### **CMCS** Houston texts

# Surah Maryam part 3

# Surah Maryam 19:41-65

٤- وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ ۚ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صِدِّيقًا نَّبِيًّا 🔾
41. (Also) mention in the Book (The story of) Abraham : He was a man of Truth, A prophet.
٤- إِذْ قَالَ لِأَبِيهِ يَا أَبَتِ لِمَ تَعْبُدُ مَا لَا يَسْمَعُ وَلَا يُبْصِرُ وَلَا يُعْنِي عَنكَ شَيْئًا ۞
42. Behold, he said to his father: "O my father! why Worship that which heareth not And seeth not, and can Profit thee nothing?
٤- يَا أَبَتِ إِنِّي قَدْ جَاءَنِي مِنَ الْعِلْمِ مَا لَمْ يَأْتِكَ فَاتَّبِعْنِي أَهْدِكَ صِرَاطًا سَوِيًا ۞
43. "O my father! to me Hath come knowledge which Hath not reached thee: So follow me: I will guide Thee to a Way that Is even and straight.
٤- يَا أَبَتِ لَا تَعْبُدِ الشَّيْطَانَ هِإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ كَانَ لِلرَّحْمَٰنِ عَصِيًّا ۞
44. "O my father! serve not Satan: for Satan is A rebel against (God) Most Gracious.
٤- يَا أَبَتِ إِنِّي أَخَافُ أَن يَمَسَّكَ عَذَابٌ مِّنَ الرَّحْمَـٰنِ فَتَكُونَ لِلشَّيْطَانِ وَلِيًّا ﴾
45. "O my father! I fear Lest a Penalty afflict thee From (God) Most Gracious, So that thou become To Satan a friend."
٤- قَالَ أَرَاغِبٌ أَنتَ عَنْ آلِهَتِي يَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ لِئِنْ لَّمْ تَنتَهِ لَأَرْجُمَنَّكَ وَاهْجُرْنِي مَلِيًّا ۞
46. (The father) replied: "Dost thou Hate my gods, O Abraham? If thou forbear not, I will Indeed stone thee: Now get away from me For a good long while!"
َ ٤- قَالَ سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكَ _سَأَسْتَغْفِرُ لَكَ رَبِّي _إِنَّهُ كَانَ بِي حَفِيًّا ۞
47. Abraham said: "Peace be On thee: I will pray To my Lord for thy forgiveness: For He is to me Most Gracious.
٤- وَأَعْتَزِلُكُمْ وَمَا تَدْعُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ وَأَدْعُو رَبِّي عَسَىٰ أَلَّا أَكُونَ بِدُعَاءِ رَبِّي شَقِيًّا ﴾
48. "And I will turn away From you (all) and from those Whom ye invoke besides God: I will call on my Lord: Perhaps, by my prayer to my Lord, I shall be not unblest."
٤- فَلَمًا اعْتَزَلَهُمْ وَمَا يَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ وَهَبْنَا لَهُ إِسْحَاقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ ـِوَكُلًّا جَعَلْنَا نَبِيًّا ﴾
49. When he had turned away From them and from those Whom they worshipped besides God, We bestowed on him Isaac and Jacob, and each one Of them We made a prophet.
٥- وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُم مِّن رَّحْمَتِنَا وَجَعَلْنَا لَهُمْ لِسَانَ صِدْقٍ عَلِيًّا 🔾
50. And We bestowed Of Our Mercy on them, And We granted them Lofty honour on the tongue Of truth.

١- وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ مُوسَىٰ ۗ إِنَّهُ كَانَ مُخْلَصًا وَكَانَ رَسُولًا نَّبِيًّا ۞
51. <b>A</b> lso mention in the Book (The story of) Moses : For he was specially chosen, And he was an apostle (And) a prophet.
٥٢- وَنَادَيْنَاهُ مِن جَانِبِ الطُّورِ الْأَيْمَنِ وَقَرَّبْنَاهُ نَجِيًّا 🔾 - ٥٢
52. And We called him From the right side Of Mount (Sinai), and made Him draw near to Us, For mystic (converse).
٥٣- وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُ مِن رَّحْمَتِنَا أَخَاهُ هَارُونَ نَبِيًا 🔾
53. And out of Our Mercy, We gave him his brother Aaron, (also) a prophet.
٥٤- وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِسْمَاعِيلَ ۚ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صَادِقَ الْوَعْدِ وَكَانَ رَسُولًا نَّبِيًّا 🔾
54. <b>A</b> lso mention in the Book (The story of) Ismā'īl: He was (strictly) true To what he promised, And he was an apostle (And) a prophet.
٥٥- وَكَانَ يَأْمُرُ أَهْلَهُ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ وَكَانَ عِندَ رَبِّهِ مَرْضِيًّا ۞
55. He used to enjoin On his people Prayer And Charity, and he was Most acceptable in the sight Of his Lord.
٥٦- وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِدْرِيسَ ۚ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صِدِّيقًا نَّبِيًّا 🔾 ٥٦- وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِدْرِيسَ ۚ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صِدِّيقًا نَّبِيًّا
56. Also mention in the Book The case of Idrīs: He was a man of truth (And sincerity), (and) a prophet:
٥٧- وَرَفَعْنَاهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيًّا ﴾
⊖ وَرَفَغْنَاهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيًّا ⊖ - وَرَفَغْنَاهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيًّا ⊖ 57. And We raised him To a lofty station.
<b>3</b> */ <b>3</b>
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  57. أُولَـٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرِّيَّةِ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُتَلَى عَلَيْهِمْ
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  63. Those were some Of the prophets on whom God did bestow His Grace,— Of the posterity of Adam, And of those whom We Carried (in the Ark) With Noah, and of The posterity of Abraham And Israel—of those Whom We guided and chose. Whenever the Signs Of (God) Most Gracious Were rehearsed to them, They would fall down In
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  مُولَ يُكِيًّا اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرِيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلَى عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلَى عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلَى عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمِ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلَى عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّ السجدة ﴿ وَمِن ذُرِّيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلِي عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّ السجدة ﴿ وَمِن ذُرِّيَةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَذَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلِي عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّ السجدة ﴿ وَمِن ذُرِّيَّة إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَالْمُعَالِي وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلِي عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِي وَالْمُعْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلِي عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَمِعْتُهُ وَمِوْلِ عُلَيْلِ وَمِعْتُ وَالْمُعْتُولِ وَمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُعْتِي السَجدة وَمِيْنَ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَاء إِذَا تُثْلِي الْعَلَيْهِم مِن النَّالِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُوالِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُعْتِي وَالْمُعْتِيلِ وَالْمُعْتَلِيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا وَاجْتَلِيْكُولُ مُلْفِعِهُمْ مِن النَّذِيلِي الْعَلِي عَلَيْكِمْ وَمِي مُن النَّالِي وَمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُولِي الْعَلَيْلِ وَالْمُعْتِيلِ وَالْمُعِلَى وَالْمُعْتَلِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي الْعَلَيْلِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي الْعَلَيْلِي وَالْمُعِلَي الْعَلَيْلِي وَالْمُعْتِي اللَّهِ مُلْكِلِي الْعَلَيْلِي عَلَيْكُولُوا مُنْ أَلِي الْعَلَيْلِي وَالْمُعْتِلِي الْعَلَيْلِي وَالْمُعْتَلِي الْعَلَيْلُولِي الْمُعْتَلِي الْعَلَيْلُ عَلَيْكُولُوا مُنْ أَلِي الْعَلَيْلِي اللْعَلَيْلِي عَلَيْكُولُ اللَّهِ مُلِي
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  مُولَئِكُ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرَيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرَيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا - اِذَا تُثْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِمُ مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرَيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعَ نُوح وَمِن ذُرَيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا - اِذَا تُثْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِمُ  58. Those were some Of the prophets on whom God did bestow His Grace, — Of the posterity of Adam, And of those whom We Carried (in the Ark) With Noah, and of The posterity of Abraham And Israel — of those Whom We guided and chose. Whenever the Signs Of (God) Most Gracious Were rehearsed to them, They would fall down In prostrate adoration And in tears.  () الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُوْنَ غَيًّا ( ) - 9 فَخَلْفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خَلْفُ أَضَاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبَعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُوْنَ غَيًّا ( ) - 9 فَخَلْفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خَلْفُ أَضَاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبُعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُوْنَ غَيًّا ( ) - 9 . But after them there followed A posterity who missed Prayers and followed after lusts. Soon, then, will they
57. And We raised him To a lofty station.  مُولَيْكُ اللَّذِينَ النَّعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرَيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمَلْنَا مَعْ نُوح وَمِن ذُرَيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَاسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا - إِذَا تُثْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرَيَّةٍ آدَمَ وَمِمَّنْ حَمْلُنَا مَعْ نُوح وَمِن ذُرَيَّةٍ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَاسْرَائِيلَ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا - إِذَا تُثْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِن ذُرَيَّةٍ آدِمُ وَمِمَّنْ هَدَيْنَا وَاجْتَبَيْنَا - إِذَا تُثْلَىٰ عَلَيْهِمُ مَن اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِم مِّنَ النَّبِي السجدة ﴿ 58. Those were some Of the prophets on whom God did bestow His Grace, — Of the posterity of Adam, And of those whom We Carried (in the Ark) With Noah, and of The posterity of Abraham And Israel — of those Whom We guided and chose. Whenever the Signs Of (God) Most Gracious Were rehearsed to them, They would fall down In prostrate adoration And in tears.  () وَخَلَفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خُلْفٌ أَضِاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبَعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُونَ غَيًّا () - 9- فَخَلَفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خُلْفٌ أَضِاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبَعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُونَ غَيًّا () - 9- فَخَلَفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خُلْفٌ أَصْاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَبَعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقُونَ غَيًّا () - 9- فَخَلَفَ مِن بَعْدِهِمْ خُلْفٌ أَصْاعُوا الصَّلَاة وَاتَبْعُوا الشَّهُواتِ فَصَاعُوا الصَّلَاة وَاتَبْعُوا الصَّلَاقُونَ عَلَيْ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ مِلْ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَلَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَلَوْلَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ و

61. Gardens of Eternity, those Which (God) Most Gracious Has promised to His servants In the Unseen: for His promise Must (necessarily) come to pass.

