

Faith In Unlikely Places & People

June 25, 2023
Hebrews 11:30-31

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Intro:

- Theme of Hebrews: Jesus is Better! He brought a better covenant!
- Chp 11 not a moralistic be like these guys but rather a see what their faith was in... the Gospel fulfilled - Jesus.
- Abel⁴ - the Way of Faith; Enoch⁵ - the Walk of Faith; Noah⁷ - the Work of Faith; Abraham & Sarah⁸⁻¹⁶ - walking & resting in Faith; Isaac - Faith in face of Deception; Jacob - Faith tested by hard life; Joseph - Faith tested by Success; Lesson of faith from Moses

Faith in God's Higher Ways 30

- Israel crossed the Red sea some 40 years prior; Moses finished^{Dt34}
- Joshua leads, nations quake^{Jos5:1} at Israel and their God
- Joshua scouts out Jericho, encounters the Lord^{Jos5:13-14}
- God gives Joshua instructions^{Jos6:2} which are militarily crazy^{Jos6:4-5}
- Oh the faith required to listen and obey!
- God will honor His work when it is done His way
- We have a mission: Gospel^{Mk16:15} Use God's Word, not gimmicks!
- The Gospel is foolishness to the self-sufficient world^{1Cor1:23}
- Use God's Word, it is His way^{Lk16:31;24:27,44-45; Rom 10:17} no gimmicks

Faith by the Unlikely 31

- Rahab pictures faith by a sinful, foreign, woman - unlikely
- Faith is NOT exclusively a male affair^{Gen1:27}
- Salvation not gender or race driven -by faith in Jesus^{Gal3:28-29}
- Faith is not just for "good people"
- World thinks you must clean up first but Mary Magdelene^{Lk7:2} and woman of Samaria^{Jn4:7-26} show faith alone, devotion
- Consider Prodigal Parable: attitude of sons...
- Rahab foreshadows the Gracious Gospel - Jesus is for all kinds of people^{men,women,Jew,Gentile,sinner}
- Church is made up of former sinner^{1Cor6:9-11}
- Sinner + faith = new walk of obedience^{Jn8:11}; holiness^{1Pe1:14-16}
- Rahab was a foreigner, outsider
- Early NT church had struggles of different cultures
- Rahab, former sinner & foreigner, brings forth Christ^{Mt1:5-17}

So What? Rest in Faith in God!

- Saving faith is not complicated - God provided Jesus
- Rahab^{Josh2:9-11} looked to God for salvation, not self, culture
- Look to God's mercy found by faith in Jesus Christ!
 - Prv 28:13; Isa 30:18; Heb 4:15-16

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