

## KNOWN: As We Are Or As We Were?

(Hebrews 11)

- Introduction:
1. In 1843, Charles Dickens wrote "A Christmas Carol;" a story about a grumpy, greedy, miser whose life was changed by three ghostly visitations.
  2. I watched this story on TV this past week, and it impressed a thought upon me that I want you to think about this morning.
  3. When you think of Ebenezer Scrooge, what do you think of? How would you describe him?
    - a. Would you describe him as a mean, stingy, heartless miser who wallowed in his own misery?
    - b. Or would you describe him as the joyful, benevolent benefactor who saves a young boy's life?
  4. Both answers would be correct, but one perspective views him as he was, while the other views him as he is.
  5. Through the lens of Hebrews 11, let's see how God views us...as we were or as we are.

### I. Noah

- A. (Genesis 9:21).
- B. (Hebrews 11:7).

### II. Abraham

- A. (Genesis 12; 16; 20).
- B. (Hebrews 11:8-10; 17-19).

### III. Jacob

- A. (Genesis 27).
- B. (Hebrews 11:21).

### IV. Moses

- A. (Exodus 2).
- B. (Hebrews 11:23-29).

### V. Rahab

- A. (Joshua 2).
- B. (Hebrews 11:31).

### VI. Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David

- A. (Judges 6; Judges 4; Judges 16; Judges 11; 2 Samuel 11)
- B. (Hebrews 11:32).

- Conclusion:
1. Then there is your life?
  2. To those who are Christians, aren't you glad God doesn't remember you for who you were, but for who you are?
  3. If you're not a Christian, you can decide right now to be remembered for better things.
  4. Invitation