

/Hello./ We will now begin with the twelfth lecture on the Book of Hebrews.

/Isaac in Hebrews 11:20 is recorded in Genesis 26-27. /It says that Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see. /Isaac's eyes became weak. /Yet, it was not just his physical eyes that became weak.

/It says in Deuteronomy 34:7, /"Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died,/ yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone."/Isaac chased after his fleshly desires. /When we follow our fleshly desires, our spiritual senses will grow weak.

/Discernment /is fruit that comes from denying oneself /and following Christ. /Isaac made a mistake /by leaning on his personal feelings. /This is because /Isaac enjoyed meat that Esau hunted.

/Isaac loved Esau because he satisfied the flesh./ At this time,/ Isaac did not seek God's will./ Also, another mistake of Isaac/ was that he forgot God's word./ It says in Genesis 25:23/ that the older will serve the younger.

/Rebekah must have known this/ and Isaac would have known too./ However, Isaac forgot this/ and planned to bless Esau because his food was delicious.

/When Rebekah found out, she came up with a plan./ She made Jacob receive the blessings./ At that time, Isaac tried to touch his son's arm./ Isaac/ did not make a decision by praying or seeking God's will,/ but through his senses.

/If we follow bodily desires as Isaac did, /it will be spiritually harmful /and will make us fall into the devil's traps. /However, /Genesis 27:27-29 says /that Isaac already blessed Jacob. /What was his blessing?

/Genesis 27:28/ says that it was a blessing of heaven's dew and earth's richness./ In Genesis 27:39,/ regarding Esau,/ he said,/ "Your dwelling will be away from the earth's richness, away from the dew of heaven above."

/After Isaac blessed Jacob,/ Esau returned from his hunt./ At that time, his father asked. "Who are you?"/ "I am your firstborn, Esau."

/In Genesis 27:33,/ Isaac trembled violently./ He did not tremble because he was fooled by Jacob./ It was also not because he thought Esau would persecute Jacob./ He said that he was sure that Jacob would receive blessings for he had blessed him.

/This shows that /Isaac had faith to overcome physical favoritism. /Isaac realized that God providentially intervened /in order to fulfill his will.

/Isaac knew that all things happened according to God's will, and he blessed them accordingly. / Even when Esau cried and begged, Isaac did not change his mind. /Isaac blessed his sons according to God's word.

/The blessing given to Jacob/ was that he would be the ancestor of Christ /and God would form a covenant with him.

/We may momentarily act according to the flesh,/ but when we realize the will of God,/ we must follow God's will./ Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau with faith.

/It says in verse 21 /that by faith, Jacob blessed the sons of Joseph./ He blessed the sons of Joseph./ At the time, Joseph wanted his firstborn Manasseh to be blessed first/ and then Ephraim his younger son.

/However, Jacob crossed his hands and blessed them./ He put his right hand on Ephraim/ and his left hand on Manasseh./ Joseph was not pleased with this./ He wanted Jacob's right hand on his firstborn./ Yet, Jacob did not allow it.

/In Genesis 48:19,/ he said "I know my son, I know."/ He knew that his hands were crossed./ Jacob listened to God's word,/ believed/ and obeyed.

/Joseph was the ruler of Egypt./ His authority and power was next to Pharaoh./ Also, he was a beloved son of Jacob./ Hence, when Joseph went and asked someone for a favor, /most people listened to him.

/However, Jacob did not./ It says that Jacob blessed Joseph's sons by faith. /Jacob did not follow the will of the flesh /but followed God's word.

/We must understand that sometimes faith /requires us to throw out the will of those whom we love.

/In verse 22,/ it speaks of Joseph's faith./ Before Joseph died, he gave instructions about his bones. /One's faith glorifies God /not only when one is alive /but also when he dies, /and it strengthens the faith of others.

/What were the circumstances when Joseph kept his faith?/ Joseph lived most of his life in Egypt. /He was the prime minister of the land, /and he received honor and glory. /Still, Joseph /did not look upon Egypt /but looked upon God's promise.

