



WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

Obtaining A Good Report

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Monday, March 27, 2022

Text: Heb. 11:1-2

Opening Summary

Do you have a good report? We will study the heroes in Hebrews chapter 11 (aka, the faith hall of fame). They obtained a good report through the five elements of faith. That is what led them to obey whatever God told them. As a result, after all these years, we are still marveling over their victories.

- I. The people in Heb. 11 operated in the five elements of faith, as follows:
 - A. Hearing: Rom. 10:17 - Hearing comes from being in position to hear, attendance.
 - B. Receiving: Jas. 1:21
 - C. Believing: Rom. 10:8-10
 - D. Speaking: Mark 11:23
 - E. Acting: Jas. 1:22: this is where Christians have the greatest issue.
 - F. Those elements led them to obey God's command.

- II. Rom. 10:17: Hearing the Word comes from being in position to hear the Word.
 - A. Heb. 10:25: *Assembling* (Gk.: episunagoge) means *a complete collection, a gathering together, prayer*.
 - B. John 10:27: You can hear God speak to you.
 - C. Col. 3:15: Listen and expect God to speak to you.
 - D. God sent us to Ireland. When we got there, He began to speak; doors opened, and miracles happened.

- III. James 1:21: *Receiving* means *engrafting*.
 - A. Engraft the Word into your heart by speaking the Word.
 - B. Heb. 11:17-19: Abraham received God's Word to him.

- IV. Believe in your heart. You know what a person believes by what they do.
 - A. Heb 11:4: Abel offered the tithe. He pleased God with his finances.
 1. *Testifying* (Gk.: martureo) means *bear record*.
 2. Both God and satan noticed what Abel was willing to do.
 - B. Heb. 11:5-6: Enoch believed God would reward him, and it drove his lifestyle.
 1. *Please* means *to gratify*.
 2. He heard, received, believed, spoke and did the Word and never saw death.
 - C. Heb. 11:7: Noah acted with reverence.
 1. Prepare doesn't mean act.

2. Act when God says to go.
 3. Prepare means to get in position to follow God.
- D. Heb. 11:11-12: Sarah judged God as being faithful. Faithful (Gk.: pistos) means trustworthy, sure, true.
- E. Heb. 11:24-28: Moses had no fear.
1. Heb. 11:25: He chose God over position.
 2. Heb. 11:26: *Esteemed* (gk.: hegeomai) means *to lead*.
 3. Moses knew God had a reward for him, in His time.
 4. Heb. 11:27: He refused to fear.
 5. Fear opens the door for satan to do to you, the thing you don't desire.
 6. Faith opens the door for God to do to you, the thing you desire.
- V. Heb. 11:13: All of them died in faith: trust, confidence and belief in God.
- A. *Embrace* (Gk.: aspazomai) means *to salute and welcome*.
 - B. They saluted God when He gave them direction.
 - C. *Confessed* (Gk.: homologeo) means *acknowledge, covenant*.
 - D. They embraced God's promise.
 - E. Heb. 11:15-16: They are called people of faith because of what they did.
- VI. Mark 4:13: Satanic challenges come when you act on the Word you hear.
- A. God called me to pastor. At first, I refused. Every time I prayed He would bring it back up to me. Eventually I said yes. That's when the anointing (God's grace) came on me to be a pastor. Then my wife and I went to Bible school in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.
 - B. Mark 4:15-17: Affliction and persecution come to discourage you and to get you to withdraw from acting on the Word.
 1. There was a racial act against us followed by a second in which I could've been killed by a mob.
 2. In our apartment, our son was nearly attacked by a rat.
 3. We moved into a trailer, and it flooded. All our goods were washed out.
 4. We were hit with a financial crisis.
 5. We continued to follow God.
 6. All our debts were paid by the time we graduated from Bible school.
 - C. In a crisis, be in position to hear God speak to you.
 1. With all our bills on the table, my wife looked at me as if to say, "You're supposed to be a man. What are you going to do about this?"
 2. The Lord spoke and said laugh at the devil.
 3. We felt nothing, no power, no vision, we just began to say "Hahaha," and before we knew it, the anointing filled the room.
 4. The Lord gave further instruction; we obeyed.
 5. Your response to the affliction and persecution determines your outcome.
 - D. Mark 4:17-19: The cares of this world are distractions.
 1. Satan will present a shiny object to distract you and weaken you spiritually.
 2. A shiny object is anything that will distract you from doing God's will.

3. When you're weak, he can attack and knock you out.
 - E. Mark 4:19: *Deceitfulness of riches* is to run after fame, money, houses and cars.
 1. There's nothing wrong with having those things, but it must be in God's order.
 2. We are to run after God and His will.
 3. They called me a fool for leaving that good job. But they don't anymore.
 - F. Mark 4:19: Lust of other things is anything for which you have a strong desire besides Jesus. The only thing you "got to have" is Jesus.
 1. The Lord (Gk.: Kurios - Controller) is the One you should allow to direct your path.
 2. When you fully follow the Lord, you will pay a price.
- VII. Rom. 8:35-36: The enemy accounts you as sheep for the slaughter (Psa. 44:22).
- A. Rom. 8:37: In all situations we are more than conquerors.
 - B. The Lord is on your side when He asks you to do something.
 - C. Psa. 34:19: The Lord delivers you out of all afflictions.
- VIII. We are blessed to live in the end of days.

Closing Summary

It is acting on the five elements of faith that will cause you to have a good report. When you begin to walk in God's ways, know that satan will meet you with opposition. But, just like those in the faith hall of fame, when you follow God's way, He will lead you to safety and victory.