

AND OTHERS

Hebrews 11:36-40

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Paul has named some of the elders who received a good report.
 - 1) They are the Patriarchs of Israel
 - 2) Specific incidents are identified

- B. He also names other Old Testament characters but he does not identify the specific incident that faith served as a foundation.
 - 1) Gideon, Barak, and Samson
 - 2) Jephthah, David, and Samuel
 - 3) Plus the other Prophets

- C. Paul then enumerates certain occurrences that were wrought in faith.
 - 1) No specific names are given other than the six already mentioned.
 - 2) These were generally exploits that ended in victory or vindication.
 - 3) What of those who had not deliverance?
 - 4) These are referred to as, "others"

- I. Faith, The Foundation Of All Suffering vs 36
 - A. *"And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings..."*
 - 1) *"trial"* = πειρα = "an assault", "attempt on one's life"
 - 2) *"mockings"* = εμωιγμος = "mocking", "heaping derision upon a person by sarcastically imitating him"
 - 3) *"scourgings"* = μαστιξ = "a whip", "a scourge"

B. "...moreover of bonds and imprisonment:"

- 1) "bonds" = δεσμος = "a band", "a fetter", "tying"
- 2) "imprisonment" = φυλακη = "watch", "guard", "a place where people are guarded"

C. "They were stoned,..." vs 37

- 1) "stoned" = λιθαζω = "to stone"
- 2) Zechariah, son of Jehoiada I Chronicles 24:20-22

D. "...they were sawn asunder..."

- 1) There is no biblical account of such an incident
- 2) Strong Jewish tradition states that the Prophet Isaiah was sawn in half with a wooden saw. Also, Justin Martyr makes a similar statement.

E. "...were tempted, were slain with the sword:..."

- 1) "tempted" = πειραζω = "to put to the test"
- 2) "Tempted with specious promises of release and then were killed with a sword."

F. "...they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins;..."

- 1) "wandered" = περιερχομαι = "to go about"
- 2) These were the garments of the Prophets

G. "...being destitute, afflicted, tormented;"

- 1) "destitute" = υστερω = "to be last", "to be behind"
- 2) "afflicted" = θλιβω = "to press, squeeze, crowd"
- 3) "tormented" = κακουχω = "to hold or treat ill"

H. "(of whom the world was not worthy:)"

- 1) "worthy" = αξιος = "of like value"
- 2) "Men of whom the world was unworthy to obtain" TENT

I. "...they wandered in deserts, and in mountains,..."

- 1) "They were refugees in waste places..."
- 2) "They lived in the mountains as vagrants"

J. "...and in dens and caves of the earth."

- 1) "in caves"
- 2) "in holes in the earth"

II. These All Died vs 39

A. "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith,..."

- 1) "report" = μαρτυρεω = "to be well testified of", "to have a good witness borne in favour of"
- 2) "Though all these people by their faith won God's approval..."
- 3) "They received what the elders did" vs 2

B. "...received not the promise:"

- 1) "Did not receive what was promised" RSV
- 2) "Did not procure the promised blessing" BER
- 3) vs 13, 16

III. The Gathering Of Faith People

A. "God having provided some better thing for us..." vs 40

- 1) "provided" = προβλεομαι = "to see before", "to foresee", "to see ahead and then to make provision"
- 2) "God has foreseen something better for us"

B. "...that they without us should not be made perfect."

- 1) "perfect" = τελειωω = "to complete", "to bring to the goal", "to perfect"
- 2) "That apart from us they would not see God's plan completed"