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The Faith of Moses: Looking Ahead to Christ Hebrews 11:26-29

Hebrews 11:26-29 He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. ²⁹ ¶ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

I. By Faith Moses Looked Ahead to Christ (vs. 26)

Hebrews 11:26 He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

- A. Amazing Expression: "Disgrace for the sake of Christ..."
 - 1. Key concept: Old Testament saints looked ahead to Christ as much as we look back to Christ... and they did so the same way: BY FAITH
 - 2. Christ was as invisible to them as He is to us... time matters not at all
 - 3. What matters are the promises and statements and prophecies of God
 - 4. In some amazing way, God had revealed Christ to Moses' heart, which enabled him to choose a life of suffering and disgrace over the life of pampered ease and worldly pleasure
 - 5. This verse tells us it was ALL FOR CHRIST !!! He did it for Christ
 - 6. God had worked faith in Christ in Moses' heart, enabling him to flee the sin of Egypt and embrace a difficult life for love of Christ
- B. Clear Assertion by Christ: Moses Believed in Me for He Wrote About Me!!
 - 1. Statement to His Enemies

John 5:46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.

2. With the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

- 3. With his disciples in the Upper Room
- Luke 24:44-47 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
 - C. Moses Would Write the Pentateuch: Christ was Revealed to Him
 - 1. It was by the pen of Moses that all the stories of Genesis would eventually be committed to paper
 - 2. Christ had already been amazingly revealed by then
 - 3. God had told Adam and Eve about the Serpent Slayer who would crush Satan's head... Moses would eventually write all this down
 - 4. Enoch walked with God and prophesied about the Second Coming of Christ
 - 5. Abraham had seen the day of Christ coming

John 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.

- a. Most clearly in the angel of the Lord's existence and statements on Mt. Moriah
- Genesis 22:12 Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.
- Genesis 22:15-17 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you
 - 6. Jacob had seen the Lord at the top of a stairway leading to heaven; he had also wrestled with an mysterious man and said "I saw God face to face"
 - 7. Jacob had predicted the coming of the Messiah in the Tribe of Judah

Genesis 49:10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.

- 8. All these things passed onto Moses as his Jewish heritage... God also worked saving faith in Christ in His heart
- D. Moses Did not Fully Understand What He Was Writing... But He Still Believed in Christ
- 1 Peter 1:10-12 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.
 - E. Key Issue for the Hebrews: Moses was Justified by Faith Before He Gave the Law
 - 1. The Author to the Hebrews... seeking to wean them off of Old Covenant subservience to the Law of Moses
 - 2. Had already shown that Moses was faithful as a servant in God's house, but Jesus faithful as a Son over God's house
 - 3. Here, his point is to show that Moses was also justified by faith in Christ before he was given the Law
 - 4. In other words, if Moses were here himself, he would tell you the same thing: we are justified by faith in Christ, not by observing the Law; AND the death of Christ has forever fulfilled the animal sacrificial system and thus that system is OBSOLETE
- II. By Faith Moses Looked Ahead to His Reward (vs. 26)

Hebrews 11:26 He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

- A. Essential Aspect of Faith: "Looking Ahead"
 - 1. Faith is intrinsically linked to hope... a strong conviction based on the promises of God that the future is unspeakably bright
 - 2. Throughout Hebrews 11, the author is showing how faith-filled people were constantly "looking ahead"

a. Verse 1: "assurance of things hoped for"... looks AHEAD, not back

Romans 8:24 Who hopes for what he already has?

b. Verse 6: rewards

Hebrews 11:6 ... [God] rewards those who earnestly seek him.

c. Verse 10: looking ahead to a city

Hebrews 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

- d. Verses 13-16: looking ahead to the things promised... a city and a country
- Hebrews 11:13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.
- Hebrews 11:14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.
- *Hebrews* 11:16 *they were longing for a better country-- a heavenly one.*
- Hebrews 11:16 Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.
 - e. Verses 20-22: patriarchal blessings on the deathbed... all LOOKING FORWARD... Isaac, Jacob, Joseph
 - 3. Fundamentally faith LOOKS FORWARD, not back!!! Faith is yearning, pushing, striving, pressing to move ahead to the glorious future that God has planned and is crafting
- Philippians 3:12-14 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but <u>I press on</u> to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ <u>I press on</u> toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
 - 4. How delightful is this!! Worldlings tend to dread the future!!
 - a. "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown"... why? Because the king is afraid of losing his position of power
 - b. "worse case scenarios"... the worldly people are constantly anxious about it
 - c. Ultimately... fear of death dominates them...

