

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

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Lesson 1

CHRIST BETTER THAN PROPHETS OR ANGELS

Memory Verse: 1:1-2 (N. W. 2:18)

Hebrews 1:1-14

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREWS

AUTHOR: Holy Spirit – 2 Peter 1:21 “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

WRITER: The Apostle Paul (There is not absolute proof).

TIME: Between the ascension of Christ and the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.

WRITTEN TO: Hebrew Christians; however it is of great value to Gentile believers as well

PURPOSE: The book was written to prove that a certain proposition is true. It is stated in the following words: “He (Christ) is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.” (8:6) “By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament” (7:22). “For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah” (8:7-8). “He taketh away the first (covenant), that he may establish the second” (10:9). The proposition is, therefore: “The New Testament in Jesus’ blood is superior to and supplants the First Testament in Animal blood.”

The book of Hebrews is not an assault against the Old Testament and the Jewish sacrifices. The Old Testament sacrifices were a type, and the New Testament gives us the reality. While under the old symbolic sacrifices there is the promise of salvation, the actual salvation come from the new. Without the cross, there is no salvation for anyone, past, present or future.

KEY WORD: “Better” – It occurs 13 times in Hebrews: 1:4; 6:9; 7:7,19,22; 8:6 (twice) 9:23; 10:34; 11:16, 35, 40; 12:24.

KEY EXHORTATION: “Let us”

1. 4:1 – Let us fear
2. 4:11 – Let us labor
3. 4:16 – Let us come boldly to the throne of grace
4. 6:1 – Let us go on
5. 10:22 – Let us draw near
6. 10:23 – Let us hold fast
7. 10:24 – Let us consider one another
8. 12:1 – Let us lay aside every weight, sin, and run the race
9. 12:28 – Let us have grace
10. 13:13 Let us go forth
11. 13:15 – Let us offer the sacrifice of praise

THEME: Christ is better and has provided a better way.

1. Christ better than the prophets – 1:1-3
2. Christ better than the angels – 1:3
3. Christ better than Moses – 3:3
4. Christ better than Joshua – 3 and 4
5. Christ better than Aaron – 5:4
6. Christ better than Abraham – 6:13
7. Christ provided a better covenant – 8:6
8. Christ provided better promises – 8:6
9. Christ provided a better tabernacle – 9:11
10. Christ provided a better sacrifice – 9:23
11. Christ provided a better possession – 10:34
12. Christ provided a better country – 11:16
13. Christ provided a better resurrection – 11:35
14. Christ provided a better thing for us – 11:40

The New Testament is better than and takes the place of the Old Testament because it's Founder, the Messiah, is better than all that went before Him.

I. CHRIST THE SON BETTER THAN THE PROPHETS – Verses 1-3

- A. Their prophecies were not complete, but Christ is the complete and final revelation of God. "Sundry times," means "many times." "Divers manners," means "many ways."

- B. They prophesied of the coming one, and Christ was the fulfillment of their prophecies.
- C. The prophets were mortal men, but Jesus Christ was THE Son of God – Verse 2
- D. Christ is the heir of all things – Verse 2. No prophet could make that claim.
- E. Christ made the worlds – Verse 2; John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” Colossians 1:15-17 “Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”
- F. Christ is the same brightness of the Father’s glory – Verse 3
- G. Christ is the express image of His person – Verse 3
- H. Christ upholds all things – “by the word of His power”
- I. Christ by Himself purged our sins – Verse 3. “Purge” means “to cleanse or make clean.” No prophet could do this.
- J. Christ finished His work and sat down – Verse 3

II. CHRIST BETTER THAN THE ANGELS – Verses 4-14

- A. He has a better name than angels – Verses 4-5
 - a. Christ always was God, but after He had fulfilled His work on earth and resumed His pre-incarnate existence He obtained a more excellent name – Verse 4
 - b. His relationship to the Father makes Him greater – Verse 5
- B. He is better because the angels commanded to worship Him – Verse 6
- C. He is the creator and ruler of angels – Verse 7; Psalm 104:4 “Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire.”
- D. He has an eternal throne – Verse 8. No angel has this.
- E. He is anointed with the Holy Spirit – Verse 9; Psalm 45:6-7 “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”
- F. Christ is unchangeable – Verses 10-12
 - a. What He has created may change.
 - b. But He will forever be the same.
- G. He is seated at God’s right hand – Verses 13-14; Psalm 110:1 “The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”

- a. No angel has that honor – Verse 13. This was close to what Satan wanted. Isaiah 14:12-14 “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”
- b. Angel minister to the heirs of salvation – Verse 14. But Christ makes us the heirs of that salvation.

Notes

Lesson 2

CHRIST BETTER THAN THE ANGELS

Memory Verse: 2:18 (N. W. 3:12)

Hebrews 2:1-18

When studying any book or portion of God's Word, we should consider this question: "To whom is the Lord speaking?" Much false doctrine and perplexing problems have come about through failure to understand this question and the correct answer. When God is speaking to the lost, it is utterly foolish to try to apply this to the saved and when God is talking to the saved, how tragic to apply this to the lost. A good example could be found in the many places where God urges the saved to do good works. Yet, when these Scriptures are applied to lost people, then it is no surprise that the false teachers come up with a salvation by works, which is utterly false.

The book of Hebrews was written to those who professed salvation. (We are not saying that they all possessed salvation, only God knows this). While certain portions of Hebrews may be preached to the lost, nevertheless it would be a mistake to say that Hebrews was written to lost people. Note the following Scriptures which prove it was written to the saved: (1) 1:1-2 "spoken to us" Note that Paul, a saved man said us! (2) 1:14 "heirs of salvation" (3) 2:1,3 "we" (4) 2:9 "we see Jesus" (5) 3:1 "holy brethren" "partakers of the heavenly calling" "high priest of our profession" (6) 3:12 "take heed brethren" (7) 4:14 "we have a great high priest" No unsaved man can say this. (8) 5:11-14 rebukes them for not growing as Christians. (9) 6:1 "Let us go on" (10) 6:19 "which hope we have" (11) 10:19 "having therefore brethren ..." (12) 12:1-2 refers to the saved.

These are only a few examples of the many, many verses that clearly show, he is speaking to Christians.

I. CHRIST BETTER THAN ANGELS BECAUSE HE BROUGHT SALVATION – Verses 1-4

A. The Danger of Letting the Truth Slip – Verses 1-2

- a. Warning not to let truth slip – Verse 1. When we let truth slip, we slip or backslide.
- b. Those who let Old Testament truth slip were punished – Verse 2
 - i. Old Testament Law, at least in part, given by angels. Acts 7:38 "This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sinai, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us." Galatians 3:19 "Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator."

- ii. Many examples of disobedient Israel being punished. See 1 Corinthians 10:1-14. Some of these were no doubt lost in sin, but we are not to imagine that all or even a majority were lost.

B. The Danger of Neglecting Salvation – Verses 2-4

- a. The neglect of salvation – Verse 3. Of course no sinner will escape who neglects to hear and believe the gospel. Of course the unsaved shall not escape hell. However we are convinced that he is talking to the saved. “How shall we escape” what? The Bible does not say what? It all depends upon the case involved.
- b. Consider this “so great salvation,” and why it is so great.
 - i. Because of the **PRICE** paid for it – 1 Peter 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”
 - ii. Because of its **POWER** – Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
 - iii. Because of its **PERPETUITY** – John 10:28 “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”
 - iv. Because of the **PERSON** who its author – Hebrews 5:9 “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”
 - v. Because of its **PECULIARITY**.
- c. What it means to neglect of so great salvation. We generally neglect what we have and not what we do not have. We neglect by:
 - i. Not showing **ENTHUSIASM** for it.
 - ii. Not seeking more **EDUCATION** concerning it.
 - iii. Not seeking to **EXHIBIT** it.
 - iv. Not seeking to **EXTEND** it to others.
 - v. Not seeking to **ENGAGE** in fellowship with its author and other believers.
- d. How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?
 - i. We cannot escape **DISCONTENTMENT** in this life.
 - ii. We cannot escape **DISCIPLINE** or chastisement.
 - iii. We cannot escape **DISAPPOINTMENT** at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- e. So great salvation confirmed – Verses 3-4
 - i. Confirmed when spoken by the Lord.

