

Hebrews 11:32-40 "Even If He Doesn't Faith!"
OGCF April 7, 2024 Pastor Lee Talley

Review: Heb. 11:28; 1 Cor. 5:7 - 'Jesus, Our Passover Lamb'

[#1] Through Faith, it is the blood of the Lamb that gives ETERNAL LIFE to God's people.

(John 10:27-28; Eph. 2:8-9; Judges 6:6-16)

[#2] This shows that weak FAITH is better than UNBELIEF, and you don't have to be perfect to make it into God's "Hall of Faith." (David Guzik)

(Judges 6:33, 34-35, 7:2, 15)

[#3] When God works in our lives through Faith, by His Spirit, it is a joyful, thrilling experience just to see what God is able to do!

"Then the Spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon with power."

(Judges 6:34 NLT)

(Daniel 3:9-12, 17-25)

[#4] Through Faith, whenever we STAND for Jesus we never stand alone! He stands with us.

Pastor Sandy Adams...

"So often we make the mistake of trusting in a particular outcome - *rather than trusting in God, and letting Him determine the outcome*. Our faith is not really in God - it's in God working in the way we desire. This is why real faith is a "**But even if He doesn't**" faith..."

[#5] Real Faith, fire-facing Faith is Faith that says EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, I won't stop trusting Him!

(Rom. 10:13-15; 1 Peter 3:15)

[#6] By Faith, like the 'heroes of faith', REVERE Christ as Lord in your heart ... your life will shine as a living witness to Jesus' love for a lost and dying world!

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_____ to God's people.

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[#6] By Faith, like the 'heroes of faith', _____ Christ as Lord in your heart ... your life will shine as a living witness to Jesus' love for a lost and dying world!

me, lest I be exalted above measure. [8] Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. [9] And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

According to this passage, what is one reason God allows suffering in a believer's life?

What can we learn from Paul's example?

GET PRACTICAL

- 7) God wants us to pray to Him and ask big things, because He is a big God! List a few of your "top of the list" prayer requests. (You don't have to share these if you don't want to)

As you look at your prayer requests above, what can you do to still trust in (and follow) the Lord *even if He doesn't* answer those requests in the way or timing you hope?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

Life Group Homework For the week of April 7, 2024

MY STORY

- 1) What is a favorite hobby, game, or pastime from when you were a kid?

QUICK REVIEW

- 2) Looking back at Hebrews 11:32-40 and your notes from this Sunday's message, what stood out to you or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 3) As you consider the Old Testament saints mentioned in Hebrews 11, which one is your favorite example or story - and why? (*Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Issac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Sampson, David, Samuel, the prophets, etc*)

What are some examples of how these saints sinned or fell short of "perfect faith"?

Why do you think it is important to remember some of the mistakes our Biblical "heroes" have made?

What are some examples of how those Old Testament saints experienced suffering or disappointment in their life?

Why do you think it is important to remember these examples of how godly men and women suffered?

4) What stands out to you from the following passage?

1 Peter 1:3-9 - "[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, [5] who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, [8] whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, [9] receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of your souls."

How does this passage most encourage you to endure hardship and/or look to your heavenly hope?

Imagine your life now if everything "took a turn for the worse" - what would it look like for you to remain faithful to Jesus even in such awful circumstances?

What lies do you think would be most tempting to believe in the scenario you imagined?

In this scenario, what would you want your Christian friends to do or say (or not do) to support you?

5) How would you summarize the following passage in your own words?

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - "[16] Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. [17] For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, [18] while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

What advice would you give a friend who says they don't know how to stop thinking about the "things which are seen" because they feel so overwhelmed or discouraged?

6) What stands out to you from Paul's words in following passage?

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 - "[7] And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet