

THE TESTIMONY OF FAITH
(Heb. 11:39-40)

- I. ATTESTED by God's APPROVAL (Heb. 11:39*a*)
 - A. Includes ALL those LISTED
 - 1. Those NAMED as EXAMPLES of faith
 - 2. Those DESCRIBED by their faith in ACTION
 - B. An AFFIRMATION of those already COMMENDED
 - 1. God HONORED them as FAITHFUL
 - 2. God MEMORIALIZED them in SCRIPTURE
 - C. Implies God's APPROVAL of EVERY BELIEVER who PERSEVERES in faith

- II. DIED Having Never RECEIVED "the PROMISE" (Heb. 11:39*b*)
 - A. God ANSWERED PRAYERS
 - B. God fulfilled SHORT-TERM PROMISES
 - C. But "THE PROMISE" was yet UNFULFILLED
 - 1. First made to ADAM in Gen. 3:15
 - 2. CLARIFIED to ABRAHAM and the patriarchs
 - 3. SUPPLEMENTED through MOSES

4. SPECIFIED to DAVID
5. To be REVEALED in JESUS

III. APPLIED Through CHRIST'S SACRIFICE (Heb. 11:40)

- A. They were WAITING for "SOMETHING BETTER"
 1. Had been INTRODUCED at JESUS' resurrection
 2. Will be CONSUMATED at OUR resurrection
- B. Their salvation was available BEFORE Christ's SACRIFICE
 1. Had been SAVED through FAITH in the MESSIAH who was COMING
 2. Had been SAVED through the MINISTRATION of the HOLY SPIRIT
 3. Remained INCOMPLETE because the only sacrifice that could REMOVE SIN had not yet been OFFERED
- C. It was made RETROACTIVE to the PRE-CHRISTIAN Saints (see 12:23)
 1. THEY were made PARTICIPANTS with US
 - a. Including the PRE-COVENANT believers (11:4-29)
 - b. Including the FIRST COVENANT believers (11:30-38)
 2. They BENEFIT from the spiritual blessings INTRODUCED by the NEW COVENANT in which WE participate
- D. Salvation is both INDIVIDUAL and COLLECTIVE
 1. Salvation is ACQUIRED through PERSONAL faith
 2. Salvation is EXPERIENCED as part of the PEOPLE of GOD