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THE HALL OF FAITH (PT2)

Hebrews 11:8-22

"Home Defined"

*Home's not merely four square walls, Though with pictures hung and gilded:
Home is where affection calls, Filled with shrines the heart hath builded!
Home! go watch the faithful dove, Sailing 'neath the heaven above us;
Home is where there's one to love! Home is where there's one to love us!
Home's not merely roof and room, It needs something to endear it;
Home is where the heart can bloom, Where there's some kind lip to cheer it!
What is home with none to meet, None to welcome, none to greet us?
Home is sweet, -and only sweet- When there's one we love to meet us!*
by Charles Swain

Last week: Abel, Enoch, and Noah

"Faith is the cure for our wandering hearts"- Dr. Kruger

What makes your faith successful is what you put your faith in, not how strong your faith is.

I. Abraham trusted God's promise immediately (vs. 8-10)

- A. Vs. 8 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called..."
 - o Spurgeon sermon "A Happy Christian"- *"The worldling blesses God while he gives him plenty, but the Christian blesses him when he smites him: he believes him to be too wise to err and too good to be unkind; he trusts him where he cannot trace him, looks up to him in the darkest hour, and believes that all is well."*?
- B. Vs. 9 "By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents"
 - o Kent Hughes *"The life of faith demands that we live in dissonance with the unbelieving world. A life of faith is not anti-cultural, but counter-cultural. Thus, a vibrant faith is always matched with a sense of dis-ease, a pervasive inbetweenness, a sense of being a camper...It is a dangerous thing when a Christian begins to feel permanently settled in this world."*



II. Abraham trusted God's promise completely (vs. 17-22)

III. Abraham trusted God's promise with unwavering hope (vs. 13-16)

- *"What is faith? It is seeing the promises of God from afar and experiencing a change of values so that you desire the promises above what the world has to offer. It is a glad greeting of those promises from a distance and a heart-seeking to know them and cherish them and be satisfied by them so that a new kind of life emerges that is out of sync with the world."*
-John Piper
- *"Imagine God appeared to you and said, 'I'll make a deal with you if you wish. I'll give you anything and everything you ask: pleasure, power, honor, wealth, freedom, even peace of mind and a good conscience. Nothing will be a sin; nothing will be forbidden; and nothing will be impossible for you. You will never be bored and you will never die. Only . . . you shall never see my face.'"*

Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing by Peter Kreeft



Discussion Groups

1. In what ways do you see your heart being drawn away from the city of God?

2. Does the promise of heaven and the faithfulness of God give you the courage to live differently in this world? How?

3. How does the faithfulness of Abraham and all of the saints who “died in faith” before you give you hope and encouragement in your current situation?

