

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS  
ENCOUNTERING CHRIST

The  
Marks  
of  
Pilgrim Faith

Hebrews 11:13-16

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ALL SCRIPTURES ARE PRINTED VERBATIM WITH TRANSLATIONS NOTED • CHAIR BIBLE PAGE # 175 (NT SECTION)

IN SOME PLACES, GOD'S WORD IS UNDERLINED WITH DOTS WITH PASTOR JOE'S COMMENTARY IN THE BRACKETED, LIGHTER FACED TEXT.

## A. Today's Text

**Hebrews 11:13-16, NLT** - <sup>13</sup> All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth. <sup>14</sup> Obviously people who say such things are looking forward to a country they can call their own. <sup>15</sup> If they had longed for the country they came from, they could have gone back. <sup>16</sup> But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

### Key Words:

**Died** [GK: ἀποθνήσκωκ (“a-po-tha-NESS-ko”)] lit. “To die by drowning;” meaning *they were engulfed in their faith when they died.*

**Welcomed** [GK: ἀσπασάμενοι (“as-pos-SO-men-i”)] lit., “To greet as a best friend.” (The root word means *to salute a friend.*)

**Foreigners** and **Nomads** lit., *temporary residents, strangers, foreigners.*

**Their own** [GK: πατρίς (“pa-TRIS”)] lit., “Home” without a lien; *Heaven.*

**Looking** [GK: ὀρέγω (“o-REG-ō”)] lit., “longing with outstretched hands” (as a child reaches for their mother).

**Better Place** lit., “excellent” or “perfect” as compared to the inferior.

## B. Study Section

### Pilgrim Faith:

#### 1. TRUSTS GOD when you cannot see.

**Hebrews 11:13-14, NASB95** - <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.

**Hebrews 11:13, NLT** - <sup>13</sup> All these people died still believing what God had promised them.

*Faith begins with trust in a Person, not a plan.*

#### 2. PRIORITIZES GOD above everything else.

**Hebrews 11:15-16a, NASB95** - <sup>15</sup> And indeed if they had been thinking of that *country* from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one....

**Hebrews 11:15, NLT** - <sup>15</sup> If they had longed for the country they came from, they could have gone back.

*Faith continues with God as the only priority.*

#### 3. Finds SECURITY IN GOD alone.

**Hebrews 11:16b, NASB95** - <sup>16</sup> ...therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

**Hebrews 11:16, TLB** - <sup>16</sup> ...They were living for heaven.

*Faith rests in the God who builds the future.*

## C. Application Section

#### 1. Who do you trust most?

#### 2. What do you live for?

#### 3. Where do you find security?