- ii. Confirmed by those who heard Him.
- iii. Confirmed by signs, wonders, miracles etc.

II. CHRIST BETTER BECAUSE HE WILL RULE THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM – Verses 5-9

A. Neither Angels Nor Men Can Rule – Verses 5-8

- a. Angels were never made to rule – Verse 5
- b. Satan tried to rule, but sinned by so doing – Ezekiel 28:13-19; Isaiah 14:12-14. He is now a usurper of power, as the prince of the power of the air. Ephesians 2:2 “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.” Ephesians 6:12 “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”
- c. Adam lost his dominion through sin – Verses 6-8
- d. Angels were amazed that God was mindful of man – Verse 6
- e. Man made a glorious and wonderful being – Verse 7
- f. God put all things under his in subjection under his feet – Verse 8; Genesis 1:26-28
- g. All things are not under man, because of his sin – Verse 8c; Genesis 3:6, 17-19, 23-24; Romans 3:23; 5:12

B. Christ Jesus is Worthy to Reign – Verse 9

- a. In His incarnation He was made a little lower than the angels, but He was never inferior to the angels. Matthew 26:53 “Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?”
- b. He was gladly crucified for us.
- c. We were made lower than the angels, so Jesus was made a little lower than the angels that He might take us with Him above the angels.
- d. Through this He regained His glory and honour and will share it with us throughout all eternity. Philippians 2:9 “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.”
- e. He shall reign and we shall reign with Him. Luke 1:33 “And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.” 1 Corinthians 15:25 “For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.” Revelation 20:6 “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

C. He tasted death for us.

- a. He tasted death voluntarily – Hebrews 2:9
- b. He tasted death vicariously – 1 Peter 2:21-25
- c. He tasted death victoriously – 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

III. CHRIST BETTER BECAUSE HE PUT AWAY SIN BY HIS SACRIFICE – Verses 10-18

- A. He Became the Saviour by His Death on the Cross – Verse 10
 - a. Christ: the Captain of salvation.
 - b. Only God could provide such a salvation.
 - i. Salvation originated by Him.
 - ii. Salvation glorifies Him – Ephesians 1:6, 12
 - iii. Salvation is a gift from Him. Ephesians 2:8-9
- B. He Became the Sanctifier of the Saints – Verses 11-13
 - a. He is not ashamed of the sanctified brethren – Verse 11
 - b. He sang in the midst of the church – Verse 12; Psalm 22:22 “I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.” Matthew 26:30 “And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.” This proves that the church existed before Pentecost.
 - c. There is unity between the Jesus and His brethren – Verse 13
- C. He Is the Succourer (helper) of the Saints – Verses 14-18
 - a. He will destroy him that has the power of death – Verse 14
 - b. He delivers from the fear of death – Verse 15
 - c. He provided salvation for human beings, not angels – Verse 16
 - d. He became man that he might be a faithful high priest – Verse 17
 - e. He made reconciliation for the sins of the people – Verse 17
 - f. He was tempted and suffered that he might help us when we’re tempted – Verse 18

Lesson 3

CHRIST BETTER THAN MOSES

Memory Verse: 3:12 (N. W. 4:12)
Hebrews 3:1-19

I. CHRIST GREATER THAN MOSES – Verses 1-6

A. Christ Built the House but Moses Only a Member – Verses 1-4

- a. Christ the apostle and the High Priest – Verse 1. Apostle means as sent one, or a messenger – John 20:21
- b. He was faithful, as was Moses – Verse 2; 2 Timothy 2:11-13 “It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.”
- c. He is worthy of all glory – Verse 3; Revelation 4:11 “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”
- d. He is God – Verse 4; 1 Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

B. Moses a Servant but Christ Is the Son of God – Verses 5-6

- a. Moses a faithful servant – Verse 5
 - i. It was in his house that Moses was faithful.
 - ii. He was a servant. Numbers 12:7-8 “My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?” Joshua 1:2 “Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.”
 - iii. He was a testimony of the coming Prophet – Deuteronomy 18:18-19 “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.”
- b. Christ the faithful son – Verse 6

- i. Christ was over His house – Ephesians 2:21-22 “In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.” 1 Peter 2:5 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”
 - ii. Moses was a servant, but Christ was a son.
 - c. Those who are truly saved will persevere to the end because of Christ working in them – Verse 6. Hebrews 4:14 “Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.” 2 Timothy 1:13 “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.”
 - i. To “hold fast,” means to pursue a steady course. It is translated “made toward” in Acts 27:40. “And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves unto the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoisted up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore.”
 - ii. There is great danger in not pursuing a steady course. Revelation 2:5 “Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”
 - iii. We need to realize that Christ is walking in the midst of His churches, and He is observing. Revelation 1:12-14 “And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.” Revelation 1:20 “The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.”

II. CAREFUL WARNING AGAINST UNBELIEF – Verses 7-19

A. The Unbelief of Their Fathers – Verses 7-11

- a. Warning against hardened hearts – Verses 7-9; Numbers 13,14; Psalm 95:6-11 “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.”

- b. The day of temptation was a time of trial, but not a temptation to sin – Verse 8; James 1:13 “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.”
 - c. Israel also tempted God – Verse 9
 - B. That generation did not enter the Canaan rest – Verses 10-11
 - a. Their problem was of the heart.
 - b. They did not know the ways of God, but grieved His heart. Ephesians 4:30 “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”
 - c. God kept them out of the land of rest, which was the land of victory. A type of the victorious Christian life.
 - d. Those who missed Canaan never made it back to Egypt, which was a type of lost humanity.
 - C. Warning not to depart from God – Verses 12-14
 - a. The awful sin of unbelief – Verse 12. See Psalm 95:7-11 quoted above. 1 Corinthians 10:11 “Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”
 - b. Believers are to exhort and encourage one another – Verse 13. Exodus 16:7 “And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what are we, that ye murmur against us?”
 - c. The importance of continuing in Christ – Verse 14. “Partakers is the Greek metochoi and is translated fellows in Hebrews 1:9. It is not the same word that is translated partakers in 2 Peter 1:4, where it speaks of us being partakers of the divine nature. In our lesson: again as in verse 6, the question is not one of the retention of salvation based upon a persistence of faith, but the possession of salvation as evidenced by a continuation of faith.” Wuest
 - D. Heaven Will Be Missed by Those Whose Faith Is Not in Christ – Verses 15-19
 - a. Just as those who died a physical death in the wilderness because of unbelief, so there will be spiritual death for those who have not faith in Christ.
 - b. Hard hearts in the provocation – Verse 15. The provocation here referred to, is recorded in Numbers 13-14. At Kadesh-barnea they turned back because of unbelief. They had “faith to sprinkle the blood of atonement (Exodus 12:28) and to come out of Egypt (a type of the world), but had not faith to enter the Canaan rest. See 1 Corinthians 10:1-6.
 - i. Hearing truth, yet they provoked – Verse 16
 - ii. God’s grief and falling carcasses – Verse 17
 - iii. Unbelief leads to no rest – Verses 18-19

Notes on Preservation & Perseverance

Baptists have always believed in the “Preservation of the Saints.” This is often called “eternal security” or “once saved always saved.” Personally we are not fond of the last statement chiefly because it seems to leave a wrong impression with almost everyone. Many Scriptures teach eternal security or preservation of the saints – John 3:16, 36; John 10:28-30; Romans 8:28 – 39. Many more could be listed, but there is another side to the coin.

Baptists believe and the Bible teaches the “Perseverance of the Saints.” Those who are truly saved will continue on to follow the Lord, not in order to be saved, but because they are saved. In Ephesians 2:8-10, we learn that we are saved by grace through faith, and not of works. But this passage also tells us that we are created unto good works.

