

GOD HAS SOMETHING BETTER IN MIND

“God has something better in mind” Hebrews 11:39

Faith begins and ends with God -- Father, Son, Holy Spirit

- Biblical faith has deep roots in:
 - Who God is (His character)
 - What he has done (His track record)
 - What he has promised
- FAITH IS MY RESPONSE---
- Holy Communion is a visual sign of God’s powerful act of love which calls forth faith

He who did not spare His own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will He not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

ROMANS 8:32

I. FAITH IS A RESPONSE TO GOD’S PROMISE BASED ON AWARENESS OF WHO GOD IS

II. THE “HEROES OF FAITH” IN HEBREWS 11 RESPONDED TO GOD’S PROMISES

- Vs. 7 Noah, “warned by God”....acted
- Vs. 8 Abraham “obeyed when he was called...
- Vs. 11 --Abraham “ he considered him faithful who had promised”
- Vs. 13 --summary ----
- Vs. 17 --- Abraham --- he who had received the promise was ready to act
- Vs. 19 ---what Abraham actually trusted regarding God’s character

GOD GOES FIRST

III. WHAT ABOUT “REWARD”?

1. Yes --- God rewards His children Heb. 11:6
2. GOD’S GOOD GIFTS WHICH WE RECEIVE BY FAITH are dimensions of His huge Kingdom plan dispensed NOW as He takes over planet earth and makes all things new
3. Devout Christians with enormous levels of trust in God do not always have a life full of “miraculous answers to prayer
Hebrews 11:13 and HEBREWS 11:39
4. FAITH ANTICIPATES “REWARD”, but my thinking about “reward” needs to be totally revamped in light of who God is and what he has promised
5. God has something better in mind ---Heb. 11: 39 See Romans 8: 18 ff.
6. We are part of a huge, comprehensive NEW CREATION project
7. Jesus’ promise to YOU Luke 22:29 (at the table at Last Supper)

A PROMISE YOU CAN COUNT ON --sealed with blood

NEXT STEPS: GROWING FAITH ???

1. Go deeper and deeper into experiential knowledge of God --
RADICAL FAITH (like Jesus’s) will follow,
2. Return to Holy Communion often -- ROMANS 8:32
3. Study God’s promises revealed in HIS WORD (especially “BIG PICTURE” KINGDOM PLANS)
4. Be in his presence and LEARN TO LISTEN for a specific promise he might give just to you ----
STOP TALKING SO MUCH IN YOUR PRAYER TIME
Psalm 130:5-6
5. When HE speaks (Spirit prompts) ACT AS IF THE PROMISE WERE 100% guaranteed
- 6.. Don’t ever stop believing, obeying, living in light of the Promise
“...God has planned something better for us...” HEBREWS 11:39