

Faith Works

Hebrews 11:24-29

I do not know when or how you came to faith in Christ, but anyone of us who has experienced Christ's reign knows that life is never the same. Faith in Christ transforms. Faith in Christ moves us. Faith works. In our text we see how faith changed Moses. There are four sentences in these six verses and each starts with "by faith." Each life is different, but faith works the same in all of us, as seen in the life of Moses.

I. Faith works within us a new perspective about our lives.

"By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter" (v. 24). It was Pharaoh's daughter who had found the baby Moses in the ark on the Nile River. It's hard to imagine how he spent his youth. He was favored, privileged, and powerful. Yet faith changed Him.

A. Faith had changed his choices... (v. 25)

He chose to endure ill-treatment with the Hebrews and refused the passing pleasures of sin.

B. Because faith had changed his thinking... (v. 26)

"He **considered** the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt" (v. 26).

This is a remarkable verse. Faith in God is not a blind, nebulous faith that God exists. Faith in God is the acceptance of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and the reign of Christ in your heart. Moses was reproached for Christ! Christ was made known to Old Testament saints, and they believed in Him for He was typified in the sacrifices that they offered and others scorned them.

II. Faith works within us a new power for living our lives.

"By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's wrath; enduring by seeing Him who is unseen" (v. 27).

"God does not give us fear, but with faith comes power, love and self-discipline" (II Timothy 1:7). Prayer is speaking to Him who is unseen. Worship is praising Him who is unseen. Faith is believing in Him who is unseen. Faith brings the Person who is unseen into the forefront of your entire life.

III. Faith works within us a new principle which sustains our lives.

"By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood" (v. 28). Can you imagine what the Egyptians might have thought and said when the Hebrews killed the Passover lamb and sprinkled the blood on the doorposts of their home? The scoffers were abundant, just as they scoff today. Blood atonement, however, is the kernel of the gospel. It is the blood of Christ at Calvary that saves. When it comes down to the difference between Christianity and every other religion ask, "What atones God's anger toward my sin?" Religion points to you and Christianity points to Christ Jesus.

IV. Faith works within us a new promise which guides our lives.

"By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land" (v. 29). When Moses took the people of God to the edge of the Red Sea during the Exodus, he gave them a speech before they crossed, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today. **The Lord will fight for you** while you keep silent" (Exodus 14:13-14). Then God says to Moses in the very next verse "Why do you continue to cry to me? Go forward." Do you understand what it means for the Lord to fight for you? This is a promise that is yours! Faith in Christ works within you a new perspective (God's Kingdom over Egypt), gives you a new power (you see Him who is invisible), sustains you by the principle of blood atonement (you are not paralyzed by guilt) and grants you a promise that moves you forward in your journey of life. So when you come to faith in Christ you receive a faith that transforms and renews your entire life.