The sheep (saved) are kept by God in John 10:28-30. But how can we claim this promise without bearing the identifying marks of sheep in John 10:27. The sheep (saved) “hear” the shepherds voice and they “follow” the shepherd. See Acts 11: 22-23. Those who do not follow the Lord have no assurance of salvation and they provide no public testimony of their salvation.

A mixed multitude came out of Egypt (Exodus 12:38; Numbers 11:4) as well as the true Israelites. Canaan is not a type of heaven, but of the victorious Christian life. There were battles to be fought in Canaan, but in heaven there will be no war. Once again we must not consign all who perished in the wilderness to hell or heaven. However, the lesson teaches the awful danger of unbelief. Let us teach nothing that will make people comfortable in their sins.

Notes

Lesson 4

CHRIST BETTER THAN JOSHUA OR AARON

Memory Verse: 4:12 (N. W. 5:9)

Hebrews 4:1-16

There is a great deal said in Hebrews 3 and 4 about “REST.” It is not always easy to follow the line of thought. Perhaps it would be wise to say a few things about “REST” in the light of the overall teaching of the Bible.

- The believer should “REST” fully in Christ’s work for him, knowing that the full payment for sin has been made and that salvation is the free gift of God and not of works.
- The believer can face death with the complete assurance that even death will bring rest. Luke 16:22-23 “And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”
- The believer may be caught up any moment, to meet the Lord in the air, then we will have rest. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”
- For the believer there is the rest of the Millennium, and beyond that, the eternal state of rest for eternity. Daniel 12:13 “But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.” Zephaniah 3:17 “The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.” Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

I. CHRIST OFFERS A BETTER REST THAN JOSHUA – Verses 1-13

A. Those Who Reject Christ Will Die in Their Sins – Verses 1-8

- a. The danger of failing short of true faith – Verse 1; Psalm 111:10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments:” Romans 8:38-39 “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

- b. The Gospel must be mixed with faith to be effective. “Us” refers to Paul & believers of his day – Verse 2. “Them” refers to the Israelites who perished in the wilderness. The rest promised to “us” is the spiritual rest in Christ. The rest offered to “them” was the temporal physical rest in Canaan. Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
 - c. True believers will enter in verse 3; John 3:16; Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”
- B. Rest in the old creation – Verse 4
- C. Rest in the new creation – Verses 3, 5
 - a. Under Moses they entered not in – Verse 6
 - b. Rest not entered in David’s time – Verse 7. “After so long a time” not in Psalms, but indicates another rest offered in days of David. Psalm 95:7-8 “For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness.”
 - c. Joshua’s rest not complete – Verse 8. “Jesus” is the Greek form of Joshua. Found also in Acts 7:45 “Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David.”
- D. Exhortation to Enter Rest and The Danger of Unbelief – Verses 9-13
 - a. Future eternal rest of the saved – Verse 9
 - b. Enter into God’s rest and cease from works – Verse 10. Just as God finished creation and rested, so He has finished our salvation, so that we can enter into His rest.
 - c. Hasten to enter this rest – Verse 11. Once again he calls attention to the failure of Israel in the wilderness. Remember Paul is here talking to babes in Christ. See 5:11-14. (Look at Israel today because of unbelief. Look at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem).
 - d. The Word of God is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart – Verse 12. Isaiah 55:11 “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” Jeremiah 23:29 “Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?” Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” 1 Peter 1:23 “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” John 6:51 “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”
 - i. Word of God is alive and powerful.

- ii. The Word of God penetrates and divides – Ephesians 6:17 “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”
 - iii. It is not the word of a creature, but the very Creator. Therefore it is eternal and unchanging – Psalm 119:89 “For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.”
 - iv. Given by the Living Spirit, who lives and abides in the believer, it becomes and is His Sword that penetrates and discerns the true person.
 - v. The Word is active – it does the job.
- e. God sees all – Verse 13; 1 Chronicles 28:9; 1 Samuel 16:7 “But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.” Proverbs 15:3 “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.” John 2:24 “But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men.” Ecclesiastes 12:14 “For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.” Romans 2:16 “In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”

II. CHRIST BETTER THAN AARON – Verses 14-16

From Hebrews 4:14 through 8:6, we learn that the priesthood of Christ is superior to the priesthood of Aaron. Aaron’s priesthood is only a type of the wonderful priesthood of Christ.

A. Because He Ascended to the True Holy of Holies – Verse 14

- a. He is our great High Priest – Verse 14
 - i. Aaron could never offer a complete sacrifice for sin, but Jesus did.
 - ii. Aaron could not rise from the dead by his own power, but Jesus did.
 - iii. Aaron could not enter the true Holy of Holies, but Jesus did.
 - iv. Aaron was not sinless, but Jesus was.
- b. On the basis of such truth, we are to hold fast our profession.
- c. We are His possession, and He holds us. John 10:28-29 “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”

B. Because He Is a Sympathetic and Sinless High Priest – Verses 15-16

- a. The High Priest must understand the needs and problems of the people before He can represent them before God.

- b. To do a perfect job, He must be sinless. Aaron could not, but Jesus could go all the way for us.
- c. He exactly fits our need.
- d. Not a throne of judgment, but of GRACE! – Verse 16
- e. We can come boldly to His throne of grace – Ephesians 3:12 “In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.”

Notes

Lesson 5

CHRIST BETTER THAN AARON, BECAUSE HIS PRIESTHOOD IS ETERNAL

Memory Verse: 5:9 (N. W. 6:9)
Hebrews 5:1-14

I. CHRIST OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST, SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER – Verses 1-10

A. Christ Not Taken From Among Men, but From the Godhead – Verses 1-5

- a. The High Priest taken from among men – Verse 1
 - i. Aaron and all of his successors were but chosen men.
 - ii. Christ was from heaven, yet He became man that He might represent man.
- b. The High Priest was ordained but Christ was foreordained – Hebrews 10:7; 1 Peter 1:19-20 “But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.”
- c. Jesus Christ was the only High Priest that could make complete atonement.
- d. The High Priest must have compassion, and certainly we can say that Christ did – Verse 2; Hebrews 4:15. On the word “Ignorant” notice Hebrews 9:7 and Numbers 15:22-31.
 - i. Aaron had to offer for their own sins, but not Christ – Verse 3
- e. The High Priest must the right qualifications – Verse 4
 - i. He must be called of God.
 - ii. He must be separated and consecrated to the office of the High Priest. Exodus 28:1-3 “And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest’s office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron’s sons. And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest’s office.” Exodus 29:9 “And thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them: and the priest’s office shall be theirs for a perpetual statute: and thou shalt consecrate Aaron and his sons.”
 - iii. Christ was separated and consecrated.

- f. Christ glorified not self, but was chosen of God – Verse 5 (“Begotten” – refers to His incarnation in human flesh.) John 8:54 “Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God.”

B. Christ An Eternal Priest – Verses 6-10

- a. His priesthood was after the order of Melchisedec – Verse 6; Psalm 110:1-4 “The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.” Hebrews 7:1-3
 - i. His priestly order was everlasting – Hebrews 7:3
 - ii. The Aaronic order of priesthood had to be replaced because of death.
- b. His prayers and the answer – Verse 7
 - i. He did not pray to escape physical death. He prayed to be delivered out of death. John 12:27-28 “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.”
 - ii. The answer came when He was resurrected – John 11:42 “And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.”
- c. He learned obedience – Verse 8
 - i. As the Son of God He could say, “I do always those things that please Him.” John 8:29 “And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.”
 - ii. He experienced obedience and submission in His incarnation.
- d. He is the author of our eternal salvation – Verse 9
 - i. “Perfect” is the Greek “teleios,” the fundamental idea in this word is the bringing of a person or thing to the goal fixed by God.
 - ii. As “author” He is the cause of our salvation.
 - iii. “Them that obey Him” describes those who are saved. It does not present the grounds of their salvation, but the result of it.
- e. Called and recognized as High Priest after the order of Melchisedec – Verse 10

II. THE IMMATURE REBUKED FOR LACK OF UNDERSTANDING – Verses 11-14

A. Characteristics Of Babes – Verses 11-13

- a. They are dull of hearing and cannot understand spiritual truth – Verse 11
- b. They had heard enough truth to have made them teachers of truth – Verse 12
- c. Yet, they needed to be taught the first principles of the Word of God – Verse 12
- d. They needed milk instead of meat – Verse 12; 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 “And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?” 1 Peter 2:1-3 “Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”
- e. As babes, they were unskillful in the Word – Verse 13

B. Characteristics Of The Mature – Verse 14

- a. They thrive on the strong meat of the Word.
- b. They are able to discern between good and evil.