/Joseph also spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt./ What does this mean?/ He testified to his faith and hope in God's word.

/In Genesis 15:13-16,/ God made a promise with Abraham./ After the Israelites suffered in Egypt, they would return after four generations./ In Joseph's time, it was about 200 years after the promise.

/At the time, the Israelites were not slaves,/ they lived in a good land/ and flourished./ The Egyptians mourned for Jacob's death,/ and Joseph saved them from the famine.

/Yet, what did it mean that the Israelites would suffer?/ Joseph looked upon the Israelites' future suffering, /and he wanted his bones to be buried in the promised land.

/He asked them to take his bones with them, /which symbolically shows that the people would possess the land of Canaan. /Joseph would not enter the land, but his bones would. /This was also so that it would strengthen the hope of his brothers.

/Also, it was to erect a monument/ for his descendants to remember the truth of the promise.

/In verse 23,/ it records the faith of Moses' parents./ By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict./ They hid him for three months./ This was done by faith.

/If they did not have faith, /they would have treasured their lives and told the king. /They also would have been anxious. /However, faith is spiritual grace. /Faith is not bound by humanly fear, /and it is confidence/ and rest /in the invisible God.

/Faith removes fear/ and gives courage./ They did not tell others about the baby/ and they hid him in their home./ They must have prayed daily./ They relied on God every single day.

/Then by faith, they realized that this child was not an ordinary child./ They acted according to the will of God./ Faith comes from hearing./ It is clear that Moses' parents /received a revelation from God.

/They were not afraid so they hid Moses for three months./ Normally, people would be scared./ Yet, Moses' parents/ hid him for three months without fear.

/Next, verse 24 speaks of the faith of Moses./ True faith is/ faith that receives salvation./ Faith that receives salvation/ is faith with self-denial.

/Self-denial refers to/ giving up all things that please oneself./ One thing people of the world value most /is their life. /They also value wealth /and fame.

/However, Moses/ refused to be known as the son of the princess./ This was a decision he made when he was forty years old. /Moses would have become king /if he stayed put. /However, Moses gave everything up.

/There are people who cut off their relationships with God/ for worldly benefits./ These people love worldly things/ more than God.

/They say that worldly things are worthless./ However, we must examine ourselves and see whether we lean/ on God or on worldly possessions,/ Christ or this world,/ or if we strive to please God or ourselves.

/Why did Moses give up worldly possessions?/ It was not because he loved his nation./ It was by faith./ We can see what type of person someone is according to the decisions he makes.

/Moses refused to be the son of the princess/ and preferred to suffer with the people of God rather than enjoy a sinful lifestyle./ We can compare two things here./ They are sufferings and sinful pleasures.

/What makes us suffer greatly?/ Is it sin or pain of our bodies?/ Many people grumble about pain in their bodies./ However, not many lament over their sins.

/A true believer/ gives up worldly possessions/ and follows the guidance of God./ In Matthew 7:13-14,/ it says our path is narrow./ If Moses stayed in the palace, he could have lived a comfortable life.

/Yet, if he stayed there, /he would have condemned God /and would have ignored God's

covenant with Abraham. /It means that /his life would have been a priority, /not the people's salvation.

/Then, in verse 26,/ it says, "He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt." /Moses made this decision/ with a joyful heart, /not out of reluctance.

/When we follow the Lord, we must not do so with reluctant hearts/ but be led by the love of our Lord./ Moses looked ahead to his reward./ He looked to the eternal reward.

/We must look to the eternal reward of God./ The gifts given to us is our reward./ In Matthew 5:12,/ it says that we must rejoice and be glad when we suffer for Christ. /Moses gave up the things of the world.

/Verses 27./ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger;

/Moses did not fear the king's anger./ In Exodus 5:1,/ he asked Pharaoh to let his people go./ In verse 2, Pharaoh denied Moses' request./ In 5:4-7, Pharaoh ordered that more work be given to the people.

