"By Faith" Pt. IX

Intro: Having studied the ________ of Abraham and how it was by faith ___ the Almighty who made the promise to bless him through his son that he obediently offered up Isaac, considering “that ______ is able to raise men even from the dead”, this morning we come to study the faith of the three generations that followed him: of the faith of Isaac his son, and of the faith of Jacob his grandson, and of the faith of Joseph his great-grandson.

A. My family, if Abraham ______________ God’s promises by faith alone and not by works of the Law, then it follows that the generations that come after him, both near and far, must receive the promises ___ that same __________, and by that faith alone.

B. The entire 11th chapter of Hebrews teaches us of the divine _______________ nature of that faith which is granted by God, placed in God, and is to be __________________ to our children and all the generations that follow.

I. “___ faith Isaac …”

A. Possessing faith which is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen, __________ ____________ Esau and Jacob, even regarding things to come. In _________________ at His Word Isaac, like his father Abraham, looked forward to God’s fulfillment of His promises.

B. Oh then, we see that ______ was the continuing mindset of the Hebrews’ patriarchs, the unvarying means by which they ______________ found favor with God and by which they gained the approval of God, for which God blessed them.

II. By ________ Jacob …”

A. Trusting God at His Word, Jacob like his father Isaac and his grandfather Abraham looked forward to God’s fulfillment of His promises, and in an _____ born __ _________ blessed Joseph’s sons.

B. By ________ Jacob blessed the sons while in a reverent _____________ position, as a matter of worship, and this is what he is commended for. He did not find favor with God through works of righteousness, nor by going to a priest to offer sacrifices, nor in keeping certain religious traditions but it was by faith and the resulting acts of faith that this patriarch of Old gained the approval of God.
III. “By faith _____________ …”

A. Possessing that _______ ________ which is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen, Joseph, when he was dying, spoke of the promised exodus of Israel from out of Egypt, giving the sons of Israel instruction concerning his earthly remains. He so believed that God would do what He said He would do that he __________ ________ based upon the fulfilled promises. “Hebrews, do you see the consistent pattern of faith amongst your patriarchs?”

B. Surely by now two centuries later, of the fourth generation of the promise, as an adult having never sojourned in the Land of Promise, having been sold into slavery by his own brothers, forgotten and falsely accused, wrongly imprisoned, given up as dead by His father, surely Joseph would have ______ ________! But ______ so, for true faith preserves the believer causing them to persevere even unto the end, seeing beyond the temporal issues of the temporal life to the eternal glories of the eternal God.

C. As we have with Isaac and Jacob we also note that Joseph is not here commended for his right life, or for being an over-comer, or for being one who remained steadfast in the face of great adversity, but as one of the men of old he is here spoken of as one who ___ ________ gained the ______________ of God.

Closing: Dear church, my family, ___________ ___________ His promises, and we find ourselves in the favor of His will when we come to Him in faith believing! Should the return of Christ be fulfilled in our generation or in the one to follow, or in 50 generations or a hundred or a thousand from now, just as God of His own good will promised so will He fulfill His promises ___ ________ Him – let us be content with the will of the Lord. And while we like the Hebrews may wait and experience some suffering while we wait, let us not forget that with God a day is as a thousand years and a thousands years as a day. But even so, the Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but as He is patient toward you, may you by faith also ____________ toward Him. As you live by faith awaiting the fulfillment of God’s promises so then by that same faith face death with the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen, __________ the testimony of this _________ ___ to the generations to come. This is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

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