

Ancient Heroes Week 3

1. For each of the biblical heroes you read about this week (Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Deborah/Jael), what do you believe to be the act that most aligns them with biblical heroism?

Jonah

Daniel

Esther

2. We have learned that biblical heroes struggle with sin. However they also come back to the Lord. How is the account of Jonah's heroism different from the what we have studied thus far? Is there part of the story we wish we knew more about?

3. Challenge question: There are many ancient stories that contain divine intervention with the sea such that a storm prevents the hero from succeeding at his mission until a sacrifice is made. In this case, what sacrifice is made? Who makes the sacrifice? How is this sacrifice similar to that of Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac?

4, What was Daniel's main heroic skill in the king's service? Would you consider his skill to be superhuman? What was the source of his great skill?

5. What was Darius's response to the news that Daniel had prayed to God?

6. When Daniel came out of the lion's den he told Darius the reason that God saved him from the lions. What was that reason?

7. Esther is unique among all biblical heroes because her prayers to and discussions with God are not recorded. Why do you think this is? Do you believe that Esther was called by God? Why or why not?

8. How did Esther become queen to King Ahasuerus? Why did he need a new queen?

9. Even though God is not specifically mentioned in Esther, what evidence do we have that Esther was a devoted servant of God? Hint: There are several pieces of evidence.

10. Esther says, “And if I perish, I perish.” Why did she believe she might perish? Esther 4:16

11. Do a little research: Which holiday was established to commemorate the salvation of the Jews from Haman? Describe the holiday, what acts are performed on this day, and what are Jews supposed to remember on that day?
