



Hebrews 11—an Overview

In our last study, we showed what the book of Hebrews was about. Now, as we zero in on chapter 11, there are several things to focus upon.

There are four common threads that connect all of these names together and are helpful for the Hebrew Christians:

- (1) They all _____ God
- (2) They all had to make _____ choices
- (3) They all faced _____
- (4) They all _____ it

Have You noticed what names are missing:

- First
- First
- First
- First
- First

The Names: From O.T.

Abel
Enoch
Noah
Abraham
Sarah
Isaac
Jacob
Joseph

Genesis

Moses

Exodus

Israel (Joshua)
Rahab

Joshua

Gideon
Barak
Samson
Jephthah

Judges

David

2 Samuel

Prophets

Prophets

Unknowns (33-38) Not specific

A. By Faith

- this is how these names gained _____ (2)
- this is how we know the world was _____ (3)
- this is how we know we _____ God (6)

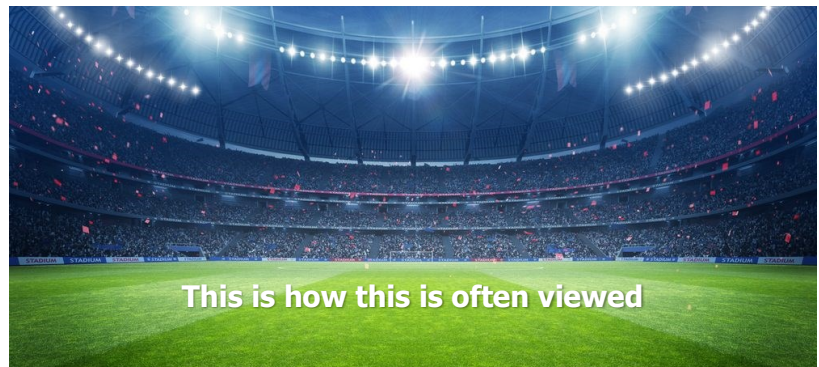
1. Throughout this chapter "faith" is illustrated by active obedience to God
 - the Lord spoke and these faithful made the choice to obey
 - (1) Faith is the substance (support), the evidence (conviction) of hope

The action words in the Moses section (24-28) shows that Faith is:

- Refusing, choosing, considering, looking, leaving, enduring, keeping

The just shall live by faith: (Rom 1:17; Gal 3:11; Heb 10:38)
We walk by faith (2 Cor 5:7)

B. This Great Cloud of Witnesses Surround Us (12:1)



This is how this is often viewed

Serious Biblical Questions Arise from this concept:

1. Do the _____ see us?
2. Do we see the _____?
3. Do the dead _____ to us?
4. Do we speak to the _____?
5. How do they "surround" us when we are _____ and they are _____?

1. The flow of the context is to fix our eyes on Jesus, not these witnesses (12:2)

2. These witnesses surround us through the Scriptures

- It is by faith that we know (Rom 15:4)
- The key expression in chapter 12 is "Endure" (1, 2, 3, 4, 7)
 - Don't quit because it is _____: think of Noah
 - Don't quit because you are _____: think of Shadrach
 - Don't quit because you've _____ up: think of Samson
 - Don't quit because the _____ are against you: think of Gideon
 - Don't stop believing in the _____ of God: think of Joseph
- The same Scriptures that show the superiority of Jesus, also shows that these witnesses were seeking a Heavenly country (16) and they did not receive what was promised (39). God has provided something better for us (40)