Hebrews 2:15 all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

d. Christians do not DREAD the future... we DELIGHT IN IT and by faith we live in it day by day

Colossians 3:1-4 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Thus we spend our whole lives LOOKING FORWARD to what is coming and seekinig to SPEED IT ON:

- 2 Peter 3:11-14 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. ¹⁴¶ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.
 - 5. So... Moses was LOOKING FORWARD to Christ... but he was also LOOKING FORWARD to his reward
 - B. Moses Looked Forward to His Reward
 - 1. Context: Moses was ENABLED to turn his back on the treasures of Egypt and his share of gold and silver and silk pillows and plates of grapes being carried in by slaves and his future as a minister of this or that in the kingdom of his adopted family member, the Pharaoh of Egypt...
 - 2. Moses was ENABLED to embrace a life of suffering and disgrace for the sake of Christ...
 - 3. How?? By "looking ahead to his reward"
 - 4. God commends this in Moses... to treasure the rewards of a life of sacrificial faith is not shameful but MANDATORY and greatly glorifying to God
 - 5. Moses expected to be rewarded by God for giving all this up
 - C. The Doctrine of Rewards... Again!!
 - 1. First, a reward is something given by an authority figure, like a king, to a servant who has served well... it is a blessing, a benefit given in connection with pleasing service

- 2. A reward is different than a WAGE... a wage is the just payment of what an employee DESERVES for what he's done... rewards are not deserved but are gifts of grace
 - a. Wages are rejected in the Christian life in the sense that everything we get that's good is a GIFT OF GRACE
 - b. We cannot earn our salvation

Romans 4:4-5 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. ⁵ However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- c. Rewards are a gift of grace, then
- 3. Rewards are expected and embraced by faith

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- 4. What passages teach about rewards
 - a. God Himself is the greatest reward
 - b. All other rewards are connected intimately with our relationship with him
 - c. The essence of the reward: praise from God
 - d. The rewards will be for anything done by faith...even very small things
 - i)
 - e. Rewards are not all equal

Matthew 5:11-12 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

f. The greater the faith, the greater the sacrifice, the greater the reward

5. What is the reward??

III. By Faith Moses Feared the Invisible God More Than Visible Pharaoh (vs. 27)

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

- A. The Intimidation of Evil
 - 1. Sometimes Satan masquerades as an angel of light... alluring, enticing, deceiving

2 Corinthians 11:14 Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

2. But sometimes, he takes the form of a dockyard bully... simply intimidating people into a cowering, trembling mass of slaves

Revelation 12:17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring-- those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

B. Especially human kings... so given to WICKED INTIMIDATION THROUGH RAGE

Proverbs 20:2 A king's wrath is like the roar of a lion; he who angers him forfeits his life.

- 1. Clear examples of intimidation in Scripture
 - a. Nebuchadnezzar
- Daniel 2:12 This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon.
- Daniel 3:13-14 Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, ¹⁴ and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up?
- Daniel 3:19-20 Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual ²⁰ and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.
 - b. The Antichrist in Daniel's predictions

Daniel 11:44 But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out <u>in a great rage</u> to destroy and annihilate many

- c. Pontius Pilate threatening Jesus with crucifixion
- 2. Modern-day intimidation
 - a. Hitler's fits of rage were legendary

Hitler dominated people with his temper... his rage was terrifying to everyone; Herman Goering, head of German airforce, the Luftwaffe, was a highly decorated WWI ace... but he quivered with fear when bringing Hitler bad news; high ranking German officials secretly called Hitler "carpet-chewer" because he sometimes threw himself in a rage down on the carpeted floor and rolled around like a raving lunatic foaming at the mouth and chewing the carpet if he was angered

In March of 1938, when meeting with the President of Czechoslovakia, Edvart Benes, whose nation his armies were poised to invade, Hitler flew into such an insane rage that Benesh came close to dying on the spot with a heart attack; over a year later, he did the same thing with the British Ambassador in August of 1939, several weeks before Nazi troops invaded Poland and began WWII. Hitler's rage in front of the British ambassador was so fearful he appeared to be absolutely insane... however, no sooner had the Ambassador left and the door was closed, Hitler slapped himself on the thigh, laughing at the man and said that British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's Cabinet won't survive that conversation... his government will fall tonight! It had all been a calculated act of intimidation through rage

[Google "teppichfresser incident"] Churchill and Hitler: essays on the political-military direction of total war; By David Jablonsky p. 263-4

b. Iron Curtain days

On October 12, 1960, the leader of the Soviet Union, Nikita Kruschev, so enraged at a speech he was hearing pounded his shoe on a table

In general, Communist governments have used the same kind of terror and intimidation to dominate people, and specifically to crush Christians

- c. Persecution Project stories
- d. Moses' courage in the face of Pharaoh's rage leaves a timeless encouragement to all intimidated Christians throughout history to STAND FAST!!!