Notes

Lesson 6

THE BELIEVER GOING ON TO MATURITY

Memory Verse 6:9 (N. W. 7:25)

Hebrews 6:1-20

In Hebrews 5:11-24, the message is to babes in Christ. These have to be saved people, for no amount of teaching received could enable a lost person to be a spiritual teacher. Babe need to grow up to the point where they can receive “strong meat.” Hebrews 5:14. The “therefore” of 6:1 looks back to an appeal on the basis of the preceding statement, that the believer go on to a spiritual maturity.

I. THE BELIEVER URGED TO CONTINUE IN GROWTH – Verses 1-12

A. The Believer Urged to Go Beyond Salvation of the Soul – Verses 1-3

- a. Salvation of the soul is wonderful, but we are not to stop there.
- b. “Perfection” implies full development, growth into maturity – Verse 1. “Perfection” means “full grown, adult, of full age, mature,” and it does not mean without sin. Philippians 3:12-15 “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.”
- c. The basic doctrines become a foundation on which to build – James 4:15 “For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.”

B. The Extreme Importance of Christian Growth – Verses 4-8

- a. “Once enlightened” – Verse 4. This is necessary for salvation – 2 Corinthians 4:4 “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” Ephesians 1:17 “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.”

- b. "Tasted of the heavenly gift" and "tasted the good word of God." – Verses 4-5. "Taste" is the Greek word "GEUO." It means "taste, eat, to try the flavor of, partake of, enjoy, taking food, to take nourishment." Some say that it does not mean to eat but only taste, but we believe they are wrong as the following Scriptures where it is used, will show. Matthew 16:28 "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom." Luke 14:24 "For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper." John 8:52 "Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death." Acts 20:11 "When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, (eaten is the same word translated taste), and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed." Hebrews 2:9, "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."
 - c. "Partakers of the Holy Ghost." – Verse 4. Some say that this means going along with the Holy Spirit for a time, or going along as a fellow. However, the following Scriptures where the word is used seem to mean otherwise. Hebrews 2:14; 3:1; 3:14; 12:8; 1 Corinthians 10:17 "For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread." 1 Corinthians 10:21 "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."
- C. The extreme importance of going on in Christian growth is emphasized in verse 6.
- a. It is so serious, that if we could fall away, we could never be renewed to repentance.
 - b. No saved person can ever be lost – John 10:28-29 "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."
 - c. These are "brethren" that are being addressed – Hebrews 3:1
 - d. Saved people can commit the sin unto death, but this does not mean they will be lost. 1 John 5:16 "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it."
 - e. Chastisement will come to those who fail to mature for the Lord – Hebrews 12:5-11
 - f. They will also suffer a loss of rewards – 1 Corinthians 3:9-15
 - g. This is a passage that supports eternal security. However, the real intent is to show the importance of growing on in the Lord.
 - h. Those who are trying to be saved over and over again are trying to do the impossible and are actually trying to crucify the Son of God afresh.

- i. The contrast between fruitful saints and those who bear no fruit – Verses 7-8 (In the natural world, fruit trees that bear no fruit are destroyed.)
- D. The Better Things Expected of Saints – Verses 9-12
 - a. “Beloved” shows he is talking to saved – Verse 9
 - b. God remembers our service – Verse 10
 - i. Work is of faith – James 2:18 “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”
 - ii. Labor is of love – 1 Thessalonians 1:3 “Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father.”
 - c. Every saint to diligently continue on – Verse 11
 - d. We are to follow the right people – Verse 12

II. OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST WILL BRING US INTO HEAVEN – Verses 13-20

- A. Abraham the Man of Faith Was Rewarded – Verses 13-15
 - a. The blessing made on the basis of God’s promise – Verses 13-14; Genesis 22:15-19, “And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice. So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.”
 - b. What God promised, Abraham received.
- B. The Immutable God Guarantees The Believer’s Eternal Salvation – Verses 16-18
 - a. Guaranteed by God’s Promise.
 - b. Guaranteed by God’s Oath. Because our God is immutable (unchanging), His promise and His oath are also unchangeable – James 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”
- C. This Salvation Made Possible by Our Great High Priest in the Holy of Holies – Verses 19-20
 - a. The believer pictured as an anchored vessel – Verse 19
 - i. The believer anchored in heaven.

- ii. The anchor is sure and steadfast.
- b. We are anchored to our Rock, the Lord Jesus Christ – Verse 20
 - i. Made sure because He is there for us.
 - ii. Made sure because of His eternal priesthood.

Notes

Lesson 7

CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD BETTER BECAUSE IT IS AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC

Memory Verse: 7:25 (N. W. 8:12)
Hebrews 7:1-28

We meet Melchisedec in history (Genesis 14); in prophecy (Psalm 110); and in doctrine (Hebrews 7). Salem is commonly supposed to be another name of Jerusalem. Psalm 76:1-2 "In Judah is God known: his name is great in Israel. In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion." See Genesis 14:18, printed below.

I. CHRIST AND MELCHISEDEC – Verses 1-10

A. Melchisedec: A Type Of Christ – Verses 1-3

- a. Abraham meets Melchisedec – Verse 1; Genesis 14:17-20 "And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale. And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all."
- b. The meaning of his name – Verse 2
 - i. "King of RIGHTEOUSNESS" speaks of his character.
 - ii. "King of PEACE" speaks of his position.
 - iii. Note that this is the same order as Romans 5:1 and 14:17. Romans 5:1, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." Isaiah 32:17 "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever."
- c. His unknown ancestry – Verse 3
 - i. No record of his parentage.
 - ii. No record of his birth or death.
 - iii. No record of beginning or ending of his priesthood.
 - iv. "Abideth a priest continually" makes him a type of the eternal priesthood of Christ – Verse 24

d. Contrast the Aaronic priests.

- i. All the Aaronic priests had to be able to prove their genealogy before they could begin their duties as Priest. Ezra. 2:61-62 “And of the children of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai; which took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name: These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but they were not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.” Numbers 3:10 “And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest’s office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.”
- ii. The Aaronic priests began their days as priests at the age of 25, when they were permitted to wait upon their brethren. Numbers 8:24 “This is it that belongeth unto the Levites: from twenty and five years old and upward they shall go in to wait upon the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.” 1 Chronicles 23:27-28 “For by the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and above: Because their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God.”
- iii. At the age of 30 they began their regular priestly duties. Numbers 4:3 “From thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all that enter into the host, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.” This is the same age that Jesus was when He entered His public ministry. Luke 3:23 “And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,”
- iv. At the age of 50 their priestly duties ceased. Numbers 8:25 “And from the age of fifty years they shall cease waiting upon the service thereof, and shall serve no more.” Also Numbers 4:3.
- v. No such restriction was placed upon Melchisedec, because his priesthood began before the law. No such restriction was placed Christ, since his priesthood was “for ever” (verse 17) after the order of Melchisedec and not after Aaron.

e. His abiding priesthood makes him a fitting type of Christ – Verse 3

B. A High Priest In A Superior Order Of Priesthood – Verses 4-10

a. The Aaronic priests received tithes – Verses 4-5

- i. Abraham gave the tithe to Melchisedec – Verse 4
- ii. The Aaronic priests commanded to take tithes – Verse 5. This was necessary for them to live and perform their work.

