

David's Faith

Ponder: How should you imitate the faith of David?

Scripture: "O Lord my God, in You I put my trust" (Psa. 7:1, NKJV).

Heb. 11:32 mentions David only briefly as an example of soul-saving faith. The original Jewish recipients of the book of Hebrews would have learned from their parents and synagogue teachers to love and admire this premier king of Israel.

David's psalms frequently lament his trying circumstances, but he repeatedly affirms his confidence that God will see him through the storm. "In the Lord I put my trust; How can you say to my soul, 'Flee as a bird to your mountain'"? (Psa. 11:1) David urged others to "put your trust in the Lord" (Psa. 4:5). Because he practiced what he preached, David could say, "I will both lie down in peace and sleep; For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety" (4:8).

Early in life David developed strong faith in God. While King Saul and his Israelite soldiers shamefully trembled and shook due to Goliath's blasphemous bellowing, young David boldly accepted the giant's challenge. "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you" (1 Sam. 17:45-46). The Lord had promised in Lev. 26:7 "You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you." David believed Him, and used Goliath's own sword to kill him.

The Lord blessed David for his faith, and he became so effective and popular that King Saul grew envious and repeatedly attempted to murder him. Few would have objected had David taken advantage of opportunities to kill Saul. But reverence for God restrained him: "The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed" (1 Sam. 26:11). David trusted that God would deal with Saul in His own good time.

The brethren addressed by the Hebrews writer desperately needed to overcome their dull sluggishness by imitating the faith of David. So do some of us!

Song: "Faith Is The Victory"

Prayer: Father, please help us to have the confident trust David had. May we always be content to leave problems in Your hands. In Jesus' name, Amen.