62. They will not there hear Any vain discourse, but Only salutations of peace: And they will have therein Their sustenance, morning And evening.

63. Such is the Garden which We give as an inheritance To those of Our servants Who guard against evil.

64. (The angels say :) " We descend not but By command of thy Lord : To Him belongeth what is Before us and what is Behind us, and what is Between : and thy Lord Never doth forget,—

65. "Lord of the heavens And of the earth, And of all that is Between them: so worship Him, And be constant and patient In His worship: knowest thou Of any who is worthy Of the same Name as He?"

#### Abdul Haleem translation

<sup>41</sup>Mention too, in the Qur'an, the story of Abraham. He was a man of truth, a prophet. 42 He said to his father, 'Father, why do you worship something that can neither hear nor see nor benefit you in any way? 43 Father, knowledge that has not reached you has come to me, so follow me: I will guide you to an even path. 44 Father, do not worship Satan - Satan has rebelled against the Lord of Mercy. <sup>45</sup> Father, I fear that a punishment from the Lord of Mercy may afflict you and that you may become Satan's companion [in Hell].'a 46His father answered, 'Abraham, do you reject my gods? I will stone you if you do not stop this. Keep out of my way!' 47 Abraham said, 'Peace be with you: I will beg my Lord to forgive you- He is always gracious to me- 48 but for now I will leave you, and the idols you all pray to, and I will pray to my Lord and trust that my prayer will not be in vain.' 49 When he left his people and those they served beside God, We granted him Isaac and Jacob and made them both prophets: <sup>50</sup>We granted Our grace to all of them, and gave them a noble reputation.

<sup>51</sup>Mention too, in the Qur'an, the story of Moses. He was specially chosen, a messenger and a prophet: <sup>52</sup>We called to him from the right-hand side of the mountain and brought him close to Us in secret communion; <sup>53</sup> out of Our grace We granted him his brother Aaron as a prophet. <sup>54</sup>Mention too, in the Qur'an, the story of Ishmael. He was true to his promise, a messenger and a prophet. <sup>55</sup>He commanded his household to pray and give alms, and his Lord was well pleased with him. <sup>56</sup>Mention too, in the Qur'an, the story of Idris. He was a man of truth, a prophet. <sup>57</sup>We raised him to a high position.

<sup>58</sup>These were the prophets God blessed – from the seed of Adam, of those We carried in the Ark with Noah, from the seed of Abraham

and Israel— and those We guided and chose. When the revelations of the Lord of Mercy were recited to them, they fell to their knees and wept, <sup>59</sup> but there came after them generations who neglected prayer and were driven by their own desires. These will come face to face with their evil, <sup>60</sup> but those who repent, who believe, who do righteous deeds, will enter Paradise. They will not be wronged in the least: <sup>61</sup> they will enter the Gardens of Lasting Bliss, promised by the Lord of Mercy to His servants— it is not yet seen but truly His promise will be fulfilled. <sup>62</sup>There they will hear only peaceful talk, nothing bad; there they will be given provision morning and evening. <sup>63</sup>That is the Garden We shall give as their own to those of Our servants who were devout.

<sup>64</sup>[Gabriel said],<sup>a</sup> 'We only descend [with revelation] at your Lord's command—everything before us, everything behind us, everything in between, all belongs to Him—your Lord is never forgetful. <sup>65</sup>He is Lord of the heavens and earth and everything in between so worship Him: be steadfast in worshipping Him. Do you know of anyone equal to Him?'

#### Hebrews 10-12

10: 1 For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. 2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? 3 But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

5Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; 6in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book."

**8**When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), 9then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. 10And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. 14For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

15 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, 16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord:
I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"

17then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

**18**Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

19Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

26For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. 28Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 29How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? 30For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

32But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, 33sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. 34For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. 35Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. 36For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. 37For,

"Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;

38but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him."

<u>39</u>But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

11: 1Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

4By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. 5By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. 6And without faith it is impossible to please him,

for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ZBy faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

<u>8</u>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <u>9</u>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <u>10</u>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <u>11</u>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <u>12</u>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

13These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

17By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, 18 of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." 19He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. 20By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. 21By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. 22By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

23By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. 24By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. 27By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. 28By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

29By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. 30By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. 31By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

<u>32</u>And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— <u>33</u>who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <u>34</u>quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <u>35</u>Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. <u>36</u>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <u>37</u>They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— <u>38</u>of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

<u>39</u>And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, <u>40</u>since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

12: 1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.