- iii. Now church members are to give their tithes for the support of the ministry and for their work – 1 Corinthians 9:13-14 “Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.”
- b. Melchisedec received tithes from Abraham, therefore was better than he – Verses 6-7. Melchisedec was greater than Aaron, because Abraham gave tithes to Melchisedec, although there was no law that required him to do so. This makes Christ greater than Aaron or Abraham.
- c. Melchisedec in type still receiving tithes, whereas Aaronic priests die – Verse 8. Since there is no record of his death, in type at least, he is still receiving tithes
- d. Levi, Aaron and Abraham paid tithes to Melchisedec – Verses 9-10

II. CHRIST THE HIGH PRIEST OF A BETTER TESTAMENT – Verses 11-28

A. Christ Is The High Priest Of A Testament That Offered A Sacrifice – Verses 11-22

- a. The first testament (covenant) neither offered or made anything complete – Verse 11. “Perfection” here means complete. The Old Testament sacrifices were made over and over again. The blood of animals could not pay for sin, but the blood of Jesus Christ could. Hebrews 9:12-14 “Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”
- b. The first testament priests came from the tribe of Levi, the New Testament priest from the tribe of Judah – Verses 12-17. The Messiah had to come from the tribe of Judah. Isaiah 11:1 “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.” Isaiah 11:10 “And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.” Micah 5:2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” Psalm 132:11 “The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.” Matthew 1:1 “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.”
- c. The first testament set aside in favor of a better Testament – Verses 18-22.

B. Messiah Our High Priest Lives Forever, The Aaronic Priests Died – Verses 23-28

- a. There were many Aaronic priests because they were mortal – Verse 23. The first testament priests died. The New Testament Priest, ever liveth to make intercession for the believer. Thus He is superior.
- b. Our Lord, because eternal, has a non-transferable priesthood, thus able to save the believer forever – Verses 24-25
- c. Christ a better High Priest, because He is sinless – Verses 26-28

Notes

Lesson 8

CHRIST THE MEDIATOR OF A BETTER COVENANT

Memory Verse: 8:12 (N. W. 9:27)

Hebrews 8:1-13

I. HE OFFICIATES IN A BETTER TABERNACLE – Verses 1-6

- A. His Tabernacle in Heaven, of Which Aaron's Was Only a Type – Verse 1-5
 - a. Our High Priest sitting down, having finished His sacrifice for sin – Verse 1
 - b. He ministers in the true tabernacle made in heaven – Verse 2
 - c. A priest must have a place for offering – Verse 3
 - d. On earth He would not be eligible, since He did not descend from Aaron – Verse 4
 - e. The earthly tabernacle only a shadow of the true tabernacle in heaven – Verse 5
- B. His Covenant Better Than The One That Aaron Served Under – Verse 6. (A covenant between men is based upon a mutual agreement between equals. However, since God has no equal, it is a covenant between God and man that is initiated and dictated by an all wise and merciful God.)
 - a. There were at least 7 covenants in the Old Testament.
 - i. The Edenic Covenant – Genesis 1:26-28 “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”
 - ii. The Adamic Covenant – Genesis 3:14-19
 - iii. The Noahic Covenant – Genesis 9:1 “And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.”
 - iv. The Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 15:18 “In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.”
 - v. The Mosaic Covenant – Exodus 20:1-18
 - vi. The Palestinian Covenant – Deuteronomy 28:1-13

- vii. The Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 7:8-17
- b. It is the Mosaic Covenant that God refers to as the first, because it was the first one made with Israel nationally.
- c. The Mosaic Covenant is that which Aaron and the priests served under. It had three divisions:
 - i. The **COMMANDMENTS** expressed the righteous will of God – Exodus 20:1-26. See what Israel promised to do – Exodus 19:8 “And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.”
 - ii. The **JUDGMENTS** governed the social life of Israel – Exodus 21:124:11
 - iii. The **ORDINANCES** governed the religious life of Israel – Exodus 24:1231:18
- d. Christ the Mediator of a better covenant – Verse 6
 - i. A mediator is a middle person between two persons or groups entering into a covenant.
 - ii. If they are of different natures, the mediator must be a partaker of both natures. This Christ did – Hebrews 2:14 “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.”
 - iii. Mediation implies that the disagreement between two parties is so great that a mediator is required.
 - iv. As a mediator, several things were required of Christ.
 1. First He must remove or take away the cause of enmity, which is sin.
 2. Second He must purchase in a way pleasing to God, all the good things proposed and prepared for us under the new covenant.
 3. Thirdly He is the Surety for it all. As the surety, He is the bail, the personal guarantee of the terms of the new and better covenant, secured on the ground of His perfect sacrifice. He is the surety of the better covenant. Hebrews 7:22; 8:6; 9:15; 12:24.
- e. The new covenant, the greatest of all because:
 - i. It is greater in its scope.
 - ii. It is greater in its blessings.
 - iii. It is greater in its terms. (Not dependent on human merit and human doing, but based upon the grace of God and redemptive work of the Son of God).
 - iv. It is greater in its endurance – 8:13

II. THE NEW COVENANT IS BETTER AND TAKES THE PLACE OF THE FIRST COVENANT – Verses 7-13

A. It Was Prophesied to Be Better.

- a. The first covenant made with Israel – Verse 7
 - i. It accomplished God’s purpose, in that it pointed men to Christ.
 - ii. It came up short, because it did not put away sin – Hebrews 8:1-3
- b. The new covenant made with Israel and Judah – Verse 8
 - i. The new covenant not made with gentiles, but we should be thankful that gentiles were brought under it. Jeremiah 31:31-34 “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”
 - ii. He here quotes from Old Testament prophet, to show that the new covenant was made with Israel. Not introducing a new religion, but a new covenant.
 - iii. The old covenant ended at the cross. The new covenant began at the cross and will never end.
- c. God dealt with Israel as a child under the first covenant – Verse 9. “I took them by the hand.”
- d. The new covenant brings believers to adult son ship – Verse 10
- e. Under the new covenant, all Israel will know the Lord – Verse 11. This looks forward to the kingdom age.
- f. Under the new covenant, sins are put away – Verse 12
- g. The new covenant displaces the old covenant – Verse 13

B. What the New Covenant Is Based Upon.

- a. The Sovereign Will of the Almighty God. The law said, “thou shalt not,” but in the new covenant God says “I will.” Repeated six times in verses 10-12. God always does what he says He will do – Joshua 23:14

- b. The Redemptive Work of Jesus Christ, God's Son, not based upon the law which says DO, and creature effort, but upon a work that the Redeemer has already accomplished and eternally completed – 8:6
- c. The Immutability of God Himself. Founded and anchored upon what "He saith" (verses 10,13). Men have never kept their word, but God never broke a promise. 1 Kings 8:56 "Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant."
- d. The Infinite Value and Efficacy of the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Not animal blood or sacrifices.
- e. The Work of the Holy Spirit of God (10:15), not upon emotional appeals, gimmicks or human persuasion, but on the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit.
- f. The free grace and loving mercy of God. Our sins laid on Him, and His righteousness laid on us – Isaiah 53:6 "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."
- g. The Relationship to God that He gives to us when we are born again. John 1:11-12 "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 3:3 "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Notes

Lesson 9

THE FIRST COVENANT TYPICAL

Memory Verse: Hebrews 9:27 (N. W. 9:12)

Hebrews 9:1-10

Before we can properly understand Hebrews 9:11 – 10:39, we must understand the significance of Hebrews 9:1-10. The Jews of Paul's day were very familiar with the Tabernacle and the sacrifices. However, this is far removed from the thinking of most gentiles today.

I. THE TABERNACLE AND ITS FURNISHINGS TYPICAL – Verses 1-5

A. Its Sanctuary On Earth – Verse 1

- a. Remember that covenant and testament are the same.
- b. Its ordinances were for the divine service of God.
- c. "Worldly sanctuary" simply means that it was earthly and not heavenly.

