Title: "Highlighting Hebrews" Part 11

Key texts: Hebrews 11:1-40

Suppl. texts: Psalm 116:15, Matthew 19:29

Introduction: Today, we move into the most famous chapter of

Hebrews: 'The Hall of Faith' chapter.

Outline:

1. Faith by <u>definition</u>

- Faith is the **assurance** of our hope in Christ.
- Faith is not blind optimism.
- Faith is not an intellectual *assent*...
- Faith is believing in the **evidence** He provided.
- Faith is becoming obedient to His Word.
- Faith is only as good as its <u>object</u>.
- Faith is not a **feeling** we create & maintain.
- Faith is a total *response* & *dependence* on God.

2. Faith by *example* & *action*

- The first two humans who had the *choice* of faith.
- The first O.T. *martyr*.
- Faith proven by <u>devoted</u> faithfulness.
- Faith is *essential* in pleasing God.
- The *longest* sermon anyone can preach.
- Through faith, God made an immeasurable nation.

3. Faith when tested & tried

- Patience, one of the most difficult disciplines.
- A specific *covenantal* designation.
- **Belief** equals **obedience**.
- Hinting at the **sovereignty** of God in His choice.
- Obedience despite *circumstances* & *consequences*.

4. Faith when unrecognized

- The faith of a **woman**, a **prostitute**, & a **Gentile**.
- Shifting to *various* heroes of the faith.
- <u>Courageously</u> following God.

Sermon Notes:

- Sometimes the faithful are rewarded with *personal* rescue, and sometimes the result was *death*.
- Persecution is the *refining* fire of faith.
- God uses *flawed* men and women of faith.

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