

The Great Believers' Faith (Part I): A Heroic Faith

Hebrews 11:32-34

1 *The heroic faith
of outstanding leaders:
A faith that accepted
incredible responsibility
and that called upon God
for great courage*

2 *The reward of heroic faith*

- a. Conquered kingdoms
- b. Ruled with justice
- c. Obtained promises
- d. Shut the mouths of lions
- e. Quenched fire
- f. Escaped the sword
- g. Brought strength
out of weakness
- h. Grew powerful in battle

32 And what more shall I say?
I do not have time to tell about Gideon,
Barak, Samson and Jephthah,
about David and 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.

The Great Believers' Faith (Part II): An Enduring Faith Hebrews 11:35-40

1 *There was the enduring faith of believers*

- a. Some women received their dead raised
- b. Some were tortured
- c. Some endured trials of mockery, scourging, chains, and imprisonment
- d. Some were martyred
- e. Some were treated in the most inhuman way imaginable

2 *There was the reward of enduring faith*

- a. God's approval and great historic witness
- b. The promised Seed or Messiah and the promised land

35 Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection.

36 Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

37 They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed 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, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

39 These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised,

40 since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.