



HEBREWS 11 PART 4

Defying the Empire: The Faith of Moses

Moses had the world at his fingertips—unrivaled power, unimaginable wealth, and the intoxicating seductions of Egypt. Yet, through the lens of faith, he recognized a staggering truth: the glittering crown of an earthly empire is a cheap imitation compared to the eternal weight of Christ's cross. True biblical faith is never passive; it is a calculated, holy defiance against the corrupt systems of this world. It is the courage of parents hiding a vulnerable child from a murderous state. It is the audacity to stare down the passing pleasures of sin and actively choose to suffer alongside the people of God. It is the quiet, desperate trust that paints a doorpost with the blood of a substitute Lamb while the holy wrath of God dismantles the idols of the culture outside. As you step into this text, prepare to examine your own heart. We may not bow to the ancient deities of the Nile, but we are daily seduced by modern Egypt's promises of comfort, status, and security. It is time to drop the crown, step into the roaring waters, and leave whatever enslaves you drowned at the bottom of the sea.

Doctrinal Deep Dive: Substitutionary Atonement & Polemical Theology

God asserts His absolute supremacy by actively dismantling cultural idols (Polemical Theology), while providing salvation exclusively through a perfect substitute absorbing His holy wrath on our behalf (Substitutionary Atonement), thereby demanding that true faith sever all ties with worldly presumptions.

Study Questions

1. Polemical theology teaches that God used the ten plagues to publicly humiliate the specific demonic entities worshipped by Egypt. How does recognizing the spiritual warfare behind these plagues change how you view God's absolute sovereignty over evil? (OT: Exodus 12:12 | NT: Colossians 2:15)
2. The Israelites were spared not by moral superiority, but because the Passover lamb absorbed the judgment of God. Why is the doctrine of Substitutionary Atonement the non-negotiable heartbeat of the Christian gospel? (OT: Exodus 12:13 | NT: 1 Peter 1:18-19)
3. Hebrews says Moses endured by "seeing Him who is invisible." How can you cultivate the spiritual vision required to look past terrifying physical circumstances to see God's hand at work? (OT: Psalm 119:105 | NT: 2 Corinthians 4:18)
4. Moses actively "refused" his royal title and its accompanying privileges. What titles, statuses, or privileges is God asking you to lay down to better serve His kingdom? (OT: Psalm 84:10 | NT: 1 John 2:15)
5. When God brings you through the waters, He destroys the things that enslaved you. What past sins, addictions, or worldly comforts do you need to leave drowned at the bottom of the sea today? (OT: Micah 7:19 | NT: 2 Corinthians 5:17)