

# Confidence

Hebrews 11:24-27

Dr. Paul Cannings

## A. Confirms Faith (vs. 23):

1. By faith Moses - Moses's mom demonstrated complete confidence in the promises of God for Israel. She demonstrated how surrendered she was to God's Word when she decided not to listen to Pharaoh and trust God to protect her son.

a) Faith – Your confidence and intense trust in divine truths, especially those of the Gospel, with a deep conviction. Remain steadfast with complete confidence in God's divine truth, fully trusting God for His Word. Faith is total surrender to the ability and willingness of God to carry out His promises. Faith would be, as it were, the cement of the building.

b) Faith is manifested in our obedience to the Word of God when it makes no sense t in any particular situation.

c) Faith shapes a believer's life because it causes a believer to obey God's Word even when no one else will.

- d) Fear and faith do not mix. Fear is responding to circumstances – (Peter on the water compared to Daniel in a lion’s den). Faith is acting based on a deep conviction of God’s truth.
- e) Faith is trusting in what you do not see based on what you know to be true.
- 
2. Saw born – Living in a mud hut, babies born with the help of midwives, most enslaved people , living in extremely difficult circumstances; Moses' appearance clearly demonstrated God’s favor.
3. Saw born – Her faith was exposed to have a full understanding of the knowledge of God at the very moment Moses was born.
4. Beautiful child – Moses' parents viewed his unusual attractiveness and elegant appearance as a visible sign of God’s favor.
5. They were not afraid – Pharaoh had the authority to do whatever pleased him. Despite that Moses’s parents were not terrified of him. Because they trusted the Lord, they remained steadfast in their commitment to discard Pharaoh’s commands.
6. They were not afraid – Faith causes believers not to accept everything the world teaches. (Colossians 2:8)
7. They were not afraid – Once we are confident that the Lord is speaking, circumstances should not control what God is teaching us to do.
8. They were not afraid – Trials expose our convictions.

## B. Requires Faith (vs. 24):

1. By faith Moses – Just like his parents, Moses demonstrates complete confidence in what the Word of God promised the Israelites. He demonstrated how surrendered he was to God's Word when he decided not to listen to Pharaoh and confidently trusted what God said He would do for Israel.
2. By faith Moses – In contrast, forty years later, when Pharaoh clearly saw the hand of God powerfully exposed, he chose to listen to his own reasoning rather than accept the will of God. This led to a hardened heart; the same can be true for us (Ephesians 4:17-21).
3. When he had come to years – All that God needed for Moses to be was now fully in place. God's timing is always perfect (Galatians 4:4; Ephesians 5:15-16).
4. Refused – Moses' complete trust in God's Word caused him, once and for all, to reject the offer to be Pharaoh's son. He viewed this as contradicting what the Lord called him to do.
5. Refused – Because of his faith, he rejected the opportunity to identify with Pharaoh's family. Believers in Hebrews had to decide whether to follow Judaism or Christianity.
6. Refused – Faith creates choices and our convictions and exposes whether or not we are willing to trust God. No conviction causes us to wander like the nation of Israel and eventually leads to our destruction (Hebrews 10:37-39; Proverbs 3:5-6).
7. Called – Moses did not make this decision in silence. He verbalized that he did not want to be identified as someone a part of Pharaoh's family.

8. Called – Moses's complete confident trust in God caused him to be very intentional about the direction he would take for his life.
9. Called – Faith directs us to identify with Christ and Christ alone.
10. Called – Moses' faith led Him to one day be Israel's liberator. Confident faith saves who we are.

### **C. Demands Endurance (vs. 25):**

1. Choosing rather – Moses understood not to become Pharaoh's son means that he has now, once and for all, defined his purpose in life.
2. Endure ill-treatment – Moses, knowing the type of suffering his people were going through, clearly understood that his decision meant he would experience the same evil from the Egyptians as his fellow Israelites. He knew that this probably would have no end to it. This ill-treatment could possibly go on for a long time.
3. Enjoy the passing pleasures - Even though Moses continuously experienced all the advantages and pleasures that came with being in Pharaoh's family, he still decided to surrender his life to the Lord.
  - a) The priceless treasures of king Tutankhamun's tomb alone included several thousand pounds of pure gold.

b) Moses believed that the worst he could endure for Christ would be more valuable than the best of the world (Acts 5:41; 1 Peter 4:14; John 8:56; 2 Cor. 4:27; Rom. 8:18).

