

Communion Meditation: "Something Better"
Hebrews 11:39-40

Bible's Storyline

1. Foundational Promise: Abraham
 - "blessing" – ultimately to the nations
 - "seed" – a multitude of descendants
 - "land" – the idyllic land of Canaan

Bible's Storyline

2. Fulfillment in Part: Joshua & Judges
 - Joshua: *inheriting the land of promise*
 - the land was Yahweh's gracious gift
 - the battle belonged to Yahweh
 - Yahweh demanded exclusive loyalty

Bible's Storyline

2. Fulfillment in Part: Joshua & Judges
 - Judges: *rebellion, ruin...and rescue*
 - Israel's repeated enslavement to idolatry
 - Yahweh's burning anger against His people
 - Yahweh's commitment to deliver His people

Something Better...

1. The incompleteness of the land of Canaan
 - inheriting Canaan is not the fulfillment of the promise – a picture of the final kingdom
 - the conquest of Canaan through holy war is a type of God's ultimate victory

Something Better...

2. The inadequacy of the Law-Covenant
 - it was inadequate to overcome the rebellion and idolatry of the heart
 - it was inadequate to achieve a lasting, final deliverance of God's people

Something Better...

3. The faithfulness of Yahweh...yet His wrath

- Yahweh will not break His covenant-promise He made to Abraham
- Yahweh's wrath is inevitable against covenant unfaithfulness

Something Better...

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

(Hebrews 11:39-40)

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

(Hebrews 12:1-2)