

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship | Christ Supreme in All Things
April 30, 2023 | "A Better Country" | **Hebrews 11:8-22**

1) Faith looks forward to a _____
(11:8-10)

2) Faith looks forward to a _____
(11:11-16)

3) Faith looks forward to a _____
(11:17-22)

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Define the word "faith" in one sentence. How does the author of Hebrews define faith in Hebrews 11:1? How does Paul describe faith in Romans 4:13-25 (see especially verse 21)? What are some ways that faith is misunderstood in our world today?

Read Hebrews 11:8-10. What's the connection between faith and obedience with Abraham? Which came first? Why was Abraham's faith (and obedience) so remarkable? What did Abraham walk away from when God called him to leave his home? According to verse 10, what was he looking forward to?

Read Hebrews 11:11-16. What is the future city that Abraham and the other OT saints longed for? How is that heavenly homeland different from what we experience now? Look through Revelation 21:1-22:5 for a description of this future city. Also read the following article by Randy Alcorn, "Will Those Who Dislike Cities Find Themselves at Home in the New Jerusalem?":
<https://www.epm.org/blog/2018/Jan/29/cities-home-new-jerusalem>
Who all will be part of this future city? Abraham and the OT saints? You and me? What about the unbelievers in the OT and the NT eras? Where will they reside for eternity (see Rev 20:11-15)?

GET PERSONAL

Is this world your eternal home? Do you treat it that way? What does faith in a future home look like? How would that change the way you live your life?

Abraham's faith was demonstrated by radical obedience (e.g. he took Isaac to be sacrificed). What has God asked you to do as a faith-filled follower of him? In what ways are you struggling to be obedient to him? In what ways are you excelling as a follower/believer?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Read Genesis 15:6. What exactly did Abraham believe God for? Did Abraham believe in the unbelievable? Did he put his faith in something God said? What exactly are we, as NT Christians, called to believe in? Should we believe any unbelievable thing, or should we believe only those things that God reveals to us (e.g. his promises, what is revealed in his Word)? List some things that God has revealed to us that we should believe and put our hope in.

ADVANCED QUESTION

According to Martin Luther, justification by faith alone is the doctrine on which the church stands or falls. Why does Luther think that? Do you agree with him? What is lost if a church abandons this central doctrine? How does our faith in the finished work of Christ (past) relate to our faith in the second coming of Christ (future)?