

Part 8 – By Faith Isaac Continued & Jacob Learned

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

- Knowing that nothing we do can produce anything worthwhile.
- Knowing that faith is the key to the supernatural power of the Almighty.
- Knowing that faith, real faith produces some action in the life of the believer for the glory of the Object of faith.
- As we go through the Hall of Faith and look at the images set before us
 - We want to truly see what their faith produced with the knowledge that the creation cannot create
 - only the Creator is truly producing anything.
 - God is not giving them glory for anything other than trusting Him as He produced unbelievable things.

Hebrews 11:20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

- Abraham was the father of faith and Isaac was his son.
 - Isaac was brought up by faith and watched his father live it.
 - I can't imagine Isaac hadn't heard many times the tales of God's Word providing in Abraham's life.
 - Isaac had watched it many times being lived out...
 - but Isaac had to have his own walk with God...his own "by faith" tales.
 - He and Rebekah struggled to have children, so Isaac begged the God of promise, after all wasn't his seed to be multiplied?
 - God's Word hadn't changed since Abraham was gone, right?
 - God promised Isaac the same thing He had promised Abraham...and Isaac believed.
 - God kept him through famine and gave him sons.
- I do see that Isaac's walk with God wasn't as close as his father's
 - and I can't say why that is.

- Maybe it just wasn't recorded for us to see,
 - maybe it just wasn't what it should have been,
 - but Isaac trusted God's Word and made sure that the next generation knew the promises of God.
- Faith may not always produce great and mighty feats that impact greatly,
 - but Isaac's faith in God's Word produced generational perpetuation.
 - I may not accomplish much in this life,
 - but if my children and grandchildren know the promises of God to be absolute,
 - I will have done something great for God's Glory.
- Let your Faith be taught and hope it gets caught

Hebrews 11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff.

- Jacob was certainly not one whose life we look to as an example of what to do on much.
 - But God put him in this passage because Jacob did have faith.

- Even a little faith when it is real produces good works for God's Glory.
 - Jacob had 21 years of not following the Lord to reap the harvest of.
 - Too often we can let our crops which come in discourage us from knowing that God is still working something out for our good and His glory
 - and then we stop walking after Him.
 - That is faithlessness but Jacob remained faithful after his return from Padanaram.
 - He was faithful through his son's supposed death and God blessed him with Benjamin.
 - He was faithful to forgive his son's issues and continue to lead them.
 - God blessed him with the grandchildren that would now become patriarchs of Israel.
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- Jacob's staff was a product of his faith that if he grabbed ahold of God, God would bless him.
 - His staff was his reminder every day that he needed God.
 - His staff was a reminder to worship the most high, no matter how low you might feel.

- So, what can we glean from these two Seeds of the Father of Faith?
 - Will we continue in the faith of those that came before us?
 - Isaac may not have had the faith of his father
 - He also didn't seem to endure the trials or the fails of his father
 - He did teach Esau & Jacob what it meant to just trust God to be enough
 - We will get more into the life of Isaac in a few weeks in our Sunday Series
 - Will we learn from our mistakes?
 - Jacob certainly struggled to truly find the same faith in God that he had heard of from Grandpa
 - He struggled to continue in the faith he had been taught
 - He is like many of us that take what little we know and try to apply it to what we want
 - But we MUST learn from our poor choices
 - We must know that ONLY God blesses
 - And we MUST grab ahold of that
 - That fact alone is what changes everything!