



"The Cloud of Witnesses"

Living by Faith

September 1, 2024

Introduction

✳ Hebrews 11:32-40

- 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and **this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.** [1Jo 5:4 NASB95]

1. The Old Testament cloud of _____.

They were...

1) ... _____

- 32 And **what more shall I say?** For **time will fail me** if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, [Heb 11:32 NASB95]

2) ...but gained God's _____.

- 39 And **all these, having gained approval through their faith,** did not receive what was promised, [Heb 11:39 NASB95]

2. Some were _____

1) ... _____ their afflictions.

- 33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed [acts of] righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received [back] their dead by resurrection; ... [Heb 11:33-35 NASB95]

2) ... _____ their afflictions.

- 35... and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection; 36 and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated 38 ([men] of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground. [Heb 11:35-38 NASB95]

3. God provided the better _____ for us.

1) Old Covenant saints hoped _____ the coming promise.

- 39 And all these, having gained approval through their faith, **did not receive what was promised,** [Heb 11:39 NASB95]

2) New Covenant saints _____ the promise.

- 40 because **God had provided something better for us,** so that apart from us they would not be made perfect. [Heb 11:40 NASB95]

3) God planned for us to live by faith in the _____ of Christ.

- 40 because **God had provided something better for us,** so that apart from us they would not be made perfect. [Heb 11:40 NASB95]

What it is that God promised and provided for us?

✳️ Christ provided a better _____.

- 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as **He is also the mediator of a better covenant**, which has been enacted on better promises. [Heb 8:6]
- 20 And in the same way [He took] the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is **the new covenant in My blood**. [Luk 22:20 NASB95]

✳️ Christ gave to us a new _____.

- 5 "You shall **love the LORD your God with all your heart** and with all your soul and with all your might. [Deu 6:5 NASB95]
- 29 "But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find [Him] if you **search for Him with all your heart** and all your soul. [Deu 4:29 NASB95]
- 29 '**Oh that they had such a heart in them**, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always, that it may be well with them and with their sons forever! [Deu 5:29]
- 19 "And **I will give them one heart**, and **put a new spirit within them**. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, 20 that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them. Then **they will be My people**, and **I shall be their God**. [Eze 11:19-20 NASB95]

✳️ Jesus is the _____ of faith.

- 2 fixing our eyes on **Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith**, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [Heb 12:2 NASB95]
- 4 "**Abide in Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither [can] you unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. [Jn 15:4-5]

✳️ Live by faith and complete God's _____ plan for man's redemption.

- 34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. [Jhn 4:34 NASB95]
- 29 "And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for **I always do the things that are pleasing to Him**." [Jhn 8:29 NASB95]

Those who live by faith...

1. ...sacrifice this world's comforts for the future _____ of eternal life.
2. ...trust the results of every trial to His _____ plan.
3. ...will transfer their possessions even their life for God's _____.

God is ending this Spiritual war by every act of those who live by faith.

- 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. 4 You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; [Heb 12:3-4 NASB95]