

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day weekend is a time to reflect on those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy. In the spiritual realm we enjoy Christianity today because many were willing to give their lives to it and for it. The prophets, apostles, and early Christians gave their lives for the sake of the gospel. **Hebrews 11:36-38** mentions the many who suffered for what we have today. God has not asked that we die for Him (though we may be asked to do so). He asks that we live for Him.

On this Memorial Day weekend, it would do us well to remember a few of those who, in the Bible, fought the spiritual battles and left us a wonderful example to remember and follow.

- I. Those of **Heb 11:36-38**
- A. Gideon, **Judges 6-8**, Barak, **Judges 4-5**, Samson, **Judges 13-16**, Jephthah of David, Samuel **1 Samuel**, the prophets
 - B. By faith-_____ was done through trust in God
 - C. Subdued kingdoms-fought against and _____ Cf **Vs 4-8**
 - D. Wrought righteousness-conducted themselves in a manner _____ to God
 - E. Obtained promises-saw God do what he _____ them he would do
 - F. Stopped the mouths of lions-_____ as a shepherd **1 Sam 17 33-36**, _____ **Jud 14:5-6**
- II. _____ made a decision not to follow the crowd around him, but to identify with what was right **Heb 11:24-27**
- A. Refused to identify with those _____ to the people of God **Vs 24**
 - B. Saw the pleasure of sin as only temporary, but following God as _____ **Vs 25-26**
 - C. _____ the environment of wickedness and embraced the Son of righteousness **Vs 27**
- III. _____ made a decision to lead his family and set an example for others to follow **Josh 24:14-15**
- A. _____ those around him to do what is right **Vs 14**
 - B. Gave the people the _____ to make their own choice **Vs 15a**
 - C. _____ stated where he and his family were going to go **Vs 15b**
- IV. _____ made a decision to lead a nation by following sound advice **1 Kings 3:7-9**
- A. Recognized how _____ he really was **Vs 7**
 - B. Recognized the great _____ before him **Vs 8**
 - C. Recognized his _____ need of God's directing in his life **Vs 9**
- V. _____ made a decision to do the right thing at all times **Dan 1:8; 6:1-24**
- A. Because he had a _____ that was God honoring and good for him personally **1:8**
 - B. Even when opposition seemed _____ to overcome **6:1-24**
 - 1. His doing what was right was recognized by those who _____ him **Vs 1-5**
 - 2. Those opposed to Daniel plotted against him to _____ him **Vs 6-9**
 - 3. Daniel was well _____ of their plan but continued doing what was right **Vs 10-15**
 - 4. Daniel was willing to _____ for what was right if necessary **Vs 16-17**
 - 5. God honored Daniel for his _____ trust **Vs 18-22**
- VI. The 3 Hebrew men made a decision to be loyal to what mattered and not count the cost **Dan 3:1-29**
- A. The _____ to sin **Vs 1-7**
 - B. The _____ against the righteous **Vs 8-13**

C. The _____ for what is right Vs 14-18

D. The _____ for doing right Vs 19-30

VII. _____ made a decision to serve the One to whom he owed his eternal soul Acts 20:22-24,
even though he had to be willing to endure great difficulties 2 Cor 11:24-28

There are those who have given _____ so that others might enjoy life in comfort and peace. May we never
_____ the cost of physical and spiritual freedom.