

People of Faith IX

Those who Continue in Faith

Hebrews 10:35-39

I

Consider *Hebrews 11:39-40*

^{NKJ} *Hebrews 11:39* And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

It's easy to wonder at the Bible's heroes of faith.

Especially when we realize they had *relatively little* knowledge of God.

How motivated we who know Jesus should be to *complete* what they have begun and live a life of faith today.

Jesus lived a life connected to the prophets.

II

The great heroes of faith had not yet realized their *eschatological* hopes.

^{NKJ} *Hebrews 10:14* For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

The final sacrifice for mankind had not been given when these heroes died.

There is a future perfection.

^{NKJ} *Hebrews 12:22* But you have come to **Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the **heavenly Jerusalem**, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of **just men made perfect**,

We shall be like Him.

Consider *1 John 3:1-2*

III

Their faith was not in some *immediate* fulfillment, but in the *ultimate* fulfillment of the promises.

Here is where faith is most tested and where it most matters.

^{NLT} *1 Peter 1:10* This salvation was something even the prophets wanted to know more about when they prophesied about this gracious salvation prepared for you. ¹¹ They wondered what time or situation the Spirit of Christ within them was talking about when he told them in advance about Christ's suffering and his great glory afterward.

All these, from Enoch through the prophets, had that *courageous* faith which counts, without reservation, on final salvation.

There is a final and ultimate salvation.

Many of them never received the land. Sometimes they had earthly victory; sometimes they did not. Sometimes their faith saved them from death; sometimes it brought them death. No matter.

They knew that God had provided something better this is called *hope*.

They courageously *struggled, suffered*, and counted on salvation.

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