B. Its Furnishings Were Typical – Verses 2-5

- a. Although they are not mentioned here, it might be good to mention some things that were approached before the Tabernacle itself.
 - i. The one gate in the eastern end of the fence. This was a type of Jesus Christ, the only way to God – John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved..."
 - ii. The brazen altar (a type of the cross of Christ). Brass is a symbol of judgment, and the fire speaks of the wrath of God. Sins were confessed and placed on the head of the animal, then it was sacrificed on the altar of brass. Our sins were laid upon Christ, then on the cross, God's wrath was poured out on Him. Isaiah 53:4-7 "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." Matthew 27:46 "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

- iii. The laver of brass, for the washing of the hands and feet of the priest. The priest had to come by the way of the only gate (a type of Christ). Then they came to the brazen altar, where the sacrifice was made (a type of the cross of Christ). They then came by the way of the laver of brass (a type of the washing of the word and daily cleansing). John 15:3 “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.” Ephesians 5:25-27 “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” The priests came in contact with the world and their hands and feet needed cleansing. The same is true of believers today, so we must go to the Word and see our condition, confess our sins, and we have the washing of the water by the Word. Remember the laver of brass was made out of the brass looking glasses of the women.
 - b. “Tabernacle” means a tent – Verse 2
 - c. “The first” refers to the first room – Verse 2
 - d. The candlestick was a seven branched lamp (seven is God’s number of perfection) – Verse 2; Exodus 25:31-40. Made out of gold which typifies Christ – John 8:12 “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” John 9:5 “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” The oil is a type of the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:9 “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” Matthew 25:2-4 “And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.”
- C. Table of showbread – Verse 2; Exodus 25:23-30; Leviticus 24:5-9
 - a. Table of wood (His humanity) covered with gold (His deity).
 - b. The bread, a type of Christ. Unleavened typifies His sinless character. John 6:35 “And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.” John 6:41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.”
 - c. Twelve loaves, Christ for all the tribes. Priests ate the bread on the 7th day.
 - d. Verse 2 does not mention the golden altar of incense. Comment will be made on this when we get to verse 4.
 - e. The second room was the holy of holies – Verse 3

- f. The second veil, the curtain separating the two rooms. This represents the body of Christ – Verse 3; Hebrews 10:20 “By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.”
- g. “The golden censer” – Verse 4. There is a difficulty here, but certainly there is no mistake. This passage, Hebrews 9:1-9, refers to the Day of Atonement. The golden altar of incense may not have not been mentioned in verse 2, because it was used on the Day of Atonement, but rather the golden censer was taken into the holy of holies. Leviticus 16:12-13 “And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the vail: And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not.”
- h. The ark of the covenant and its contents – Verse 4
 - i. A box made of wood and overlaid with gold.
 - ii. The golden pot of manna – Exodus 16:33 “And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations.”
 - iii. Aaron’s rod that budded – Numbers 17:10 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron’s rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.”
 - iv. Tables of the covenant or law. God’s perfect law showing man what he ought to be – Exodus 25:10-22
- i. The mercyseat overshadowed by the cherubims – Verse 9; Leviticus 16:13-15 “And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not: And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat.” “Mercyseat” is the Greek word “hilasterion” and means “propitiation.” Romans 3:25, “Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.” It is so translated in Romans 3:25 where we are told that Christ is our “propitiation” (mercyseat). The high priest represented the people, the tables of the law represent God’s perfect standard. Thus the blood sprinkled mercyseat stood between the people and God’s perfect law. “Mercyseat” refers to atonement and reconciliation.

II. ITS PRIESTHOOD TEMPORARY – Verses 6-10

A. The Priests Restricted – Verses 6-7

- a. The place where ordinary priests served daily was the first room – Verse 6
- b. The place where only the high priest could go yearly was the second room – Verse 7
- c. There was no entrance into the presence of God but by the high priest – John 14:6
“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 6:44 “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.”

B. The Better Things To Come – Verses 8-10

- a. The Holy Ghost the divine author and interpreter – Verse 8. When Christ died, the veil of the temple rent. This signified an end to the Levitical system.
- b. The tabernacle an object lesson. Note some limitations of the first tabernacle – Verses 9-10
 - i. The symbolic was temporary – “For the time then.”
 - ii. The symbolic was materialistic – “Gifts and sacrifices.”
 - iii. The symbolic was suggestive – “Pertaining to the conscience.”
 - iv. The symbolic was preparatory – “Until the time.”

Notes

Lesson 10

THE NEW COVENANT ACTUAL

Memory Verse: Hebrews 9:12 (N. W. 10:12)
Hebrews 9:11-28

The first covenant was typical, but the new covenant was actual and provides a perfect work! It was sealed by the blood of Christ!

I. THE SANCTUARY AND SACRIFICE OF THE NEW COVENANT ARE ACTUAL REALITIES – Verses 11-15

Verses 1 through 10 tell of the typical significance of the first covenant. In verses 11 through 15 we are told the success of the new covenant, in doing what the old covenant could not do.

A. The Reality Better Than The Type – Verse 11

- a. Christ is the high priest of the reality.
- b. His tabernacle was not made by the hand of man – Mark 14:58 “We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.”

B. The Sacrificial Blood Better – Verses 12-15

- a. It was the Blood of Christ – Verse 12; Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”
 - i. “His own” (idios) means His own unique blood.
 - ii. His blood was the only blood that God would allow on the mercy seat of heaven.
 - iii. He only entered “once” for eternity, not yearly – Hebrews 10:10
 - iv. “Redemption” means to ransom by paying a fee, to liberate and set free. He did this with His own blood – Titus 2:14 “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.” Galatians 3:13 “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.” Revelation 5:9 “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”
 - v. Note that this redemption is eternal. No one who has it will ever lose it.

- b. Animal blood only cleanses typically and from ceremonial defilement – Verse 13
 - i. Blood of bulls and goats, refers to day of atonement (Leviticus 16), and these could not actually cleanse from sin – Hebrews 10:4
 - ii. Ashes of a heifer, refer to the occasional sacrifice of the red heifer, for those who were ceremonially unclean by contact with the dead – Numbers 19
- c. Christ’s blood cleanses from actual sin – Verse 14. Cf. 6:1
 - i. “Offered Himself” means that the sacrifice was voluntary – Hebrews 7:27
 - ii. He was spotless – 1 Peter 1:19 “But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” It is only His blood will produce spotlessness in another. 2 Peter 3:14 “Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.”
 - iii. Sin was actually purged enabling the saved to serve God with good works, instead of dead works – Ephesians 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”
- d. Therefore, He is the Priest of a better testament – Verse 15
 - i. As mediator, He was the go-between to bring peace between a holy God and sinful man – Romans 5:1-2 “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” 1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”
 - ii. The penalty for sins under the old covenant were not paid until Christ died on the cross – Galatians 4:4-5 “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”

II. THE NEW COVENANT MADE WITH BETTER BLOOD – Verses 16-28

A. The Heavenly Testator Himself Dies – Verses 16-22

- a. The word for covenant and testament is “diatheke” which comes from the root word “diatithemi” which is translated as “testator.” It refers to a last will and testimony. In covenant making a sacrifice was often made – Genesis 15:7-18; Jeremiah 34:18-19 “And I will give the men that have transgressed my covenant, which have not performed the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in twain, and passed between the parts thereof, The princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, which passed between the parts of the calf.”