/In Exodus 10:28,/ Pharaoh told Moses that he would be put to death if he showed his face again./ In Exodus 11:4-8,/ the final plague was declared./ Moses had no helper./ He urged Pharaoh to free the Israelites./ Moses could have died with one word of the king.

/Freeing the slaves /would have hurt the pride of such a powerful nation. /That is why the Egyptians went after the Israelites after they were freed. /The Israelites had nothing. /They had no weapons, /and there were hundreds of thousands of women /and young children.

/Nevertheless, Moses was not afraid./ Fear,/ is a result of not believing/ and failing to look toward God./ By faith, Moses left Egypt./ In Exodus 3:12,/ God promised Moses that he would be with him.

/Moses relied on God with spiritual faith./ He regarded the invisible God/ as visible and persevered./ He firmly believed that God was with him./ In the same way, we must overcome fear and go forward by relying on God.

/Verse 28./ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood

/After the ninth plague,/ the Israelites gave a sacrifice with the sprinkling of blood./ Then, Pharaoh told Moses that when he showed his face again, he would die.

/Exodus 10:28./ The Israelites were not yet redeemed./ There were various plagues, such as the plagues of blood, frogs, and flies. /Still, Pharaoh did not listen. /God then commanded the people to slaughter lambs and put the blood on their doorframes.

/God commanded the people to observe Passover on/ fourteenth day of the first month./ They were to tuck their clothes into their belts,/ put sandals on their feet,/ hold their staffs in their hands,/ and eat in haste./ Pharaoh did not listen even when the ninth plague struck./ Now, God commanded the people to kill a lamb and paint its blood.

/By faith, Moses kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood./ He obeyed the will of God./

Houses sprinkled with blood/ were exempt from judgment./ Why?/ It was because that house had already received judgment.

/Our judgment was completed at the cross of Jesus./ It was not easy for man to keep the Passover and the sprinkling of blood.

/Verse 29./ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land;

/The situation that the Israelites were in was hopeless. /In front of them was the Red Sea, /and the Egyptians chased them from behind. /The majority of the people did not have faith.

/Then, who were faithful enough to cross the sea?/ They were Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb, among others./ They were also some remaining Hebrews.

/Through this, we can learn that the faithless /participate in the blessings of God through those who have faith.

/Moses told them not to be afraid./ They were told to stand firm and see the work of God./ To stand firm refers to /call out to God. /Moses also told them to see the deliverance the LORD would bring them.

/It is faith in the living God./ It is trust in God who works for us/ and faith that God would help us./ Hence, the Israelites crossed through Red Sea as dry land,/ but the Egyptians drowned.

/Verse 30./ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.

/The people of Israel obeyed God's word./ They marched around Jericho once for six days,/ and on the seventh day, they marched around Jericho seven times.

/With our knowledge,/ in order to attack the city,/ the people should have climbed over the wall, /broke down the gate /or start a fire. /We would have come up with ways to attack. /However, God told them /to continually march around the city.

/The people of Israel obeyed./ They endured until the seventh day./ We can see their faith through this./ They had obedient faith./ They shouted when they were told to, which shows controlled faith.

/They had patience to march around the city seven times on seventh day./ They had patient faith./ Psalm 37:7/ Luke 18:1/ Galatians 6:9/ Carefully read the Bible.

/Next, verse 31 /speaks of the faith of the prostitute Rahab. /By faith she welcomed the spies. /She believed in God's word. /Joshua 2:9-11 says /that Rahab believed that God was the God in heaven above and on earth below.

/Although she had a fearful heart,/ she believed the word of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. /She understood God's word through the Holy Spirit. /The prostitute Rahab believed on her own.

/Jericho was to be attacked soon,/ and when the city fell, all people would have died./ Although most people did not believe, /Rahab believed. /It is easy to believe when many others believe,

/but it is difficult to believe if no one else believes.