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

- C. By Faith He Left Egypt
 - 1. The real question is... what does this refer to?

- 2. The text says, "By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the King's anger..."
- 3. Moses dramatically "left Egypt" twice: once right after he murdered the Egyptian, the second time in the Exodus, when he led several million Israelites out of Egypt after the plagues
- 4. Which of these two does the text refer to?
- 5. Problem with the first: it seems Moses was VERY MUCH AFRAID of the King's anger when he first left Egypt
- Exodus 2:13-15 The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?" ¹⁴ The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "What I did must have become known." ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian
 - 6. This probably refers to the Exodus then
 - D. The Anger of the King of Egypt During the Exodus
 - 1. The battle with Pharaoh was one of step by step escalation
 - 2. Moses confronted Pharaoh with a clear command:
- Exodus 5:1 "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the desert.'"
 - 3. Pharaoh responded memorably:
- Exodus 5:2 Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go."
- Exodus 5:6-9 That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and foremen in charge of the people: ⁷ "You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. ⁸ But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don't reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' ⁹ Make the work harder for the men so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies."
 - 4. Thus began the battle... and step by step, God destroyed Egypt and ruined Pharaoh's reign, and Pharaoh became more and more enraged
 - 5. The plagues stripped Egypt of all its produce, but also stripped Pharaoh of all his pride... it seemed design to humiliate him and render him absolutely powerless

- 6. With every encounter, Pharaoh's pride and his rage increased
 - a. The plague on the fresh water... turning it to blood
 - b. The plague of frogs... crawling all over the land of Egypt
 - c. The plague of gnats... and then of flies... tormenting Pharaoh
 - d. The plague on the livestock... The plague of boils... The plague of hail... The plague of locusts... The plague of darkness
 - e. Finally... the threatened plague on the firstborn
- 7. Culmination: Pharaoh tries to BARGAIN with Moses, for him to leave their livestock in Egypt; Moses refuses to bargain... it's COMPLETE OBEDIENCE or more plagues... Pharaoh becomes enraged and threatens to KILL Moses if he ever lays eyes on him again

Exodus 10:28-29 Pharaoh said to Moses, "Get out of my sight! Make sure you do not appear before me again! The day you see my face you will die." ²⁹ "Just as you say," Moses replied, "I will never appear before you again."

- E. Moses Persevered AS IF He Saw the Invisible God
 - 1. "persevered"...
 - a. Word implies the long journey of dealing with Pharaoh through all this process
 - b. Step by step, Moses persevered through all the plagues and the negotiations with an evil tyrant... he never faltered, never gave in to intimidation
 - 2. The cause of Moses' perseverance: FAITH...
 - 3. "AS IF HE SAW the invisible God"
 - a. This is the best way to translate the Greek
 - b. Moses did not have some ongoing vision of God
 - c. Rather it was "AS IF" he could see the invisible God
 - d. This is FAITH, the eye-sight of the soul
 - 4. The key to courage in facing intimidating tyrants... be more consumed with God than with man
 - a. Fear God more than man

- Isaiah 51:12-16 "I, even I, am he who comforts you. Who are you that you fear mortal men, the sons of men, who are but grass, ¹³ that you forget the LORD your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, that you live in constant terror every day because of the wrath of the oppressor, who is bent on destruction? For where is the wrath of the oppressor? ¹⁴ The cowering prisoners will soon be set free; they will not die in their dungeon, nor will they lack bread. ¹⁵ For I am the LORD your God, who churns up the sea so that its waves roar-- the LORD Almighty is his name. ¹⁶ I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand-- I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, 'You are my people.'"
 - b. Love God above all (a BETTER MOTIVE than the terror of the Lord)
 - i) Moses persevered because it was as if He was seeing the glory of God, the beauty of God, the power of God... it was GOD's INFINITE MAJESTY that gave Moses such courage
 - ii) Another picture: Stephen
- Acts 7:54-60 When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. ... ⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.
 - 5. So also Paul in front of the megalomaniac Nero... the one who would later have captured Christians burned in his garden as a source of light at night... Paul was commanded by Christ to preach the gospel to him!!! And, completely abandoned by every other friend, Paul was faithful and boldly preached to Nero of Christ's crucifixion and the coming judgment and of Nero's personal need for repentance!!

