

A BRAND-NEW SERIES BY DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

SPIRITUAL FITNESS

STRENGTHENING YOUR FAITH IN TROUBLED TIMES

A STUDY OF HEBREWS 11-13

AGAINST ALL ODDS

HEBREWS 11:30-40

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Introduction: In this climatic conclusion of Hebrews 11, the writer reminds us that faith sometimes enables us to conquer problems, while other times faith enables us to endure problems. Yet, faith always results in receiving God's approval of our lives.

Definition of Faith: Faith is not a wish, hope, or desire, but faith is the assurance that God is going to do what He has promised to do and acting accordingly.

Verses 30-34 Believers who **conquered** problems.

Verses 35-40 Believers who **endured** problems.

Verses 30-34 Faith in God's ability to deliver them **out** of their problems.

Verses 35-40 Faith in God's ability to sustain them **through** their problems.

Verses 30-34 Promises of God that were **fulfilled**.

Verses 35-40 Promises of God that were **delayed**.

I. **Faith That Conquers Problems** (Hebrews 11:30-35a)

A. **They Obeyed God's Instructions in Spite of Reason**

Hebrews 11:30 "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days."

B. **They Received God's Blessings in Spite of Themselves**

Hebrews 11:31 “By faith Rehab the harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.”

Hebrews 11:35 “Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection.”

II. Faith That **Endures Problems** (Hebrews 11:35b-40)

Hebrews 11:35 “Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection.”

Hebrews 11:36-37 ³⁶ “And others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated.”

Hebrews 11:38 “(Men of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.”

A. They Were Focused on Future **Rewards** Instead of the Present **Results** (Hebrews 11:35)

Hebrews 11:35 “Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection.”

B. They Were More Concerned with God's **Approval** than Their Own **Comfort** (Hebrews 11:39)

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Hebrews 11:39 “And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised.”

Matthew 10:28 “Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

Conclusion