4. Enjoy the passing pleasures - Not To exercise faith was to decide to live against the will of God – sin willfully. .

a) The offense is a willful and intentional act against God. Willful acts of disobedience came from the powerful influence of the world that is opposed to God. The seat of "sin" is in the will.

b) "Enjoyment" (from apolauo, "to take hold of, enjoy a thing"), suggests the advantage or pleasure to be obtained from a thing - Enjoyment based upon the satisfaction of one's desires - "enjoyment" - "God, who generously gives us everything to enjoy" (1 Tim 6:17), is referring to the fleeting pleasures of sin.

5. To consider - Moses, along with his decision, carefully pondered (not a quick emotional decision) the kind of abuse he may experience.

a) Wealth and riches – nothing in the wilderness (Acts 7:40).

b) A system where he would be viewed as a god he chooses to suffer for the Lord God he has yet to meet.

c) In Egypt, he had power over the richest nation, but in Midian, he was over sheep.

d) He was well educated, and he was required to use it, but in Midian, it was not required.

6. To consider - Faith is not ignorant suffering. It is an intelligent decision to trust God, even if it requires spending the night in the midst of hungry lions.

7. To consider - Faith does not mean someone does not know where they are going. It may require a person to remain in places they don't want to be in.

8. Reproach of Christ's greater riches – Moses's faith became what he hoped for (Hebrews 11:1), which is eternal riches rather than temporal riches. He was not just turning down the riches of this world for the hope set before him; he knew it came with abuse.

9. Reproach of Christ's greater riches – Because faith may take us to places we don't want to be, it requires a willingness to count all things loss (Philippians 3:3-11) because if we try to save our lives, it is that same life we lose (Matthew 16:25).

10. Look to the reward – Moses's hope for Christ's reward caused him to steadfastly fix his eyes directly toward the reward Christ had for him. This is another example of how faith is what God rewards (Hebrews 11:6). Paul's mindset was the same when in his suffering, he remained resolved to "press towards the mark" (Philippians 3:12-16).

#### **D. Keeps Hope Alive (vs. 27):**

1. By faith he left Egypt – Because Moses had complete confidence in what the Word of God promised the Israelites, He demonstrated his confident trust in God by decisively deciding to leave Egypt.
2. By faith he left Egypt – True faith requires for us to obey the Lord. Since Moses intensely trusted God’s Word, it meant he had to completely identify with his people.
3. By faith he left Egypt – Moses’s decision to leave Egypt meant he was determined not to return . This is explicitly portrayed when the Lord had to convince him to return (Exodus 3:1-14).
4. By faith he left Egypt – We must not return to the same places faith leads us from unless faith takes us back.
5. Not afraid – Moses, understanding the abuse ahead of him (a completely different lifestyle that did not include all the luxuries he grew accustomed to), made a decisive decision to not shrink back (Hebrews 10:37-39) despite these consequences.
6. Not afraid – Moses was not terrified (Exodus 2:14).
7. Not afraid – Again, there must be an absence of fear for faith to take its full course.
8. Not afraid – Faith makes us vulnerable because it demands complete trust in God. This is why it is the “substance of what we hope for...” (Hebrews 11:1).
9. Wrath, anger – Pharaoh’s unchecked violent anger was not intimidating to Moses. His complete surrender to God’s Word superseded any anxiety that Pharaoh’s anger could create.

10. Wrath, anger – Our awe of God’s power and might creates reverent fear of God, which ends up superseding fear of everything else (Hebrews 13:28-29; Romans 8:18; Philippians 3:9-11).

11. For he endured – Moses’s decision caused him to remain steadfast and persistent in his commitment to the Lord’s promises. Because he was fully surrendered to God, Moses spent 40 years waiting on God to rescue Israel from Egypt.

12. As seeing Him who is unseen – When Moses left Egypt; he was willing to accept whatever came his way because he continuously visualized the deliverance of Israel by the promised Messiah as if it was actually taking place in his day.

13. As seeing Him who is unseen – Our convictions in the Lord must remain steadfast so that even when our expectations, based on the word, make no sense we can see what no one else believes is true (Hebrews 12:1-3).