

First Words:

The First Step of Faith (The profession of my faith) - Hebrews 11:8-16 – Abraham did not know the where.

A. My faith will produce a pilgrimage – **Hebrews 11:8**

B. My faith will produce patience– **Hebrews 11:9–10**

C. My faith will produce power– **Hebrews 11:11-12**

D. My faith will produce proclamation – **Hebrews 11:13-16**

The Further Step (The proof of my faith) – Hebrews 11:16-18 – Abraham didn't know the why.

A. The commitment from Abraham's faith – **Hebrews 11:17a** - *By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac...*

1. The exercise of commitment – By faith/in faith, taking God at His Word

2. The examination of commitment – Abraham, when tested
- Lit. “when tested” – The depth of my faith is seen when it is tested
- Tested (Greek “peirazo”) – to test or examine something or someone. -
In this case Abraham is tested by what God asks him to do.

3. The evidence of commitment – Offered up Isaac – **Genesis 22**
- Offered up – Completed and wholly offered his son as a sacrifice (Greek “prosphero”) – Used of offering a sacrifice in **Heb.9:14 & 11:4**
- Isaac – The son of the promises – Everything was wrapped up in him
- See **James 2:21-23**
- This is the pinnacle of Abraham's faith, demonstrating maturity.

- Abraham is a person who goes from immature faith to maturing faith to mature faith. In each case the tests become greater but the rewards become sweeter

B. The crisis in Abraham's faith – **Hebrews 11:17b-18** - ... *and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”*

1. The imperative to Abraham

- He = Abraham – He is the one who received the promises
- Who received = welcomed gladly (Greek “anadechomai”)
- The promise – (Greek “epaggelia”) promise, pledge offer
- Offered up – as a sacrifice

2. The importance of Isaac

- His unique son – One born son – He is the only son, the miraculous and promised son – very dear to Abraham
- Toward who He spoke (God)
- Lit’ “In Isaac the seed to you be called” – Isaac is the key to God's promises to Abraham. See **Genesis 12:1-3 & Genesis 21:12**
- Abraham surrenders it all to God

C. The calculation of Abraham's faith – **Hebrews 11:19** - *He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.*
(Noah – duration of faith, Abraham – depth of faith)

1. He reckoned

- The process - concluding – book-keeping term – He added up
- The product – that God indeed was able to raise out from the dead ones – See **Genesis 22:5** - God is able, He has the power.

2. He received

– From the dead he received him figuratively

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The Future Step (The passing on of my faith) – Hebrews 11:20-22 – Abraham’s seed didn’t know the when.

A. Isaac – **Hebrews 11:20** - *By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.*

1. By means of faith/in faith – Taking God at His word
2. Isaac blessed – pronounced a blessing on (Greek “eulogeo” – to speak well of)
3. Jacob and Esau – opposite of birth order, accepting God’s plan
4. See **Genesis 27:28-40**
5. Concerning future things – He kept the faith till the end and looked beyond his own life to the fulfillment of God’s promises

B. Jacob – **Hebrews 11:21** - *By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.*

1. By means of faith/in faith – Taking God at His word
2. While dying – soon to leave the earth
3. Blessed each of Joseph’s sons – Manasseh and Ephraim (Greek “eulogeo” – to speak well of)
4. In reverse birth order – see **Genesis 48:8-22**
5. Promise of the future – No one in the promised land as of yet.
6. **Genesis 47:31** – Bowed on his bed – This is the incident in view.
7. Focusing on God until the very end

C. Joseph – **Hebrews 11:22** - *By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.*

1. By means of faith/in faith – Taking God at His word
2. Joseph – Son of captivity – Knew 20 years or less in the land
3. While expiring or completing (Greek “teleutao”)
4. Made remembrance – Lit. “concerning the exodus of the Israelites”
5. Gave instruction concerning his bones – See **Genesis 50:24-26, Exodus 13:19 & Joshua 24:2**

So...What’s it to me?

IT'S A
NEW SEASON

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

“The Patriarch’s of Faith” – Pt 2
Hebrews 11:17-22

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