

# Intentional Anticipation

<sup>13</sup> These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. <sup>14</sup> For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. <sup>15</sup> And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

# Hebrews 11:32-38 (1)

NKJV

<sup>32</sup> And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: <sup>33</sup> who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead raised to life again.

## Hebrews 11:32-38 (2)

NKJV

<sup>35</sup> Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

"In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my **heart strangely warmed...**"



**“Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth.”**

**John Wesley**

## Matthew 19:29-30

<sup>29</sup> And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. <sup>30</sup> But many *who are* first will be last, and the last first.



AN  
ENQUIRY  
INTO THE  
OBLIGATIONS OF CHRISTIANS,  
IN ALL WEANS FOR THE  
CONVERSION  
OF THE  
HEATHENS.  
IN WHICH THE  
RELIGIOUS STATE OF THE SEVERAL NATIONS  
OF THE WORLD, THE SUCCESS OF FORMER  
UNDERTAKINGS, AND THE PRACTICABILITY OF  
FURTHER UNDERTAKINGS, ARE CONSIDERED,  
BY WILLIAM CAREY.

For there is no Difference between the Jew and the Greek,  
for the same Lord over all, is rich unto all that call upon him.  
For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.  
How then shall they call on him, to whom they have not  
believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they  
have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?  
and how shall they preach except they be sent?

PAUL.

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“multitudes (of believers) sit at ease and give themselves no concern about the far greater part of their fellow-sinners, who to this day are lost in ignorance and idolatry.....Surely it is worthwhile to lay ourselves out with all our might in promoting the cause and kingdom of Christ.”

# Matthew 28:18-20

NKJV

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

**“No matter how small the beginning, no matter how complicated the task, in the power of the Spirit, under the authority of the risen Christ, we can have absolute confidence in the success of our mission.”**

**William Carey**

Leviticus 23:16 NKJV

‘Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD’.

Acts 1 :4-5 NKJV

<sup>4</sup> And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

# Discussion Questions

## **1. Anticipating God's promises**

Where in your life is God asking you to trust Him for something you don't yet see?

## **2. A fuller picture of faith**

How does Hebrews 11 reshape your understanding of faith through both victory and hardship?

## **3. Living for a better country**

What does it mean to live as a "stranger and pilgrim" today?

## **4. Intentional mission**

Where might God be calling you to be more intentional in your faith?

## **5. Expectation and action**

If you truly expected God to move through you this week, what would you do differently?

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