

July 27, 2008
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Hebrews 11:22

“Jesus Christ is Infinitely Better!”
Examples of Faith, Part Seven: Joseph

- I. Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His PERSON (1-7)
- II. Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His WORK (8:1-10:18)
- III. Christianity: An Infinitely Better WALK OF FAITH (10:19-13:24)
 - A. The Confidence of Faith (10:19-39)
 - B. The Examples of Faith (11)
 - 1. Definition (Description) of Faith (11:1-3)
 - 2. Examples of Faith (11:4-40)
 - a. Abel (v. 4) – Faith Worshiping
 - b. Enoch (v. 5-6) – Faith Walking
 - c. Noah (v. 7) – Faith Working
 - d. Abraham (v. 8-19) – Faith Waiting
 - e. Isaac (v. 20) – Faith Waiting
 - f. Jacob (v. 21) – Faith Waiting
 - g. Joseph (v. 22) – Faith _____

Discussion Questions:

1. The concept of “waiting” is all through the Bible. Many people have called it a “spiritual discipline.” Look up the following passages and discuss what they say about “waiting.”
 - Ps. 25:5
 - Ps. 27:13-14
 - Ps. 119:81
 - Ps. 130
 - Prov. 20:22
 - Is. 40:31
 - Rom. 8:19
 - Gal. 5:5
2. How many ways can you find where Joseph was an example of waiting? What are some of the lessons he learned while he was waiting? What specifically did he learn about God’s providence and God’s sovereignty? How could having a deeper understanding of those attributes of God help you when you need to wait? What will you do to deepen your understanding of those attributes?
3. Since there are so many ways that Joseph was an example of waiting, why did the author of Hebrews pick the ones that focus on the end of Joseph’s life? What point was he making? Why was this point so important to the original readers of Hebrews? Why is it important to us?
4. How did Joseph know there would be an “exodus” of the sons of Israel? Who revealed this to him? What “evidence” did he have that this would actually take place? How is this an example of “faith”? In which particular attributes of God (besides providence & sovereignty) was he placing his trust? Share with others how you have trusted in those attributes and have seen God be faithful to you.
5. How long after the death of Joseph did the exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt occur? Why do you think Joseph told his brothers to make sure his bones were ultimately buried in the Promised Land? (see Gen. 50:22-26) In what ways did this demonstrate Joseph’s faith in God’s promises and in what ways would this motivate his brothers and future generations when times were tough?
6. In what specific areas of your life are you having to wait upon the Lord right now? Are you finding it easy or difficult? What lessons from Joseph’s life can you apply to your current situation?
7. What legacy of faith are you going to leave when you die? How will your life (and death) inspire future generations to have a persevering trust in the Lord Jesus Christ? How do you plan to pass that blessing on to future generations?