2 Timothy 4:16-17 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

Lesson: BY FAITH (as if seeing the invisible Christ) we Christians can be bold... we can persevere, not fearing the King's anger)

F. Moses' Final Act of Courage with Pharaoh: The Red Sea Crossing

1. After Israel left Egypt, God hardened Pharaoh's heart one more time

Exodus 14:5-7 When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost their services!" ⁶ So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him. ⁷ He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them.

Pharaoh and the greatest, most awesome army on the face of the earth found Israel by the Red Sea and trapped them there

The people cried out in terror!!!

Exodus 14:10-12 As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

2. The terror of Pharaoh overcame Israel... but not Moses!!

Exodus 14:13-14 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

This is the mature faith of Moses... NOT FEARING THE KING'S ANGER... HE PERSEVRED AS IF SEEING HIM WHO IS INVISIBLE!!!!

IV. By Faith Moses Kept the Passover (vs. 28)

Hebrews 11:28 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

- A. Before Moses Even Confronted Pharaoh:
- Exodus 4:22-23 Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, ²³ and I told you, "Let my son go, so he may worship me." But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.""
 - B. The Tenth Plague: Dreadful and Deadly... Predicted to Pharaoh by Moses
- Exodus 11:4-7 So Moses said, "This is what the LORD says: 'About midnight I will go throughout Egypt. ⁵ Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the slave girl,

who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well. ⁶ There will be loud wailing throughout Egypt-- worse than there has ever been or ever will be again. ⁷ But among the Israelites not a dog will bark at any man or animal.' Then you will know that the LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

- C. The Only Remedy: The Shedding AND Application of the Blood
- Exodus 12:3-7 Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs.
 - D. By Faith Moses KEPT the Passover and the Sprinkling of the Blood
 - 1. By faith, Moses killed the lamb... trusting God that it would be effective
 - 2. By faith, Moses applied the blood on their doorposts... trusting God that it would be effective
 - 3. By faith, then, Moses FEARED THE COMING WRATH OF GOD

"Faith is the ASSURANCE of things hoped for, the REBUKE of things not seen"

- a. Both the coming danger AND the remedy had to be accepted BY FAITH
- b. The coming danger was INVISBLE
- c. The connection between the blood of the lamb and the rescue from wrath was INVISIBLE...
- d. Only by faith could this be done
- 4. By faith, then, Moses DID NOT REST ON HIS GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD or His privileged status
- 5. By faith, Moses knew that, without the shedding of the blood of the Lamb, Israel also would deserve to die

- Exodus 12:13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.
- Exodus 12:23 When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.
 - 6. By faith, Moses and Israel obeyed these instructions and were SAVED
- Exodus 12:28 The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.
- Exodus 12:29-30 At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well.³⁰ Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.
 - 7. By faith, Moses knew the SHED and APPLIED BLOOD provided the ONLY SAFE HAVEN of REFUGE from the WRATH OF GOD
- Exodus 12:22 Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. Not one of you shall go out the door of his house until morning.
 - 8. Ultimately, by faith, Moses OBEYED THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!!!
- John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- Romans 3:23-25 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.
- V. Applications
 - A. Come to Christ
 - 1. The passage celebrates Moses' faith at the time of the Exodus
 - 2. The real focus was on Christ... deliverance from WRATH and the giving of a reward!!!
 - 3. By faith you have both the NEGATIVE and the POSITIVE

- B. Christians: Cherish your Deliverance from Wrath AND Delight in your Future Rewards
- C. Look Ahead to Christ... His Second Coming, the Wrath He Will Pour Out on the World, the Rewards He will Give
- D. By Faith, Learn to Conquer Your Fear of People

Proverbs 29:25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.

- 1. Be willing to suffer for Christ
- 2. Be willing to speak up against injustice
- 3. Be willing to stand up against abortion
- 4. Be willing to speak the gospel to a boss or co-worker or scary neighbor
- 5. By faith, SEE HIM WHO IS INVISIBLE... and fear God more than you fear man
- 6. By faith, LIVE FOR DELIGHTING GOD more than delighting man
- E. By Faith Obey God
 - 1. Moses kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood though it may have seemed foolish
 - 2. Study God's word enough to know His will... then DO IT by faith