

WITHOUT RECEIVING THE PROMISES

In our last study we learned that the writer of Hebrews grouped certain Old Covenant believers listed in (Heb.11:4-40) into four groups.

- Group 1 Antediluvian period (Heb.11:4-7)
- Group 2 Patriarch period (Heb.11:8-22)
- Group 3 Jewish period (Heb.11:23-38)
- Group 4 Church age period (Heb.11:39-40)

We also learned that the writer gave a specific doctrinal principle in each grouping regarding the Faith Cycle.

- Group 1 (Heb.11:6) “Without faith, it is impossible to please God (and why)”
- Group 2 (Heb.11:13-16) “Without receiving the promises (and why).”
- Group 3 (Heb.11:38) “The world was not worthy of them.”
- Group 4 (Heb.11:39-40) “They gained approval through their faith”

We will study these specific doctrinal principles of Faith Cycle from each of the four groupings.

This lesson will study three aspects of the doctrinal principle of faith cycle, “Without Receiving the Promises.”

1. The Greek word for receive is komizo. It means to carry, bear, or receive.

W.E.Vines recorded 19 different Greek words for “receive.” The Greek word the writer chose was komizo in the middle voice (a.m.ptc.nplm) [The middle voice meaning to receive to benefit oneself].

(Heb.11:13a) “**All these** (Old Covenant believers listed) **died** (apothnesko/ a.a.ind.3pl) **in** (kata+acc of norm and standard/ according to) **faith** (pistis) [life style of the Faith cycle] **without** (me/ not) **receiving** (komizo/ a.m.ptc.nplm) **the promise** (tas epaggelia/ aplf).”

Komizo (to receive) was used by the writer in (Heb.10:36) (Hab.2:4); (Heb.11:13; 17-19, and 11:39).

(Heb.11:39) “**And all these**, having gained approval though their faith, **did not receive (komizo) what was the promise** (and why).”

2. The next point of interest to this lesson is the Greek grammar of Heb.11:13.

It involves the action between the main verb and a series of four participles. The action of the four aorist participles occurs at the same time (aorist) as the aorist indicative (main verb).

(Heb.11:13) “All **these** died (Main Verb) (apothnesko) (**aorist a.ind.3pl**) in faith

- Without (me) receiving (komizo/ **aorist m.ptc.nplm**) the promises,
- **but (alla/ contrast)** having seen (**a.m.ptc**) **them**
- and having welcomed (**a.a.ptc**) **them** from a distance,
- and having confessed (**a.m.ptc**) that **they** were strangers and exiles on the earth.”

While the Faith Cycle applied to all four listed groups, the first three groups didn’t receive what was promised (Heb.11:39). They didn’t receive the promised until the Church Age period (Heb.11:40)

3. All these Old Covenant believers, representing their group, lived by the faith cycle.

They believed in the reality of its fulfillment with the coming of Christ into the world.

(Gal.4:4) “But when the **fullness of the time** came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law.” (Gal.3:16; Gen.3:15)

(Rom.5:6) “For while we were helpless, **at the right time** Christ died for the ungodly.” (Rom.5:8)

They all believed He could come in their lifetime; just like we believe about the second coming of Jesus Christ.

They all died in faith like many of us looking for second coming and what it will bring to the world (Acts 1:11; 3:21).

How were people saved during prior to Jesus Christ dying on the cross of Golgotha (Matt.27:33)?

- **Prophetic gospel** – Christ would come die on cross for sins of world, be buried, and on the third day be raise from the dead.
 - “The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, **preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham**, saying ‘All the nations will be blessed in You (Christ).’” (Gal.3:8; Gen.12:3; Gal.3:16)
- **Historical gospel** - After Jesus Christ fulfilled the prophetic gospel, people are saved by believing the historical gospel (1 Cor.15:1-4; Matt.12:39-40; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).
 - “Then He said (Ps.40:7-8), ‘Behold, I have come to do **Your will.**’ He takes away the first (Old Covenant) in order to establish a second (New Covenant). **By this will we** have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all.**” (Heb.10:9-10; Matt.26:39, 42)