

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS Handout #1: Lesson 12: Chapter 11

Enoch was the descendant of Seth in whom the righteous “promised seed” of Genesis 3:15 continued. He was the 7th generation from Adam through Seth.

Generation #1: ADAM	
SETH [Genesis 5:1-32]	CAIN [Genesis 4:12-24]
Enosh	Enoch
Kenan	Irada
Mahalalel	Mehujael
Jared	Methushael
Enoch	Lemach

Hebrews 11:4-32 begins a list of named heroes and heroines of the faith.

Saint	Some Old Testament Scripture passages
1. Abel	Genesis 4:2-10
2. Enoch	Genesis 5:21-24
3. Noah	Genesis 5:30-9:28
4. Abraham	Genesis 11:26-25:11
5. Isaac	Genesis 17:19-21; 21:1-11; 22:1-19; 24:4-66; 25:9-11, 19; 26:1-40; 36:28-29
6. Jacob	Genesis 25:19-35:29; 37:1-35; 42:12, 29-38; 43:6-14; 47:6-12, 27-31; 48:1-50:14
7. Sarah	Genesis 11:29-31; 12:5-17; 16:1-8; 17:15-18:15; 20:2-21:12; 23:1-19
8. Joseph	Genesis 30:22-25; 33:2-7; 35:24; 37:2-36; 39:1-23; 40:3-50:26; Exodus 1:5-8; 13:19
9. Moses	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy
10. Rahab [Rachab]	Joshua 2:1-24; 6:16-17, 22-25; James 2:25; Matthew 1:5
11. Gideon	Judges 6:11-8:35
12. Barak	Judges 4:1-5:15
13. Samson	Judges 13:1-16:31
14. Jephthah	Judges 11:1-12:7
15. David	Ruth 4:17, 22; 1 Samuel 16:1-2 Samuel 24:25; 1 Kings 1:1-2:11; 1 Chronicles 10:23-32; 25:1; 27:23, 32; 28:29-30
16. Samuel	1 Samuel 1:9-28:20; Psalm 99:6; Acts 3:24; 13:20

Cain is mentioned as a contrast to righteous Abel, the Egyptian pharaoh is a contrast to the Moses, and Esau in contrast to Jacob. These are negative examples of faith. Pharaoh’s daughter is mentioned but only as an illustration of Moses’ choice between remaining the son of an Egyptian princess and choosing to identify with his people’s suffering.

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Turn to other side of page for “unnamed” list

Hebrews 11:32 begins a list of unnamed heroes of the faith, from the period of the prophets to the period of the Maccabees who are only identified by mention of their suffering and martyrdom. The only unnamed faithful believers in the first section from 11:4-32 are Moses' parents.

Saints	Scripture Passages
1. The parents of Moses [Jochebed and Amran]	Exodus 2:1-2
2. The Old Testament Prophets who conquered kingdoms, did what was righteous, obtained the promises...	1-2 Samuel; 1- 2 Kings; 1-2 Chronicles; Books of the Prophets
3. Closed the mouths of lions: Samson, David, Benaiah, Daniel	Judges 14:5-6; 1 Samuel 17:34-37; 2 Samuel 23:20; Daniel 6:24; Sirach 47:3
4. Quenched the power of fire: Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego [Azariah in Hebrew]	The Book of Daniel 3:1-23; the Song of Azariah in the furnace in Daniel 3:23-90 [LXX] and in Catholic Bibles 3:24-90
5. Some escaped the sword like Moses, Joshua, David, Elijah and the Jews in the time of Esther, but others died by the sword: the Maccabee brothers and their martyred soldiers; Prophets like Uriah; Christians	Books of Exodus, Joshua; 1-2 Samuel; 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles; 1-2 Maccabees The prophet Uriah [Jeremiah 26:20-23]; other prophets [1Kings 19:10; 14; Jeremiah 2:30]; Christians [Acts 12:2]
6. Strong in battle & turned back foreign invaders: Joshua, the Judges, Samuel, Saul, David, Hezekiah, the Maccabees, Judith	Books of Joshua & Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, Isaiah 36-38; 1-2 Maccabees, Judith
7. Tortured/ scourged martyrs: -Eleazar, the 90 year old scribe who was tortured to death when he refused to violate God's law by eating pork during the persecution by the Greek-Syrian king Antiochus Epiphanes. -the 7 sons of the righteous mother who also refused to eat pork during the same persecution	Eleazar the Scribe: 2 Maccabees 6:18-31 The 7 sons: 2 Maccabees 6:30; 7:1-42; Christians, Acts 22:24; Jesus, Matthew 20:19
8. Righteous who were stoned: Stoned=Naboth, Zechariah son of Jehoiada, Perhaps New Testament heroes like: Stephan and Paul who were both stoned but Paul survived.	Naboth: 1Kings 21:11-19; Zechariah: 2 Chronicles 24:19-22; Stephen: Acts 7:59; Paul: Acts 14:19; 2 Corinthians 11:25
9. Imprisonment: Jeremiah, Hanani, Micaiah, Paul and Christians	Jeremiah 37:4-21; 20:1-2; Hanani, 2 Chronicles 16:7-10; Micaiah, 1 Kings 22:26-27; Paul, Acts 24:27; Hebrews 10:34; 13:33
10. Made powerful out of weakness: David over Goliath; Samson in blindness, Elijah against 450 prophets of Baal, Gideon defeated a large army with a small band, Esther, Judith	Samson in Judges 16:19-30; Gideon in Judges 7; Elijah in 1Kings 18; St. Clement applauds both Esther and Judith in 1 Clement 55:3-6 for being given power out of weakness to defeat Israel's enemies.

