

**HEBREWS 40**  
**(Hebrews 11:22-29)**

**THE OPERATION OF FAITH IN MOSES**  
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**(May 16, 2012)**

**INTRODUCTION**

We have seen in Hebrews 11 a whole series of faithful servants of God who believed God and acted in a way consistent with their faith.

1. Abel believed God and so he brought an appropriate sacrifice.
2. Enoch believed God and so he walked with God and he was eventually translated directly to heaven.
3. Noah believed God and so he built an ark.
4. Abraham believed God, so he left his country and his kindred and wandered in a land that God promised him.
5. Isaac believed God, so he blessed Jacob over Esau.
6. Jacob believed God, so he blessed Manassah over Ephraim.
7. Joseph believed God, so he requested that his bones be taken out of Egypt and buried in Canaan.
8. Moses parents believed God, so they took measures to hide Moses from the king.
9. Moses himself believed God, so he:
  - a. Renounced his status as the son of Pharoah's daughter.
  - b. Renounced the pleasures of Egypt.
  - c. Chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God.
  - d. Set his eyes on the future reward rather than the present reward.
  - e. Kept the Passover.
  - f. Crossed the Red Sea
10. Joshua believed God, so he followed God's directions and the walls of Jericho fell down.
  - a. The walls of Jericho must have seemed impregnable. They were too big and too strong.

God had told Joshua, "Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened; neither be dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you wherever

you go. (Josh.1:9)

b. God gave Joshua a strange command:

- Have the people march around the city one time each day for seven days.
- No one was to speak a word.
- Have the people march around the city seven times on the seventh day.
- There was to be a long blast of the ram's horns (trumpets) then the people were to shout.

c. The walls fell down.

Now, the point of all this is that Joshua achieved this great victory not by might but by faith. He believed God and he did what God commanded him to do.

11. Rahab believed God and so she hid the spies and by faith she hung the scarlet thread in her window and she was saved.

12. Gideon. Gideon defeated the hosts of Midian even though God whittled his army down to 300 men.

13. Barak. Barak won a great victory over Sisera and all his chariots. This great victory is immortalized in the Song of Deborah and Barak in Judges chapter 5.

14. Samson. He was the great champion of Israel against the Philistines.

15. Jephthah. Under Jephthah, the Israelites overthrew the armies of the Amorites and the Ammonites.

16. David.

17. Samuel. The prophet and priest who dedicated his life to the service of God under Eli.

18. The prophets

## All the things that were accomplished through faith

### 1. They conquered kingdoms.

This would apply to the judges period when Israel conquered the opposing forces in the land. And it would apply especially to the reign of David when Israel greatly expanded their territory and conquered all the nations which opposed them.

David was a great warrior by faith. It all began when as a shepherd boy he took on Goliath in personal combat. David had no earthly chance, but he conquered Goliath by faith.

Joshua had no chance at Jericho but the walls fell down by faith.

Gideon had no chance with 300 men, but he prevailed by faith.

Samson personally slew thousands of Philistines with the jawbone of an ass. He had no chance of such a feat, but he did so by faith.

And so, men of faith were able to subdue kingdoms.

### 2. They wrought righteousness.

This would also probably have reference to the judges period when God's faithful judges governed the people justly.

- a. The justness of Samuel's judgeship. (I Sam. 12:3-5)
- b. David administered justice and equity to all his people. (2 Sam. 8:15; I Chron. 18:14)
- c. Solomon: The Queen of Sheba spoke of Solomon in I Kings 10:9.

Note: God's judges and kings ruling justly is a type of Christ's kingdom which will be distinguished by everlasting justice and righteousness (Isa. 9:7; see Hebrews 1:8)

### 3. They received promises. (The earthly, temporal promises)

Joshua was promised that he would conquer Canaan. And he did. (Joshua 21:43 ff; Neh. 9:8)

Gideon received the fulfillment of his promises when he won the victory over the Midianites.

4. They stopped the mouths of lions.

Daniel: (Dan.6:22)

Samson: (Judges 14:5 f)

David: (I Sam.17:34 ff)

Benaiah: 2 Sam. 23:20)

5. They quenched raging fire.

Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel. (Dan.3:17)

6. They escaped the edge of the sword.

David fleeing from Saul.

Elijah fleeing from Jezebel.

7. Out of weakness they were made strong.

Samson.

David's slaying of Goliath.

Paul. (2 Cor. 12:8-10)

8. they waxed valiant in fight.

Ps. 18:18f; 29, 34, 46-48

9. They turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

10. Women received their dead raised to life again.

a. Elijah prayed and the son of Zarephath was raised. (1 Kings 17:17)

b. Elisha stretched out himself upon the son of the Shunammite woman. (2 Kings 4:8)

c. The widow of Nain had her son given back to her. (Lk.7:11)

d. Martha and Mary had Lazaraus restored. (Jn.11:1)

- e. The widows of Joppa had their friend Dorcas restored. (Acts 9:36)

### All that was endured because of faith

1. Torture.

Many of the prophets in the OT suffered cruel death because of their faith. (Jer.20:2; 37:15; 38:6)

Many of the apostles suffered cruel deaths even crucifixion.

Note: What does it mean when it says, that they might obtain a better resurrection? Better than what? It probably means their resurrection would be better than any reprieve they would have had from the torture.

2. Cruel mocking and scourging, yea moreover of bonds and imprisonment.

3. Stonings

This was the favorite way of killing in Jerusalem.

This is what they did to many of the prophets. (Mt. 23:21)

Tradition says that Jeremiah was stoned to death by the Jews.

Steven was stoned.

4. Sawn in two.

Tradition says Isaiah was sawn in two by a wooden saw.

5. Killed with the sword.

6. Wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented. They wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.