

FAITH'S VISION FOR VICTORY

1 Jn. 5:4

1 Jn. 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world:
and **this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

FOCUS

Our theme for 2020:

VISION 20/20
HIS VISION. OUR FOCUS.

In order for us to have a clear vision of our future paths, we must be clear in our understanding of our present standing with the Lord. We begin with “Faith’s Convictions:”

2 Cor. 5:7 (For **we walk by faith**, not by sight:)

For the last few weeks, we have been observing “Faith’s Convictions” from 2 Pet. 1. We considered the “Walk with God” in 1:1-15, and then the “Word of God” in 1:16-21. This morning we will focus our attention on the life of Moses in regard to...

FAITH’S VISION FOR VICTORY

Heb. 11:1 Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ...**

6 But **without faith *it is impossible to please him***: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Heb. 11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh'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 Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

I. Faith's Sanctifying Virtue, 11:24-26

A. Over Social Position, 11:24

Heb. 11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

❖ Spiritual maturity produces better insight for convictions and commitment – “By faith Moses, **when he was come to years...**”

1 Cor. 13:11 **When I was a child**, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: **but when I became a man, I put away childish things.**

Heb. 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in the word of righteousness: for **he is a babe.**

14 But **strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age**, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

❖ Spiritual convictions are confirmed by refusal or denial of self.

Original Word: ἀρνέομαι

Transliteration: arneomai

Definition: to deny, say no

Usage: (a) I deny (a statement), (b) I repudiate (a person, or belief).

arnéomai – **properly, deny (refuse)**; hence, *contradict*, refuse to affirm or to confess (identify with); disown (repudiate).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/720.htm>

Acts 7:35 **This Moses whom they refused**, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? **the same did God send** *to be* a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.

❖ Moses put God before himself.

Ex. 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Luke 9:23 And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, **let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**

2 Tim. 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: **if we deny him, he also will deny us:**

❖ Modern Christianity is a façade of faithfulness.

2 Tim. 3:5 Having **a form of godliness**, but **denying the power thereof:** from such turn away.

Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but **in works they deny him**, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts**, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

❖ Spiritual maturity trumps social standing!

B. Over Sinful Pleasure, 11:25

Heb. 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

❖ First, Moses was “refusing” and THEN he was “choosing.”

❖ Refusing the pleasures and facing the penalty of sin precedes salvation.

Original Word: αἰρέω

Transliteration: haireó

Definition: to take, choose

Usage: I choose, prefer.

hairéomai (a primitive verb, always in the Greek middle voice) – properly, lay hold of by a personal choice.

[The Greek *middle* voice emphasizes the *self-interest* of the one preferring (deciding) to grasp or take.] <https://biblehub.com/greek/138.htm>

- ❖ Genuine Christianity generates radical decisions of separation –
“Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God...”

1 Thess. 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and **how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;**

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

- ❖ A believer relinquishes the old life and embraces the new one:

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore **if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

- ❖ Identification by a believer with a new spiritual family is a result from a stronger bond of love for “the people of God.”

- ❖ Moses' faith is identifiable by the change in his lifestyle – “...than **to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;**”
- ❖ “...to enjoy the pleasures of sin...” represent any carnal activity imaginable in Pharaoh's court.
- ❖ Moses overcame the challenges of the “soils” in Mt. 13:

Mt. 13:19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and **understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one**, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for **when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.**

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and **the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.**

- ❖ Moses overcame all the challenges that hinder salvation, and he committed wholly to follow the Lord!
- ❖ Paul's faith is indicated by his change in lifestyle:

Phil. 3:7 But **what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.**

8 **Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung,** that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is **through the faith of Christ**, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 **That I may know him**, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

- ❖ Scriptural conversion requires facing the consequences of sin's effect, and humbly turning to God and His grace.
- ❖ True repentance produces a believer that has a changed life.

C. Over Staggering Prosperity, 11:26

Heb. 11:26 **Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.**

- ❖ Moses' estimation of priorities overrode his carnal desire, enabling him and influencing his decision to honor Christ.

Original Word: ἡγέομαι

Transliteration: hégeomai

Definition: to lead, suppose

Usage: (a) I lead, (b) I think, am of opinion, suppose, consider.

hēgéomai ("what goes before, in front") refers to *coming first in priority* such as: **"the leading thought" in one's mind, i.e. to esteem (regard highly);** <https://biblehub.com/greek/2233.htm>

❖ Moses considered the reproach of Christ **GREATER RICHES** than all the treasures of Egypt!

Original Word: θησαυρός

Transliteration: thésauros

Definition: treasure

Usage: a store-house for precious things; hence: a treasure, a store.

thēsaurós – **properly, stored-up treasure (riches); (figuratively) a storehouse of treasure,** including (treasured) thoughts *stored up* in the heart and mind. <https://biblehub.com/greek/2344.htm>

❖ Moses has shown his contempt for the world: its **prestige** (v. 24); its **pleasures** (v. 25); its **prosperity** (v. 27.)

❖ Moses was a man of conscientious consideration:

Heb. 11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, **refused** to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 **Choosing** rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

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Conclusion

- ❖ A believer's *REFUSAL* and *CHOICE* indicates the genuineness of conversion.
- ❖ Moses' faith, fueled by love for Christ, was his "Vision for Victory" during his life.

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation **hath appeared to all men,**

12 Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;**

14 **Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**