 70 A.D. It is to the Jews what the book of Romans is to the Gentiles. Hebrews tells of sacrifices and rituals and exalts the sovereignty of Christ. It tells of Christ's relation to Moses and Abraham and all their people. This is why the Book of Hebrews is so great. The message of Hebrews is this: go on to spiritual maturity. Don't sit back on your laurels; get up and do something for the Lord, spread the word, help someone who doesn't ask but you see the need. Jesus Christ is our mediator to God. If you read only one book of the entire bible, this should be the one.

Chapter 10 is the Warning Chapter, and it is devoted to warning God's people to not go back to their old ways, nor add or take away anything from the New Testament, the New Laws after the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. God will take the life of a mature Christian, the sin of death, who tries to change the ways.

Chapter 11 is the Faith Chapter, and it is full of encouragement, a register of the heroes of the Old Testament. This chapter shows us how to succeed and grow and gain the victory of our faith. The heroes are examples to us, how to battle and have victory at the end of our lives. There is no victory without a battle. Verses 1 & 3 give the definition of faith. Verse 4-32 give examples of faith. Verse 33-38 gives us the price of victory. Verse 39-40 is the reward through victorious faith.


God's Heroes Hall of Fame

Today's lesson is about great people of faith who overcame problems in their life and are now examples to us of VICTORY.

Heb 11:4: A lot of people have accused God of being unfair where Cain and Abel are concerned. But God told Adam and Eve from the beginning, that God set forth the example of what a sacrifice for God is to be when He Himself killed an innocent creature to use the skin to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness. Abel offered more excellent sacrifice to God, and he obtained witness and showed he was righteous, so God blessed Abel. Abel obeyed God, but Cain didn't, so Cain's sacrifice was not blessed. Cain murdered Abel, the first murder ever, and thousands of years later we are still hearing about Cain and Abel. The lesson is, we are to obey God. We are to do that job that God has given us, and don't add or subtract from it as you see fit, but do it as God directs you, and you will be blessed by God. Every one of us has a gift from God, and we are to figure out what it is and use to His directions.

Vs5: Enoch taught the lesson of God's entire program from the mazzaroth (Zodiac, which people today have perverted) which declared the whole bible from beginning to end. The entire bible is written in the stars. Enoch's walk upon this earth was so great and so fantastic that Enoch walked with God. Before Enoch died a natural death, God took him,





so Enoch never faced death. **Vs6:** Without faith it is impossible to please Him. God rewards those who diligently seek Him. That is the first thing we should do each morning: ask God what He wants us to do that day. It may be a person, an act, a look... nothing is an accident.

Vs7: Noah: God told Noah He was going to destroy creation because it had become so perverse and evil and wicked. At that time, it had never rained on earth, so Noah didn't know what it was. But he moved fast and furiously to build the ark like God instructed him to do. The flood was the first rain on Earth. History records over and over and over that God means what He says. Noah moved in fear of the Lord, because Noah knew God meant business. Noah spent 120 years building this ark and obeying God. No one in this time would do something like that. We can't even wait 2 minutes for a fast food lunch!

Vs8: Abraham: he was a gentile priest that God called out. Here is a man who had it made: he had money, security, comfort. God pulled Abraham out to a place he didn't know. Abraham had no idea where God was going to lead him, but he went anyways. In the past, Abraham was a liar and made his wife be taken into a harem, but God intervened and stopped that nonsense.

Vs9-11: Here is the nation of Israel that we currently hear about on the news. Sara was 90 years old when she got pregnant and had her baby as promised by God.

Vs12: The Jewish nations and Arab nations came from Abraham. There are millions that are that are the descendants of Abraham.

Vs13: They are killed in the multitudes, but they keep coming back. The Palestines want half of Jerusalem for their own country.

Vs14-15: If Abraham had kept on his mind, "Hey, look at what I left behind: money, position, power, and now I'm in the desert wandering around". No, Abraham kept his mind on what God wanted and he continued wandering around in the desert as God directed, without question. Don't let the past control you. Keep your mind on the prize, look forward to what God has for you.

Vs16-17: Abraham was going to sacrifice his only beloved son because God said so, but God didn't let Abraham follow through with the deed. God was just testing Abraham's faith and he passed.

Vs18-19: Abraham was told to offer up Isaac. When he did, and he was about to strike the child dead, God stopped him. Abraham knew even if he killed his son, burned him on the altar, that God would bring his son back to life. There is no greater faith.

