

11:29

75 With regard to belief—the walls of Jericho collapsed, after they had been marched around for seven days.

11:30

76 With regard to belief—Rahab, the harlot, did not perish along with the disbelieving, because she had received the spies in peace.

11:31

§ 2.4 • The Significance and Nature of Belief in the Lives of Other Jewish Ancestors

PART 26

77 And what more shall I say? 2•For time will fail me if I were to give a full account of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David and also of Samuel and the prophets.

11:32

78 These men, in keeping with their belief, subdued kingdoms, brought about righteousness, obtained promises, closed the mouths of lions, extinguished the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were rendered strong, became mighty in battle, turned away the armies of foreigners. 2•Women welcomed their dead back by means of resurrection.

11:33–35a

79 Now others were tortured, not accepting their freedom, so that they might meet with a better resurrection. 2•And others underwent an ordeal of mockings and scourgings—even more, of chains and imprisonment. 3•They were stoned. 4•They were sawn asunder. 5•They were tried. 6•They died by murder with a sword. 7•They traveled about in sheepskins, in the hide of goats. 8•Being destitute, troubled, abused—these men, of whom the world was not worthy, went wandering about in the wilderness, even in the mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

11:35b–38

80 And all these, even though they had been commended by their belief, did not obtain the promise, because God had foreseen something that was better for us—namely, that they would not realize the final fulfillment of the promise without us.

11:39–40

§ 3 • Final Exhortations to Persist in Belief and Hope

§ 3.1 • Exhortation to Persevere in Belief through Suffering and Persecution

PART 27

81 Therefore, we are to do so too, removing every encumbrance, even the sin that so readily trips us up—because we have such a great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us. 2•In keeping with perseverance, let us run the contest that lies before us by fixing our attention on the leader and finisher of this contest of belief, Jesus. 3•He, for the sake of the joy that lay before him, endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and has been seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

12:1–2

82 Consider carefully the one who persevered through such hostility from sinners against himself, to the end that you not grow weary and fail in your personal resolve. 2• You have not yet encountered opposition to the point of blood as you experience conflict with sin.

83 Indeed, have you failed to take notice of the exhortation that is addressed to you as sons?

“2•My son, do not think lightly of the training of the Lord, and do not give up when you are reproved by him. 3•For the Lord trains the one whom he loves, and he scourges every son whom he acknowledges.” [Proverbs 3:11-12]

4•Persevere in his training. 5•God treats you as sons. 6•Now who is the son whose father does not train him? 7•So, if you are without the training of which we have all become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

12:5–8

84 Furthermore, we had the fathers of our physical existence for our trainers, and we respected them. 2•Shall we not, to an even greater extent, be subordinate to the father of our spirits and receive Life? 3•Now they, on the one hand, trained us in accord with what seemed best to them for the few days of our brief life here. 4•But He, on the other hand, trains us for what is even better, to the end that we might share in the holiness brought about by him. 5•On the one hand, all training, at the time, does not seem to be joyful, but rather distressful. 6•Yet, on the other hand, later—to those who have been exercised by it—it pays off in the peace-yielding fruit of *dikaiousune*.

12:9–11

85 Therefore, set your drooping hands and feeble knees straight again, and set a straight course for your feet lest your lame condition wander off. 2•Might it, rather, be restored.

12:12–13

§ 3.2 • Exhortation to Pursue the Promised Reward

PART 28

86 With all men, pursue peace—even the sanctification apart from which no one will see our lord. 2•See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God, that no “root of bitterness, by springing up” [Deuteronomy 29:18] cause trouble and through it the many be defiled, that there be no one who plays the prostitute, even a vulgar person like Esau, who sold his own rights as the firstborn in exchange for one, single meal. 3•Now you know that indeed afterwards, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected; for, even though he solicited it with tears, he found no place for repentance.

12:14–17

87 For you have not come to the mountain which is being sought after—specifically, to the burning fire, and to the darkness, and to the gloom, and to the wind, and to the blast of a trumpet, and to the sound of utterances—with respect to which, those who heard implored that no further communication be given to them. 2•Now, they could not bear the command—“if even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” 3•Indeed, so terrible was the phenomenon that Moses said, “I am terrified,” [Deuteronomy 9:19] and he was indeed full of trembling.

12:18–21

88 Rather, you have come to Mount Zion, even the city of the real and true God, the Jerusalem from heaven; and you have come to myriads of angels in joyful, public feasting and celebration; and you have come to the assembly of the firstborn heirs, of those who are enrolled in the heavens; and you have come to the ruler, God, over all; and you have come to the spirits of those who, because they were made *teleios*, were decreed *dikaios*; and you have come to the mediator of the new covenant, Jesus; and you have come to the blood for sprinkling, which makes a better appeal than that of Abel.

12:22–24

HANDOUT 18: BIBLICAL TIMELINE OF THE HISTORY OF CREATED REALITY
 by John A. "Jack" Crabtree

