

## Lesson XI.

## HEROES OF FAITH

June 13, 1909

Hebrews 11 : 1-3, 17-29. Study Hebrews 11 : 1-40—Memory Verses, 24, 25.

**Golden Text**—Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.—Hebrews 11 : 1.

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

17 By faith A'braham, when he was tried, offered up Is'ac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

18 Of whom it was said, That in Is'ac shall thy seed be called:

19 Accounting that God *was* able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

20 By faith I'saac blessed Ja'cob and E'sau concerning things to come.

21 By faith Ja'cob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Jo'seph; and worshipped *leaning* upon the top of his staff.

22 By faith Jo'seph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Is'rael; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

23 By faith Mo'ses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw *he was* a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Mo'ses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Phar'ao's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in E'gypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. 27 By faith he forsook E'gypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. 28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. 29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by *dry land*: which the E'gyptians assaying to do were drowned.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

In the days of the apostles, many of the Jews who had become Christians were so sorely persecuted by their countrymen, that they were tempted to give up being Christians. The Lesson is a part of a letter written to encourage them. It bids them not be afraid: God would watch over them, and keep and save them, as He had promised to do. The letter speaks about many in the past who had trusted God, and how this had made them strong and brave. They could not see God, but they believed that He was near to them and would surely help them.

The Lesson has a great deal to say about faith. Now, we have faith, when we believe what God says, and trust Him to help and save us. God tells us in His word that He made all things out of nothing. When we

believe this, that is faith. Abraham showed his faith in a very wonderful way. God had promised that Abraham's son Isaac should live to become the father of a great nation. Yet God commanded Abraham to slay Isaac as a sacrifice, and Abraham at once set out to obey; for he knew that, in some way, God would keep His promise, as, indeed, He afterwards did, by stopping Abraham, just in time, from slaying his son.

Isaac, too, had faith, for he promised blessings to his sons, Jacob and Esau, because he was sure that God would fulfil these promises. Jacob, also, when he was about to die, pronounced a blessing upon his grandsons, the two sons of Joseph, believing that God would make that blessing come true. And Joseph himself, before he died in Egypt,