

## **Heb 11:20-22**

### The Patriarchs: Transcendent Faith

- I. Introduction:** The author of Hebrews commended the Patriarch's faith as the kind of saving faith God accepts, namely the conviction that God will fulfill all of His promises.
- II. The Patriarchs: Transcendent Faith (Heb 11:20-22).**
- A. A Reluctant Faith (v. 20; Gen 27:26-29).
1. Isaac demonstrated faith in God by blessing Jacob and Esau, believing they would receive the promises made to his father, Abraham.
- B. A Fighting Faith (v. 21; Gen 49:1-28).
1. Jacob's life was marked by striving with God and men, but at the end of his life, he demonstrated great faith by blessing Joseph's sons and worshipping God.
- C. An Expectant Faith (v. 22; Gen 50:22-26).
1. Joseph's life was difficult, and even though God had greatly blessed him in Egypt, he made his descendants swear to bury his bones in Canaan.
- III. Conclusion:** The author encouraged his Jewish audience to live by faith like the Patriarchs, who all placed their hope in the future country God would give them.

## **Study Questions: The Patriarch's – Transcendent Faith**

1. Why does the author of Hebrews focus on these three patriarchs? What was it about their faith that the author praises? What did conferring a blessing on their sons indicate about them?
2. What did the writer say about Isaac? (**Heb 11:20**) What did God tell Isaac about his sons? (**Gen 25:19-26**) Who did God choose? When did God reaffirm the covenant with Isaac? (**Gen 26:2-5**)
3. Why did Isaac intend to bless Esau? (**Gen 27:1-4**) How did Jacob steal Esau's blessing? (**Gen 27:5-29**) How did Isaac finally submit to God's will? (**Gen 27:30-40; 28:1-3**)
4. When did God make His covenant with Jacob? (**Gen 28:10-17**) How was Jacob constantly fighting with God and men? (**Gen 32:24-28**) Whom did Jacob favor of his sons? (**Gen 37:1-11**)
5. How did Jacob's children deceive him? (**Gen 37:29-35**) When did Jacob bless his sons? (**Heb 11:21; Gen 49:1-27**) Why did he worship when he blessed Joseph's sons? (**Heb 11:21**)
6. How do we know God favored Joseph? (**Gen 37:1-11**) How did Joseph become a ruler in Egypt? (**Gen 41:50**) What were his sons named and what do their names mean? (**Gen 41:50-57**)
7. What led to Joseph's reconciliation with his brothers? (**Gen 44:1-45:15**) When did Joseph reunite with his father? (**Gen 46:1-47:12**) How did Jacob bless Joseph's sons? (**Gen 48:1-22**)
8. What instructions did Joseph give regarding his bones? (**Heb 11:22; Gen 50:22-26**) How did this indicate faith in God's promises? (**Gen 50:24-25**) How can we live a life of similar faith?

### **Prayer**

1. Ask God to help you live, believing that God's promises of heaven will one day come true.
2. Pray that God would free you from anything that might cause you to hold tightly to this world.