



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

6.9.19 • CRAIG REES • THE HEIGHTS OF FAITH

BOTTOM LINE

The heights of faith are found neither in the experiences of the impossible nor the improbable but the constancy of the incredible.

KEY VERSES

Hebrews 11:30-40; 2:10; 5:9; 4:14-18; 6:1-3; 7:18-25,28; 10:14; 12:22-24
2 Corinthians 12:9; Philippians 3:12

1. What was the primary thought that the Lord impressed on your heart through the Faith Beyond Belief series?
2. When a person reads the words, “made perfect” (Hebrews 10:40), what do you think they would understand by it? In light of today’s message, how *should* they understand it?
3. In the message Craig outlined three strands of the “made perfect” teaching of Hebrews, two of which were: a) Old Testament rituals could not make people perfect, and b) perfection comes through Jesus. The context of “made perfect” addresses the believers’ vocation as worshippers. Our sin no longer prevents us from boldly approaching the throne of God. Was there a moment in your life where that truth penetrated your heart and released you to worship in spite of past failings or present struggles? Spend some time reflecting on that moment. Ask God to help you live in the constancy of that truth every day. If you still wrestle with this, reflect on Hebrews 10:14; 11:40; 12:23 once more. Ask the Spirit to seal these words to your heart in a fresh way.
4. Hebrews says that Jesus was also “made perfect” (Hebrews 2:10; 5:9; 7:28). Why was it necessary for Jesus to be “made perfect”?
5. Jesus was “made perfect” through his earthly struggle, sinless death, and exaltation to glory and honor. In other words, the perfecting work of the Spirit was for Jesus’ inner development in relation to his calling as the Messiah and eternal intercessor (rather than any disobedience). To intercede he needed to identify (Hebrews 4:14-18). How can this truth, that struggle is not always because of sin, inspire us when we go through struggles of our own?
6. Craig challenged us not to allow our current struggles to rob us from living in what we have already by faith attained. How easy or difficult is it for you to remain joyful when enduring a season of struggle? As you wrestle with this consider these thoughts. A testimony to the completion of Jesus’ inner development through earthly struggle is found in Hebrews 12:1-3, with which this series began. Read this text again and ask the Spirit of God to fix your eyes on the finished work of Jesus that enables you to catch a glimpse of the future glory awaiting you (Hebrews 12:22-24). It is in this sense that we join with the heroes of old. They joyfully endured struggle not having obtained what we have.
7. Craig ended by showing examples of items that serve to remind him of the wonder of God at work in his life through the ages. He surrounds himself with these reminders. How can you surround yourself with reminders of God’s finished work in your life?