

Hebrews 11:30 – 40

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had
2 been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the harlot
3 did not perish along with those who were disobedient,
4 after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

5 ³² And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell
6 of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel
7 and the prophets, ³³ who by faith conquered kingdoms,
8 performed *acts of righteousness*, obtained promises, shut
9 the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped
10 the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong,
11 became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

12 ³⁵ Women received *back* their dead by resurrection; and
13 others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that
14 they might obtain a better resurrection; ³⁶ and others
15 experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains
16 and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in
17 two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the
18 sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being
19 destitute, afflicted, ill-treated ³⁸ (*men* of whom the world
20 was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and
21 caves and holes in the ground.

22 ³⁹ And all these, having gained approval through their
23 faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ because God
24 had provided something better for us, so that apart from us
25 they would not be made perfect.

**Read the passage through completely
before looking at these questions.**

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage, what questions do you have?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

What in this passage draws your attention as relating to your spiritual formation?

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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