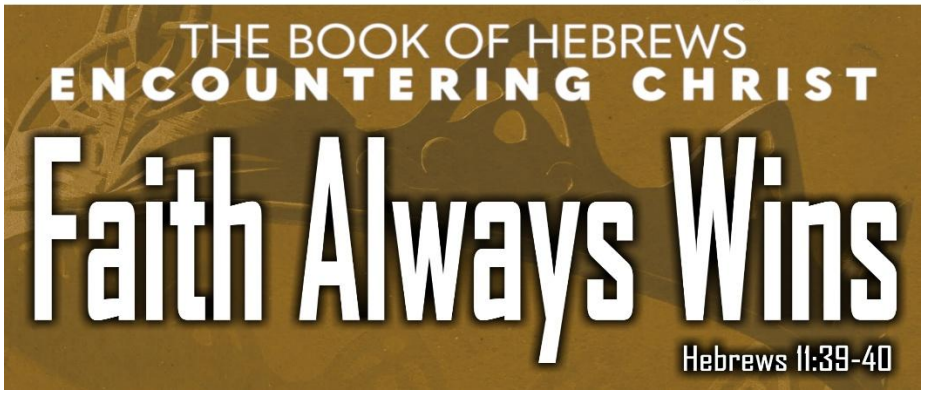
Pastor Joe's Sermon Listening Guide



Dr. Joe K. Taylor, Senior Pastor, South Reno Baptist Church, Reno, NV • November 1, 2026
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted • Chair Bible Page # 176 (in the NT Section)
In some places, God's Word is underlined with dots with Pastor Joe's commentary in the bracketed, lighter faced text.

A. Study Section for Hebrews 11:39-40

1. Faith Commended: [39a] **And all these** [Heb. 11 heroes of faith]**, having gained approval through their faith...** POINT: *Faith always wins* with those who put their faith and trust in God.

2. Faith Deferred: [39b] **...[they] did not receive what** [lit., *all* that] **was promised...** POINT: *Faith always wins* for those who put their faith and trust in God—even when promises seem delayed.

3. Faith Fulfilled (Almost): [40a] **...because God had provided something better** [ie., greater or more complete] **for us** [here/now]**...** POINT: *Faith always wins* because we have what they only dreamed about. What they anticipated, we participate in right now.

4. Faith Perfected: [40b] **...so that apart from us they would not be made perfect** [lit., completed perfectly]**.** POINT: *Faith always wins* because all believers from all times will receive what God has promised all of us in the end.

Hebrews 11:39–40, TLB- [39] And these men of faith, though they trusted God and won his approval, none of them received all that God had promised them; [40] for God wanted them to wait and share the even better rewards that were prepared for us.

The heroes of Hebrews 11 are not complete without us, and we are not complete without them. Joined with every believer from every generation, we will triumph together by faith and gather before the throne of God to celebrate His eternal victory.
– D. L. Moody

B. Application of Hebrews 11:39-40

1. Faith Always Wins God's Approval!

Hebrews 11:39a, NASB95 – [39a] And all these, having gained approval through their faith....

"Faith is Heaven's definition of approval." - Dr. Charles Swindoll

2. Faith Always Wins Even When Promises are Delayed!

Hebrews 11:39b, TLB - [39b] ...none of them received all that God had promised them....

"God's saints possessed His promises by faith long before they experienced their fulfillment." - C. H. Spurgeon

Abraham never saw the nation become as numerous as the stars.
Moses never entered the Promised Land.
David never saw the everlasting kingdom fully established.
Isaiah never saw the coming Messiah.
They died looking forward. They died believing. They died waiting.
Yet God still calls them winners.

3. Faith Always Wins Because We Have Something They Didn't!

Hebrews 11:40a, NASB95 – [40a] ...because God had provided something better for us....

We know the Messiah by name—Jesus. We have the completed Bible.
We have a clearer understanding of salvation, heaven, and forgiveness.
We have the indwelling Holy Spirit, direct access to God, and technology.
We live under the New Covenant of His precious blood.
They had *promises*; we have *The Promised One.*

"Abraham saw a Christophany from a distance. We see Christ clearly through the completed Scriptures." - R. C. Sproul

4. Faith Always Wins Because in the End, God Wins!

Hebrews 11:40b, NASB95 – [40b] ...so that apart from us they would not be made [an aorist passive Greek verb—*we didn't do this*] perfect.

2 Corinthians 1:20, NLT - [20] For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory.