

<p>1. A faith that believed despite hard circumstances, see Ge. ch. 37-40</p> <p>2. A faith that acted despite the impossible</p>	<p>L. Joseph's Faith: An Undying Faith, 11:22</p> <p>22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.</p>
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DIVISION IV

THE SUPREME AUTHOR OF FAITH: JESUS CHRIST, GOD'S SON, 10:19–11:40

L. Joseph's Faith: An Undying Faith, 11:22

(11:22) **Introduction:** Joseph was a prince among a world of men. His life of faith is a life that should be studied and followed by all. The faith of Joseph was an undying faith.

1. A faith that believed despite circumstances (v.22).
2. A faith that acted despite the impossible (v.22).

- 1** (11:22) **Joseph—Faith:** Joseph's faith was faith that believed despite adverse circumstances. If ever a person should have lost faith, it was Joseph.
- ⇒ As a young man, he had been sold as a slave into Egypt, and note: it was his own brothers who had sold him (Ge.37:23f).
 - ⇒ While a slave, he was falsely accused by his master's wife of trying to seduce her. He had rejected her advances, choosing to follow God in living righteously rather than to enjoy the fruits of sin for a season (Ge.39:7).
 - ⇒ He suffered imprisonment because the wife falsely charged him with assault. He suffered a long imprisonment for living righteously (Ge.39:14f).
 - ⇒ He lived righteously and ministered to people in prison even when they ignored, neglected, and forgot him (Ge.40:14f).

The point to note is this: Joseph never lost his faith in the promises of God. He believed and followed God no matter the circumstances and no matter what it cost him. He was a man of God in a foreign land, a man who demonstrated an undying faith.

- 2** (11:22) **Joseph—Faith:** Joseph had a faith that acted despite the impossible. This was Joseph's great act of faith. After so many years in a foreign land, he still proclaimed the great promise of God: he believed beyond question that God was going to fulfill His promises:
- ⇒ He believed that God had chosen his family to be the *promised seed*.
 - ⇒ He believed that God was going to give the *promised land* to his family.

Joseph was dying in a foreign land with his family finally settled and rooted in the land of Goshen, Egypt. Yet he believed the impossible: that God would be moving his family back to Palestine and eventually give them the promised land. Therefore, he commanded that his bones be taken back when the nation of his family returned to the land.

Joseph's faith was an undying faith. His body was dying, but not his faith in God and in God's promises. He knew that he would rest in the promised land of God.

“He that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Mt.10:22).

“For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's” (Ro.14:8).

“For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting” (Ga.6:8).

“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth” (He.11:13).

“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls” (Js.1:21).

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Pe.3:9).

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them” (Re.14:13).

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me” (Ps.23:4).

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints” (Ps.116:15).

“The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death” (Pr.14:32).