

The Real Faith, Part 4

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Opening Summary

Real faith is having a firm foundation that prepares you to overcome affliction while you are obeying God. In this study we will see examples of people who acted on words from God. When they faced affliction, they held fast to the Word until they received the promise. The greatest example we will look at is our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Highest example of all.

- I. Heb. 10:22-39-11:16: Review the three previous sessions (Mark 4:14-20).
- II. Heb. 11:17-18: The key word in this verse is “received.”
 - A. Abraham becomes the basis for the covenant we have with God today.
 - B. God is showing the world that if Abraham obeys Him and is willing to give his only son, God would be committed to give His only begotten son.
 - C. The promises are the things God said. He heard the Word.
 - D. Heb. 11:19: He decided God was able to do something no one has ever seen.
 1. Abraham saw his son being raised from the dead in his own imagination.
 2. When I meditate the Word, I’m using my imagination.
 3. You should grow to a place where you meditate the Word in your study time.
- III. Heb. 11:20-21: Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau with his words. They believed that when their father pronounced the blessing on them, they would be blessed. Jacob blessed with words.
- IV. Heb. 11:22: Because of his covenant Joseph commanded where his bones were to be buried.
- V. Heb. 11:23: *No fear* is the key word in this verse. Moses’ parents were not afraid of the government. You are to obey government unless it crosses Scripture.
 - A. Heb. 11:24: The key word: “refused.”
 - B. Heb. 11:25: The key words: “choosing and enjoy.” Real faith decides what’s important.
 - C. Heb. 11:26: The key word: “esteeming” and “respect.” He decided it was greater payment to follow Christ than the treasures in Egypt.
 - D. Heb. 11:27: He saw what eyes didn’t see. He chose to fear God than man.
 - E. Heb. 11:28: Through faith he kept the Passover.
 1. It took faith in God because when things went from bad to worse for the children of Israel they criticized him.
 2. I’ve been criticized for leading my congregation in the tither’s confession at a time many people are having financial challenges. That’s the time people need to be encouraged in their faith.
 3. Despite the criticism, Moses convinced the people to keep the Passover.
 4. Heb. 11:29: When they got to the shore, the people screamed.
 - a. Without a foundation of faith, people panic (Heb. 10-11).
 - b. Whatever is in their spirit bypasses their head.

- c. The Lord told Moses to stretch forth his rod, and they were spared.
 - F. Heb. 11:30, 40: The New Testament completed God's plan.
- VI. Heb. 12:1: There is a massive number of people in heaven who obeyed words from God. He considers them to be part of the great hall of fame. They are rooting us on.
 - A. Weights are things that drag you down.
 - 1. Some things take your time away from Bible study.
 - 2. It may not be sin, but it doesn't help.
 - B. Lay aside sin and weight (hinderances). It could be sex, money, pride, etc. It's different with each person.
 - 1. Sin means to miss the mark. There is sin of commission, something you do. There is sin of omission, something you are not doing (Rom. 14:23).
 - 2. Focus on the sin that easily besets you. For example, television is not sin, per se.
 - a. Some watch television then imitate what they saw.
 - b. You may have to be extreme and get rid of your television.
 - 3. Being overweight can hinder you. It is best that you live long and do your part in the kingdom of God.
 - a. Excess weight can kill you. Having extra pounds doesn't mean you're in sin.
 - b. Follow 1 Cor. 6:19. Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost.
 - c. I've laid hands on tens of thousands of people. The Lord has had words for certain people to refrain from certain foods – it's different for everyone. That's God telling you how to live longer and be a blessing to others longer.
 - C. *Patience* (Gk. hupomone) means *cheerful endurance, constancy*.
 - 1. Be the same way with a smile on your face and do not vary from it.
 - 2. Activate the fruit of joy by faith.
 - 3. Life is not a sprint; it's a marathon. You must have patience with people.
 - 4. *The race set before us* means God has positioned you to take a certain track.
 - 5. Decide to follow that track (your assignment) and stay in it.
- VII. Heb. 12:2: *Author* means *captain*. Jesus, your highest example, is in charge of your faith.
 - A. Php. 2:5-6: This tells us *the joy* that was set before Jesus.
 - 1. God gave Jesus a standing. You have a standing (2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 1:22).
 - 2. Php. 2:7: Jesus didn't care what people thought or said about Him.
 - 3. Php. 2:8: Jesus humbled Himself and obeyed God.
 - 4. Php. 2:9: *Exalted* means *elevated, raised Him to the highest position*.
 - 5. *Name* means (Gk. onoma) *authority and character*.
 - 6. You have that *name*, and you are God's son Mark 16:15.
 - 7. Php. 2:10-11: Jesus was looking at this day (Heb. 12:2).
 - B. Like Jesus, the others weren't looking at the here and now, but at the reward.
 - C. That attitude should be your foundation.

Closing Summary

You saw in this study that when you have a firm foundation, you can hold fast to God's Word in the face of affliction, and thereby receive His promise. Your greatest example of all is the Lord, Jesus Christ. Therefore, because you've been given His authority and character (Name) you can have victory when you remain steadfast on His Word.