

Great Heroes of Faith

Heb. 11:1-40

Introduction:

- A. Our heroes reveal something about ourselves.
 - 1. Admire in others things we want for ourselves.
 - 2. May reveal our areas of interest: sports, politics, soldiers, etc.
- B. A worthy list of heroes — heroes of faith (Heb. 11).
 - 1. 14 men, 2 women named — many unnamed men and women referred to.
 - 2. All said to worthy of our admiration and imitation. (Heb. 12:1).
 - 3. All had three characteristics of faith in common:

Discussion:

II. They *Worked* for Their Lord.

- A. Because they believed in God. (V. 6).
- B. Because their faith demanded action (cf. Abraham & Rahab in Jas. 2:20-26)
 - 1. Each hero's faith acted (vv. 4, 7, 8, 9, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30).
 - 2. Each of us must act by faith.
 - a. To obey the gospel (Acts 2:38; Acts 16:31, 34).
 - b. To live right (Heb. 10:38).
 - c. To worship and serve the Lord.

III. They *Waited* for Their Reward.

- A. Life of faith is not for immediate reward (vv. 13-16; Heb. 10:36-39).
- B. Life of faith requires patience.
 - 1. Must not give up (Gal. 6:9).
 - 2. Must not take matters into own hands.
 - 3. Must not settle for lesser, immediate reward.

IV. They *Transcended* Their Weaknesses.

- A. Many great men and women of faith had weak moments (Abraham, Moses, David, Peter).
- B. They rose above their weak moments by:
 - 1. By repenting and moving on in faith.
 - 2. By turning to God for forgiveness and strength.
 - 3. By not allowing weaknesses to become a pattern of life.

Conclusion:

- A. Could you possibly be a hero of faith to someone?
- B. Do you believe in the Lord? Obey Him? Live for Him?