

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

Hebrews 11:7cont.

By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance

Hebrews 11:8cont.

obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country;

Hebrews 11:9cont.

he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised;

Hebrews 11:13cont.

they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth

HEBREWS

People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,

even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

BIG IDEA

Trust the promises of our creator in the midst of personal and societal difficulty.

I. Sarah and the promise of a worldwide family 11-12



HEBREWS

II. Abraham and the promised land 8-10

HEBREWS

III. The faith of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs 13-22