- b. The testator must die to put the testament or will into force – Verses 16-17. Note that this is related to the inheritance of verse 15.
 - c. When Israel ratified the first covenant, it was made operative by death of an animal – Verse 18-22; Exodus 24:3-8 “And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do. And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.”
 - d. The supreme importance of the shedding of blood – Verse 22. “Remission” means a dismissal, release, and is here used of the forgiveness of sins.
- B. The Better Tabernacle Purified With Better Blood – Verses 23-24
- a. The earthly tabernacle cleansed with animal blood – Verse 23
 - i. The “patterns” speak of the earthly tabernacle and its cleansing – Leviticus 16:16 “And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness.”
 - ii. The heavenly things, defiled by man’s sins, now cleansed – Verse 23b
 - b. Where Christ has gone and what He is doing – Verse 24
- C. Christ’s Once For All Sacrifice Better – Verses 25-28
- a. The high priest had to offer the blood of others often, because he had no perfect sacrifice to offer – Verse 25
 - b. Christ suffered once, shed His blood once, and entered into the holy place once with His own blood – Verse 26
 - c. Death and judgment come once – Verse 27
 - d. He will come again – Verse 28
 - e. Notice His 3 appearances:
 - i. He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself – Verse 26
 - ii. He now appears in the presence of God for us – Verse 24
 - iii. He will appear the second time, without sin unto salvation – Verse 28

Lesson 11

OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST & OUR CONTINUED SERVICE

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:12 (N. W. 11:6)
Hebrews 10:1-39

I. THE ALL-SUFFICIENCY OF THE ONE OFFERING – Verses 1-18

- A. The Blood of Animals Cannot Take Away Sin – Verses 1-4
 - a. The Law sacrifices only a Shadow – Verse 1
 - b. Sacrifices repeated over and over again – Verses 2-3
 - c. Blood of animals could not take away sin – Verse 4
- B. Christ The Sacrifice, Changes The Covenant – Verses 5-10; Psalm 40:6-9 “Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.” This is not the exact wording of the Scripture here in Hebrews, but the Spirit of God can change any quotation to give a deeper meaning, since He is the author of all the Bible. Philippians 2:5-8 “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”
 - a. Christ’s sacrificial body prepared – Verse 5
 - b. Old Testament sacrifices did not satisfy God – Verse 6
 - c. Christ came to satisfy God – Verse 7
 - d. The first covenant removed and the second established – Verses 8-9
 - e. Christ’s one offering completely satisfies – Verse 10; John 17:19 “And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.”
- C. The Old and The New Contrasted – Verses 11-14
 - a. The ineffectiveness of Old Testament priests – Verse 11
 - b. The effectiveness of THE New Testament Priest – Verses 12-14

- i. His honorable position – Verse 12; Philippians 2:9-11 “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- ii. His victory accomplished – Verse 13; Colossians 1:19-20 “For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.”
- iii. His justification provided – Verse 14; Galatians 2:16 “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”

c. Our salvation is eternal – Verse 14

D. The Holy Spirit Bears Witness Through Jeremiah – Verses 15-18

- a. New Covenant prophesied by Jeremiah – Verse 15; Jeremiah 31:31-34 “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”
- b. The blessing of sins not remembered by God – Verses 17-18

II. EXHORTATION, WARNING & ENCOURAGEMENT – Verses 19-39

A. Believers Exhorted To Follow The Lord – Verses 19-25

- a. The great blessings of New Testament believers – Verses 19-21
 - i. We can claim the blood of Jesus – Verse 19
 - ii. We have access by the new and living way – Verses 20-21; Hebrews 9:3

- b. Let us draw near – Verse 22. Note that the condition of heart, conscience and body are important. Ephesians 5:15-16 “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” Ephesians 5:25-27 “Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”
 - c. Let us fast to our profession – Verse 23; Galatians 5:7 “Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?” James 1:6 “But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”
 - d. Let us consider one another – Verse 24
 - e. Importance of Church attendance – Verse 25. Notice the words consider, provoking, and exhorting.
- B. Believers Warned That God Will Judge His People – Verses 26-31
- a. The danger of willful sin, such as missing church – Verse 26 (See verse 25)
 - b. Certain judgment the result – Verse 27; 1 John 1:9. Some sins under the law were not covered by a sacrifice. Exodus 21:12-17 “He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee. But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die. And he that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death. And he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death. And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death.”
 - c. The example under the Law – Verse 28; Leviticus 10:1-2 “And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.”
 - d. Punishment for the 3-fold sin against the Trinity – Verse 29
 - e. The Lord judges His people – Verses 30-31
 - i. This verse shows (verse 30) that verses 26-31 refers to saved people and not the lost, as many teach today. Deuteronomy 32:35-36 “To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left.”

- ii. We need to remember that Christians can commit a sin unto death – 1 Corinthians 5:1-5 “It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father’s wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.” 1 John 5:16-17 “If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.”

C. Believers Encouraged To Remember – Verses 32-39

a. Remember what you have endured – Verses 32-34

- i. They endured a great fight – Verse 32
- ii. They endured public ridicule – Verse 33. “Gazingstock” is the word from which we get our word “theatre.”
- iii. They had endured with others in affliction – Verse 33
- iv. They had lost possessions – Verse 34

b. Instead of turning back, live by faith – Verses 35-38

- i. Rewards for going on – Verse 35
- ii. Patience in doing the will of God – Verse 36
- iii. Christ is coming – Verse 37
- iv. The just shall live by faith – Verse 38; Habakkuk 2:4 “Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.” Romans 1:17 “For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” Galatians 3:11 “But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.”

c. True faith results in salvation – Verse 39

Lesson 12

SALVATION BY FAITH & NOT BY WORKS

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:6 (N. W. 11:17)
Hebrews 11:1-7

Hebrews 11 has been called “God’s Hall of Fame” and “God’s Honor Roll.” Whatever we call it, a careful study will show that this is the strongest chapter in the Bible on faith. This chapter not only shows us that salvation is by faith, but it also reveals that sanctification, separation and service are also by faith.

Thus far in Hebrews, we have learned that the New Testament in Jesus’ blood is superior to and takes the place of the First Testament in animal blood. This is done by (1) comparing the relative merits of the founders of the two Testaments, showing that a superior workman produces a superior work (1:1-8:6); and (2) comparing the relative merits of the Testaments themselves (8:7-10:39). Because the Jews believed in a salvation by works, they must be convinced that salvation is by faith. This is thoroughly proven in Hebrews 11.

I. THE NATURE OF FAITH – Verses 1-3

A. Faith Defined – Verses 1-2

- a. Faith gives substance, or title to the things hoped for – Verse 1; Acts 20:21 “Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- b. Faith is trust in the unseen, not trust in the unknown.
- c. In verse 2, we find the proof of verse 1. “Abel received a good report, that he was righteous; and Enoch, that he pleased God, and walked with him; and Noah, that he was a just man, perfect in his generation, and also walked with God; and Abraham, that he was a believer, a friend of God, and one that feared and obeyed him; and Job, that he was a man that feared God, and shunned evil; and Moses, that he was a meek man, and a faithful one; and David, that he was a man after God’s own heart, and fulfilled his will; and so others: and they received this report by faith.” —Gill

B. Faith and Creation – Verse 3

- a. Creation understood through faith – Romans 1:19-20 “Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”

- b. The seen made out of the unseen – Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” John 1:1-5 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.” Colossians 1:16-17 “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”
- c. Charles Darwin and all the rest of the evolutionists missed the right track by a million miles, because they did not have this faith – Psalm 53:1 “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good.” Proverbs 26:10 “The great God that formed all things both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.”

II. EXAMPLES OF FAITH IN THE ANTEDILUVIAN TIMES – Verses 4-7

- A. Abel’s Faith Declares That God May Be Approached Only by Sacrifice – Verse 4; Genesis 4:3-10 “And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper? And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.”
 - a. Salvation by faith would show the Jews that they too must be saved that way.
 - b. A blood sacrifice is a “more excellent sacrifice.”
 - c. He obtained witness that he was righteous.” Romans 5:9 “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.”
 - d. Abel died by the hand of his brother. In this he is a type of Christ. Matthew 23:35 “That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.” Proverbs 21:27 “The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination: how much more, when he bringeth it with a wicked mind?”

- B. Enoch's Faith and Triumph over Death – Verses 5-6; Genesis 5:22-24 “And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.” Jude 14-15 “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”
- a. Enoch was translated because he walked with God by faith.
 - b. Enoch is a type of the church. He prophesied of judgment, but did not go through it.
 - c. Notice the four “P’s” of Enoch.
 - i. He paced walked step by step with God – Psalm 1:1 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”
 - ii. He pleased God.
 - iii. He prophesied – first pre-millennial preacher – Jude 1:14 “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints.”
 - iv. He passed – translated, a type of the rapture.
 - d. The necessity of faith – Verse 6
 - i. He must believe that God exists.
 - ii. He must believe that God is a rewarder – Hebrews 4:2 “For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.” Psalm 78:22 “Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation.”
- C. Noah's Faith and Triumph over Judgment – Verse 7
- a. The ground of faith warned of God – Genesis 6:13 “And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”
 - b. The realm of faith things not seen.
 - c. The exercise of faith moved with fear.
 - d. The work of faith he prepared an ark. Works can never produce faith, but true faith produces works – James 2:20 “But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?” James 2:26 “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”
 - e. The result of faith he saved his house – Genesis 6:22 “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”

- f. The testimony of faith he condemned the world – Genesis 7:23 “And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.”
- g. The reward of faith heir of righteousness.

