

**June 8, 2025**  
**HEBREWS 11:23-40**  
**"Living By Faith"**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

Have you ever considered that Moses could have said, I will help my people by staying right here in my comfort zone, possibly I can be used of God to do some work behind the scenes to free them. All the while he could live the good life. By faith he followed God and became a great leader in the history of Israel. Never underestimate the cost of pleasure gained at the expense of disobeying God.

Rahab, a gentile and a prostitute was saved by her faith. This woman was an outcast, yet the Lord God acknowledged her faith with blessing. She is listed in the genealogy of our Lord in **Matthew 1:5**. **James 2:25** speaks favorably of her faith. She was a woman of deep conviction regarding her faith in God. This woman from such a sordid background became an example of faith for us all.

Gideon was slow to move on God's promise, Barak was slow to move forward and only did so with the encouragement of Deborah, Sampson faltered with Delilah, Jephthah made a foolish vow and kept it. These show that one's faith may be imperfect and incomplete but none the less approved by God.

Hardship/misery can press in on men and women of great faith; they are not exempt from suffering, not even to the death. God desires one's obedience, not their help. A believer should be willing to forsake all he has for the sake of doing God's will.

Why does **v 26** say "Christ" when at that time Jesus was about 1,500 years in the future? The answer is this word Christ in the Greek Septuagint is "Messiah", the "Anointed One."

"Fear is a great pressure, and all of us are tempted at times to bend when standing for the Lord requires us to say or do something that is unpopular or dangerous." *John MacArthur* Meditate on **Psalm 56:3**.

Rahab, the unlikely choice for faithfulness is in the Hall Of Fame. A Gentile prostitute. On top of that she was most likely an Amorite. Due to their wickedness God had them marked for destruction **Genesis 15:16**. **Joshua 2** identifies the city of Jericho as a city of the Amorites. We do not know exactly why they were marked for destruction by God, only that they were. What was different about her? All of Jericho had disbelieved God and she had believed God to be who He is. The city wanted to kill the spies, she chose to welcome them in peace. Her whole family benefited from her faithfulness, let that soak in real good. Rahab believed the report about the God of Israel. James recognized her faith see **James 2:25**, she is listed in the genealogy of the Lord in **Matthew 1:5**.

**Application:**

A great mark of genuine faith is displayed when one has courage to do whatever He calls them to do. To conquer Jericho did not take much muscle at all; but it took a ton of faith to continue walking around the walls of this city. The mental pressures must have been tremendous. Yet they walked on. By the demonstration of their faith in God the walls came tumbling down. Persevere!