“Faith That Sustains – How They Did It!”
Hebrews 11:8-16
Sporting Halls of Fame: Skills “To The Max” Over a Career!

Baseball
Hitting
Catching
Throwing
Pitching
Base-running

Football =
Running
Throwing
Catching
Kicking
Blocking
Tackling
Bible Hall of Fame = Hebrews 11

Exemplify how to maintain the faith in remarkable settings and trials

Abraham Sarah Abel Moses Enoch
Gideon Barak Samson Jephthahah David
Samuel the prophets

Often: a career of prep for “such a time as this!”
Vs. 8 – Abe Stepped Out In Obedience

Not Knowing

I will obey before I understand

American mind = pragmatic: show me first!

BUT: “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Christians answer tragedy = Romans 8:28
Vs. 13 – They Were People With a View Beyond Today

“We don’t belong here”
“you got that right!”

Butch Miller (snap!)

We’re not there yet – seen, welcomed them from a distance – John 14:2-3

Isaiah 11 – lion down with a lamb
“Though Their Hearts Belonged Elsewhere...” (vs. 16)

Their Obedience Was “Here and Now”

**Abraham and Sarah:**
* packed up and moved
* conceived a child vss. 11-12

**Noah:**
* built the ark, was ridiculed

**Abel:**
* offered a better sacrifice; was killed!
All of Which Is To Say...

“Bad things happen to Godly people (too!)” **Even Jesus**! (His crucifixion)

“In the world you have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).
The Key Here is **Faith**

Faith **never** meant that life was easy –
Some “died in faith” vs. 13 –
“without receiving the promises!”
Hebrews 11:33 ff

Faith does result in God’s blessings seen from eternal yard line!
Key Foundations to the Faith That Remains!

God’s on the throne! (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

“Though the fig tree should not blossom And there be no fruit on the vines...and there be no cattle in the stalls, Yet I will exult in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.”
Evil is REAL; But God is Sovereign

“... (people walk) according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2).

“... greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4b).

“The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet” (Romans 16:20).