

65 In the midst of their belief, these men all died, not having received the promises—having rather seen and greeted them while they were still a long way off—and having confessed that they were strangers and sojourners on the land of promise. 2•Now those who say such things make it evident that they long for their homeland. 3•But, if they were reminiscing about that homeland from which they had come out, they had the opportunity to return. 4•Now, in fact, they want a better one, that is, one given by heaven. 5•Therefore, as for them, God is not ashamed to be called their God. 6•Indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

11:13–16

66 With regard to belief—Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. 2•Indeed, the one who had embraced the promises was willing to offer up that unique son—to him it had been said, “In Isaac your descendents shall be called” [Genesis 21:12]—since he reasoned that God is in fact able to raise him up from the dead. 3•For this reason, he received him back as a sort of parable.

11:17–19

67 With regard to belief—Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come.

11:20

68 With regard to belief—Jacob, as he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph; and “he bowed down in humble gratitude to God over the extent of his branch of the family.” [Genesis 47:31]

11:21

69 With regard to belief—Joseph, when he was reaching his end, made reference to the exodus of the sons of Israel and gave instructions concerning his bones.

11:22

§ 2.3 • The Significance and Nature of Belief in the Times of the Exodus

PART 25

70 With regard to belief—Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw the child to be notable and they were not afraid of the edict of the king.

11:23

71 With regard to belief—Moses, when he was grown, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, opting rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to have the fleeting enjoyment of sin, because he counted the ridicule of the anointed one as greater riches than the treasures of Egypt. 2•For he was keeping his eyes on the reward.

11:24–26

72 With regard to belief—he left Egypt, not fearing the fury of the king. 2•Indeed he remained firm in his commitment to do as God instructed, as one who is seeing the invisible outcome.

11:27

73 With regard to belief—he performed the Passover feast and the sprinkling of the blood to the end that the destroyer would not touch their firstborn.

11:28

74 With regard to belief—they passed through the Red Sea as if on dry land. 2•When the Egyptians made the attempt to cross over on it, they drowned.

11:29