

# ***WHO'S THE GREATEST?***

## ***(Letter to the Hebrews)***

Pembroke Bible Chapel  
Hugh Ghent – 2008 Aug 17  
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## **EXAMPLES OF FAITH**

(Hebrews 11:4-40)

### PURPOSE

- To remind believers of the great examples of faith from their familiar scriptures
- To encourage them to not forsake that which these faith heroes looked forward to.

### REVIEW OF THE HEROES OF FAITH

- Abel – his blood still speaks, but Christ's blood speaks better (*Heb 12:24*)
- Enoch – pleasing to God, walked with God – did God just want Enoch to be with Him? (*Phil 1:23*)
- Noah and Abraham – believed in the unseen, and in obedience acted according to their faith in the One who is faithful – attained righteousness by faith.
- Joseph – knew of the return to the land – knew it 'in his bones'.
- Moses – had parents (Amram and Jochebed) that exercised faith, not willing to heed Pharaoh's edict.
  - Realized he was an alien, and unwilling to accept foreign domination.
  - Would rather experience suffering with faith than passing worldly pressures.
  - Applied the blood in faith for the firstborn.
- Joshua – demonstrate faith in the improbable
- Rahab – an outsider got in by faith, and preserved
- - and the list goes on!

## Application

The writer to the Hebrews did not know of the many martyrs that would follow, although he likely expected it (Heb 12:4). Church history details many who have died for their faith – some experiencing horrific deaths. Let us not dishonour those who have died for the faith, by thinking lightly of what they endured.

Do we walk the talk of faith – like Enoch? Could we be accused of being so heavenly minded that we are no earthly (worldly) good?

Do we, by faith, perceive ourselves as aliens? Or have we become too comfortable in this world, which is not our home? Are we prepared to, like Moses, consider that suffering for the cause of Christ is far better than enjoying passing pleasures of sin?

Are we feeling the pressure to look fondly at the things which we have left behind, or should leave behind – rather than looking forward to the reward, the heavenly city?

Which ‘seventy-seven’ do we pursue. Are we likely to get even (Lamech), or to live by faith, and forgive as we have been forgiven? (Col 3:13, Eph 4:32)

*Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.  
(1 Corinthians 16:13)*

*But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them. (Heb 11:16)*