

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Hebrews 11:32-40

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Heb 11:32-40.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

32 And what more shall I say?

For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

33 who

by faith

conquered kingdoms,

performed acts of righteousness,

obtained promises,

shut the mouths of lions,

34 quenched the power of fire,

escaped the edge of the sword,

from weakness were made strong,

became mighty in war,

put foreign armies to flight.

35 Women received back their dead by resurrection;

and others were tortured,

not accepting their release,

so that they might obtain a better resurrection;

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

38 (men of whom the world was not worthy),

wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

39 And all these,

having gained approval through their faith,

did not receive what was promised,

40 because God had provided something better for us,

so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.

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1. How much of the OT was covered in Heb 11:3-31? Why do you think the author of Hebrews jumps to summarize at this specific point?
2. How much of the OT is covered in the list of people in v. 32?
3. Give a brief example of how Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets each lived by faith.
4. What is the channel or tool by which these men did the things listed in these verses?

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❖ Day 2

Read Hebrews 11:32-40 again.

5. What did these men do by faith according to vv. 33-38?

6. Briefly try to discern who did each of the actions in vv. 33-38?

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7. How would torture and death lead to a better resurrection as v. 35 says?
8. Why would faith be absolutely crucial to accomplish or endure the events of vv. 33-38?
9. How does the enabling, enduring, persevering power of faith demonstrated in this passage encourage you?

❖ Day 3

Read Hebrews 11:32-40 again.

10. What did the faith of all of these accomplish according to v. 39?
11. What does it mean to “gain approval” in this context? Where have we seen this before?
12. Why did these, “not receive what was promised” (v. 39)? How is this different than those who “obtained promises” in v. 33?

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13. Look back at 10:36. What do we have that these OT saints didn't?

14. What did God provide that was "better for us"?

15. How are OT saints "made perfect" through us?

16. How does this passage relate to 10:32-39 and 12:1-3?

17. Summarize this passage in one sentence.

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would be encouraged to persevere by faith.