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Hebrews Handout #2 Lesson 12

A sound faith is a mighty bulwark, a true faith to which nothing has to be added or taken away. Unless it is one, it is no faith, as the apostle says, "one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in us all." Cling to this unity, dearly beloved, with minds unshaken, and "follow after" all "holiness" in faith. Carry out the Lord's commands in faith because "without faith it is impossible to please God." Without faith nothing is holy, nothing is pure, nothing is alive: "for the just lives by faith." St. Leo the Great, Sermon 25.6, [quoting Ephesians 4:5-6; Hebrews 12:14; and Habakkuk 2:4]

ISAAC SON OF ABRAHAM A "TYPE" OF JESUS CHRIST

Comparisons between the "offering up" of Isaac in sacrifice found in Genesis 22:1-18, known in Hebrew as the "akeidah" [the binding], and the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ:

- ◆ Isaac and Jesus were "only, beloved" sons of a righteous father; Ishmael had been sent away in Genesis 21:14 [Genesis 22:2].
- ◆ Both Isaac and Jesus are identified as the "son of Abraham" [see Genesis 21:3; 22:2; Matthew 1:1].
- ◆ Both were offered in sacrifice [Genesis 22:2; John 1:29; Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:33; John 11:50; 19:17-18].
- ◆ The sacrifice was offered in the land of Moriah – Jerusalem [Genesis 22:2; 2 Chronicles 3:1; Matthew 16:21-23].
- ◆ Both sons carried the wood for their own sacrifice [Genesis 22:6; John 19:17].
- ◆ Both were "bound" and placed on top of the wood [Genesis 22:9; John 19:18-19; Philippians 2:8].
- ◆ Both willingly allow themselves to be offered in sacrifice [Genesis 22:7-8; Colossians 2:6-8].
- ◆ Both sons were given "resurrected" or "given back" to their fathers on the third day. Isaac was essentially "dead" to his grieving father when God commanded him to sacrifice his son. On the "third day" God provided another sacrifice and his son was restored. God's son died on the Cross and was resurrected on the third day! [Genesis 22:4; Matthew 16:21; 17:23; 20:19; Mark 9:31; 10:34; Luke 9:22; 18:22; 24:7, 44-47; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4].

Hebrews Lesson 12: Handout #3

Notice the parallels between how Moses' struggles and sufferings are related to the trials facing the Jewish-Christians and how the examples of Rahab's faith and salvation in a time of armed conflict will be an example of faith for Christians in the coming Jewish war against Rome. Each sentence in Hebrews 11:23-31 recalls events in Moses' and Rahab's lives and the choices and decisions made and the actions taken in faith which also can be applied to the Jewish-Christian's audience's own choices, decisions, and actions:

1. Hebrews 11:23: Fear of personal safety	versus	Not fearing the king's edict
2. Hebrews 11:24-25: Material wealth and the pleasures of sin	versus	Choosing to suffer with the people of God
3. Hebrews 11:26: The reproach of Christ	versus	Eternal blessings and promises
4. Hebrews 11:27: Leaving one's family affiliations	versus	Persevering in faith with the promise of seeing God in heaven
5. Hebrews 11:28: Falling into the hands of Satan and death.	versus	Salvation through Christ the "firstborn son" and the blood of His the sacrifice which saves Christians from eternal death
6. Hebrews 11:29: Fear of drowning in the Red Sea	versus	Salvation from the enemy in passing through the waters
7. Hebrews 11:30-31: Dying in the conflict	versus	Trusting in God and choosing God's peace over man's power