



Persevering Faith Dies in Faith

Lesson Forty-Three • Hebrews 11:13-16

Death has a way of testing our faith like nothing else can!

HEBREWS 11: PERSEVERING FAITH KEEPS MOVING FORWARD to PLEASE GOD!		
PATRIARCHS: PERSEVERING FAITH OBEDIENTLY WAITS for GOD'S PROMISED FUTURE LIKE ABRAHAM & HIS HEIRS! (vv. 8-22)		
ABRAHAM with SARAH & SONS (vv. 8-12) Wander Obediently as You Wait for God's Promised Future in the Face of the Unknown! <i>Live as wanderers on earth who look for and long for God's future, heavenly City in the face of the unknown!</i>	ALL THESE HEIRS (vv. 13-16) Died in Faith Without Inheriting the Promises <i>Like them see and welcome God's future realities, by confessing you are wanderers on this earth!</i>	ABRAHAM, ISAAC, JACOB & JOSEPH (vv. 17-22) Wander Obediently as You Wait for God's Promised Future Even in the Face of Death! <i>Leave a legacy as a wanderer that passes on God's future, heavenly blessings even in the face of death!</i>
Genesis 12–21 <i>Based on Covenant Promises: Land & Seed!</i>	<i>Diligently desire God's better homeland in heaven. And He will not be ashamed to be called our God, for He has prepared His City for us!</i>	Genesis 22–50 <i>Based on Covenant Promises: Blessing!</i>

"The sphere of faith is the invisible and the impossible. Dr. J. Oswald Sanders has stated it perfectly: 'Faith enables the believing soul to treat the future as present and the invisible as seen'...Faith gives us eyes to see and feet to stand on when everything around us threatens us, and everything ahead of us looks like disaster....We see the invisible, hear the inaudible, touch the intangible, and do the impossible!" – Warren Wiersbe, Run with the Winners, 14

DEATH Has Been the Theme Throughout Abraham's Faith Journey. (vv. 8, 9, 11-12, 13, 17-19)

How to Die in Faith

Persevering Faith HOLDS OUT for God's Promised Future Even in the Face of Death. *(Better Future!)*

"All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth...Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them." (vv. 13-16)

1. By Faith Persevere in Being **FAR-SIGHTED** in the Face of Death.

"All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance," (v. 13a)

Paradox: *All these died in faith but did not receive the promises!*

Paradox: *Did not receive them but saw them and welcomed them from distance! (2:8-9)*

Be Far-Sighted in the Face of Death Like the Patriarchs.

*Persevering faith **SEES** the future in the present and **WELCOMES** it from a distance. (vv. 13a, 1, 6)*

Why Did They Need Far-Sighted Faith?

"...having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance"

2. By Faith Persevere in **CONFESSING** Your Status as Wanderers on This Earth.

"and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth." (v. 13b; 13:15)

Publicly Confess Our Status as Wanderers on This Earth

- By **GATHERING** weekly as a local church (= Kingdom Outpost!) for public praise. (13:13-15)
- By **SHARING** with others the future hope you see and welcome from afar.

"You can always identify a pilgrim by his readiness to share with others the vision that controls his life." – Warren Wiersbe

3. By Faith Persevere in **LONGING** for the Country God Has Promised.

"For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return." (vv. 14-15)

- What do you daily long for **MORE THAN** anything else in this world?
- What you continually long for keeps you moving forward rather than **TURNING BACK!** (10:38-39; 13:12-14)

4. By Faith Persevere in **STRETCHING** Toward the Better Heavenly Country.

*"But as it is, they **DESIRE** a better country, that is, a heavenly one." (vv. 16a)*

5. By Faith Persevere in **KNOWING** God Is Not Ashamed to Be Called Your God.

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them." (v. 16b)

*"Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, **"I am indeed concerned about you and what has been done to you in Egypt."**'"*
Exodus 3:16; cf, 3:6-8, 13-17; 4:4-5; Matthew 22:31-32

All These Died with Persevering Faith in the Promised Coming Seed! Will You "Die in Faith" as Well?

*"The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus, the one whom you delivered and **disowned** in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you **disowned** the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses." Acts 3:13-15; 7:30-39*