/Rahab's faith is holy faith./ In Matthew 1:5,/ Salmon gave birth to Boaz, through Rahab./ After she believed, she stopped working as a prostitute./ She married Salmon of the tribe of Judah./ To believe is to become holy.

/That is why Rahab's faith is holy faith./ It is faith of self-denial./ She submitted to the will of God rather than her own will,/ and she hid foreign spies, not her fellow people./ She valued the work of God more than her own life.

/If the nation knew about her actions, she would have been killed./ Her actions were the same as abandoning her brothers and sisters for the sake of God's work./ True faith/ is to deny oneself /and obey God's will /no matter what difficulties there may be.

/Because she had such faith,/ Rahab did not perish./ Through this we learn that the obedient/ greatly glorify God.

/In verse 32,/ it speaks of the faith of the judges./ Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David and Samuel./ According to the order of birth, /Barak was born before Gideon. /Jephthah came before Samson. /Samuel came before David.

/However, Gideon is first,/ then Jephthah,/ then Samson./ Then David is next.

/It simply means that their faith was ahead./ Gideon had weaknesses./ He was cowardly./ Yet, later on, he showed his faith./ He knew of his weaknesses./ Servants of God must first realize their weaknesses.

/Then God will use him./ In Judges 6:36-40,/ Gideon asked for a sign./ He tested with a wool fleece./ However, in 6:15,/ he first recognized his weaknesses,/ and in 6:27,/ he obeyed.

/Regarding Barak, it is written in/ Judges 4:6-7./ God spoke to Barak through Deborah./ 4:8 weakness./ 4:10 obedience./ 4:14 victory through obedience./ Samson killed one thousand men with the jawbone of a donkey.

/Samson even broke down pillars and killed many people./ At that time, he was powerless./ It is difficult to accomplish what is written in Judges 16:28-30.

/Jephthah was an illegitimate child./ Judges 11:9-10./ He feared the Lord./ In verses 14-27, he believed the Bible./ In verses 21-23, he glorified God for his victory.

/David made many mistakes,/ but he also accomplished many things by faith./ Samuel and other prophets./ 1 Samuel 12:16-18./ Elijah and Elisha confronted their enemies by faith.

/Verse 33./ who through faith conquered kingdoms

/By faith, they defeated Median,/ Canaan,/ the Philistines,/ Ammon,/ and other nations./ Then they acted righteously./ It means that they lived holy lives./ They also received a promise.

/God assured Joshua that he would conquer Canaan./ Gideon defeated Median/ and God assured David that he would be the king of Israel.

/Some shut the mouths of lions./ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego quenched the fury of the flames./ Some escaped the edge of the sword./ Jeremiah 39:15-18./ They were strengthened in their weaknesses./ 2 Kings 20:1./ Some became powerful in battle.

/Samson and David triumphed in many battles./ Women received back their dead, raised to life again./ 1 Kings 17:22-24./ The son of the widow in Zarephath was raised from the dead./ Some refused to be released.

/Verse 36./ Some faced jeers and flogging

/In verse 37,/ many were tortured./ It says that the world was not worthy of them./ It assures us that this world has no value./ Though the world may not recognize them, they are honorable.

/Verse 39,/ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.

/This means that they had not yet met Christ who was to come in His first coming.

/Verse 40./ God had planned something better for us/ so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

/Here,/ “us” refers to believers of the New Testament,/ and “they” refer to believers of the Old Testament.

/“Perfect” signifies believers of the Old and New Testaments who participate in the glory in heaven./ Until then, believers of the Old Testament diligently ran the race.

/Just as a baton is passed onto another person in a relay race, faith is passed on to the next generation./ Now, we believers of the New Testament must receive this baton and run diligently.

/We must share the gospel and all God’s chosen must return./ If this happens, “perfectness” is accomplished.

/God/ wants all believers of the Old and New Testaments to participate in such a glorious place./ Now, it is our duty to do so.

/With this we will conclude the twelfth lecture on the Book of Hebrews./ Thank you.