

Hebrews 11:21f

21 Genesis 48:5-22 He actually adopted them and gave the greater blessing to the younger- Was he being obedient to the voice of the unseen God contrary to tradition? This may be the faith referred to. Genesis 47:31 He worshipped after Joseph promised to bring his bones back to the Promised Land. By faith he believed the promise would be fulfilled.

22 Genesis 50:24,25 Joseph knew by faith God would keep the promise to bring them to the Promised Land and so he too asked his bones to be buried in the Promised Land. Hebrew custom has the bones collected into a rock-hewn box after the flesh has deteriorated, stored and kept for the resurrection.

23 They could have been killed for disobeying the Pharaoh but they saw something unique in this baby that was worth risking their life. Exodus 2:2, Acts 7:20 That was an act of faith believing God would protect them.

24 – 26 This is our daily test of faith, sin's pleasure for a short time, or refusing to be at home here. That choice means we will be mistreated along with the people of God. "for the sake of Christ" - How did Moses choose disgrace for the sake of Christ? Why is it of greater value? What is the reward? 2Corinthians 4:17, Romans 8:18

27 He was afraid the body would be discovered. (Be sure your sin will find you out- Numbers 32:23) He was not afraid of leaving court life or Pharaoh's anger because he left to live like his brothers. He saw with the eyes of faith a monarch much greater than Pharaoh. 2Corinthians 4:18 It took faith to take off into that desert after living the life of the Prince of Egypt. Have you ever moved, not sure of where you would end, up but trusting God to show you?

28 A type and shadow of the sprinkling of Christ's blood on the doorposts of our hearts, that delivers us from the Destroyer. Imagine God asking you to do that? Would you have the faith to believe for yourself? for a nation?

29 I love the portrayal in the movie Prince of Egypt. That was faith! Not only to hold up the rod and believe, but to walk between the walls of water. It was also faith that closed it. Exodus 14:13-31

30 Joshua 6:3-20 What strange instructions God gives His people. It takes faith to obey the things God comes up with, most of which were never done that way before. It seems like God likes to do that to see if our dependence is on Him.

31 We end the portrayal of individuals of faith with a prostitute. What does that say about faith? She risked being killed for treason. What was it Jericho was disobedient to? Joshua 2:9-11 All the walls collapsed except this one section. There is an excavated section of Jericho in which the walls fell with the upper inner wall falling down over a lower retaining wall making a ramp so they could march straight in. Rahab's house may have been on this lower outer wall. Joshua 6:20

32 – 35 Can you fit the victory with the man of faith? Notice some of these men failed God miserably, but their faith victories are in the hall of fame. Why Barak and not Deborah? Tortured in verse 35 is the Greek word *tumpanizo* which refers to a tumpanum, a wheel that stretched victims like a hide and then they were beaten. We don't have a Biblical account of this, but it must have been passed down in oral history. And I thought I had troubles!

36-37 Stoning was the typical capital punishment. Isaiah, according to tradition, was sawn in half with a wooden saw by Manasseh.

38 The world thought they were unworthy of living with them but in reality the world living by its senses was unworthy of these people who lived by faith. Jesus lived such a life. "Foxes have holes..." He is the ultimate example of a life of faith.

39-40 We place so much emphasis on getting what we are after. None of these people of faith did. They knew what they were really aiming for was not to be had here. Do we have this mind set? We are being built into a great house of God. Ephesians 2:21-22 The Old Testament Saints are an essential part, and so are you! The perfecting is the work of God the master architect that fits all the church, around the world and throughout time together to make a perfect house for God to inhabit. Acts 7:48 Only God could build such a temple. see verse 10 and 3:3-4