Remember that all three examples of faith were before the Law and before the flood. This is proof that men are not saved by the LAW!!

Notes

Lesson 13

EXAMPLES OF FAITH BEFORE THE LAW

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:17 (N. W. 12:1)
Hebrews 11:8-29

Remember that the Jews in New Testament times were legalists. The keeping of the Law and works, counted for everything with them Hebrews 11 shows that they were in error, because faith is superior to any form of legalism. In verses 4-7, we studied examples of faith before the flood in Abel, Enoch and Noah. In all the examples of faith in Hebrews 11, we find no mention of Law keeping of any kind. We do see works, but faith always preceded the works. Never forget that faith is not of human origin, but of divine origin – Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

I. THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM AND SARA – Verses 8-19

A. The Faith of Abraham – Verses 8-10

- a. His faith, his call and his obedience – Verse 8. He knew nothing of Canaan, he just believed and obeyed God. Genesis 12:1-4 “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.”
- b. His life in the land of promise – Verses 9-10
 - i. “He sojourned” means he dwelt as a foreigner, not as a citizen. Christians should view themselves as pilgrims in this sinful world – 1 Peter 2:11 “Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.” 1 Chronicles 29:15 “For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.”
 - ii. References to the “promise.” Genesis 12:7 “And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.” Genesis 13:15 “For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.”
 - iii. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob lived in tents.

- iv. Abraham looked for the heavenly Jerusalem – Verse 10. We too should be looking for that city, described in Hebrews 12:22-23. Revelation 21:9-10 “And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.”

B. The Faith of Sarah – Verses 11-12

- a. Here is the example of an unbeliever – Verse 11; Genesis 16:1-3 “Now Sarai Abram’s wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. And Sarai Abram’s wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.” Genesis 18:10-15 “And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.”
- b. Here is the example of an unbeliever who was changed and is here shown as an example of faith – Verse 11
- c. The triumph of faith – Verse 12; Exodus 32:13 “Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.” Romans 4:18 “Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.”

C. The perseverance of faith – Verses 13-16

- a. The perseverance in life – Verse 13
- b. Perseverance in death – Verse 14
- c. Faith rewarded – Verses 15-16
 - i. No desire to return to the old country – Verse 15; Genesis 24:6-7.
 - ii. The better country God has prepared – Verse 16

D. The faith of Abraham in offering Isaac – Verses 17-19

- a. Isaac only died symbolically, but God's Son died in reality – Verses 17-16; Genesis 22:1-2 “And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.” Genesis 22:10-12 “And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.” Romans 8:32 “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”
- b. He was raised symbolically, but God actually raised His Son from the dead – Verse 19; Acts 4:10 “Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.”

II. THE FAITH OF THREE GREAT MEN – Verses 20-22

A. The Faith of Isaac and the future – Verse 20

- a. Isaac's true blessing for Jacob – Genesis 28:1-3 “And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan. Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother. And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people.”
- b. The blessing of Esau – Genesis 27:39-40 “And Isaac his father answered and said unto him, Behold, thy dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above; And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck.”

B. The Faith of Jacob as He is Dying – Verse 21; Genesis 48:14-16. Notice 4 things he did.

C. The Faith Of Joseph – Verse 22 – The book of Genesis gives a large amount of space to Joseph. He was one of God's choice servants, yet only one verse here is devoted to him.

- a. He remembered the promises of God – Genesis 12:7; 13:5; 15:7; 50:25 “And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.”

- b. His commandment proves his faith in the promises – Genesis 15:13,14; Joshua 24:32
“And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.”

Genesis begins with a perfect creation and the first man is seen in the paradise of Eden AND it ends with a coffin in Egypt.

III. THE FAITH OF MOSES AND HIS PARENTS – Verses 23-29

Although the Law was given during Moses’ lifetime, every event mentioned here in his life took place before the Law. Space only allows us to be brief concerning Moses.

- A. The faith of Moses parents – Verse 23; Exodus 2:2-6
- B. The faith of Moses in Egypt – Verses 24-26
 - a. What he refused.
 - i. He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter – Verse 24. This means he refused wealth, honor and perhaps the throne of Egypt.
 - ii. He refused the pleasures of sin – Verse 25. Why?
 - b. What he chose.
 - i. To suffer affliction with the people of God – Verse 25
 - ii. The reproach of Christ, considering it to be greater riches – Verse 26
 - iii. The future reward – Verse 26
- C. The faith of Moses in forsaking Egypt – Verse 27
- D. Faith and the keeping of the Passover – Verse 28
- E. Israel crosses the Red Sea by faith – Verse 29

Notes

Lesson 14

EXAMPLES OF FAITH AFTER GIVING THE LAW

Memory Verse: 12:1 (N. W. 12:6)

Hebrews 11:30-40

It is interesting to note that there is nothing about faith in Hebrews 11, from the crossing of the Red Sea (v. 29) until forty years later when they entered the land and took the city of Jericho (v. 30). They had the Law for almost 40 years without any faith results.

I. FAITH AND THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN – Verses 30-31

A. Faith and the Walls of Jericho – Verse 30

- a. Sieges often lasted for years, but this one only 7 days.
- b. Marching and trumpets cannot bring walls down, but faith can do this and more. Joshua 6:2-5 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him. Joshua 6:20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. Matthew 17:20 And Jesus said ... If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.
- c. We should do things according to God's plan, not the plan of the world – 2 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.)

B. Faith and a Sinful Gentile Woman – Verse 31

- a. Note that Law keeping did not save her.

- b. Her confession – Joshua 2:9-11 “And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.”
- c. See grace triumphing as this woman is listed in the ancestors of Christ – Matthew 1:5. (In James 2:25, it is said that she was “justified by works.” James is talking about justification before men, while Hebrews and Romans is talking about before God. James condemns a dead (false) faith. See James 2:14,26.)

II. FAITH DURING THE TIMES OF THE JUDGES, KINGS & PROPHETS – Verses 32-40

A. Faith During the Time of the Judges.

- a. Gideon and his 300 – Judges 7:16 “And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man’s hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.”
 - i. The trumpets speak of the word of God – Isaiah 58:1 “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.”
 - ii. The empty pitchers, speaks of our bodies being empty of sin, and ready to be broken for God – Psalm 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”
 - iii. The lamps within the pitchers speak of our profession and witness of salvation – Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
- b. Barak. We might doubt his faith if we went only by Judges 4, where God has to use a woman. He is one of those who “... out of weakness were made strong ...” – Verse 34
- c. Samson – Judges 13-16. By faith he did tremendous feats for God. After his great failure, we see him triumphing in the end by faith. Judges 16:28
- d. Jephthae is one whose faith seems dim. He was “the son of an harlot” – Judges 11:1. He covenanted with the Lord – Verse 11. He was endued with power – Verse 29. The Lord gave him victory – Verse 32

B. Faith During the Time of the Kings.

- a. David is the only King named. He had faith when he killed the lion and the bear to protect the flock. He had faith when he went forth to battle Goliath. 1 Samuel 17

- b. His greatest faith was when he believed God when he accepted the Davidic covenant – 2 Samuel 7:16 “And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.” The proof of his faith is found in when he went before the Lord and prayed – Verses 18-29
- C. Faith During the Time of the Prophets – Verse 32
 - a. Samuel. One of the greatest men of faith.
 - i. He was born in answer to a prayer of faith – 1 Samuel 1:10-11 “And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.”
 - ii. He anointed David as king by faith – 1 Samuel 16:13 “Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.”
 - b. Prophets. Speaking of the later prophets of Old Testament
- D. The Exploits of Faith – Verses 33-40
 - a. Subdued kingdoms, as David – Verse 33; 2 Samuel 8:11 “Which also king David did dedicate unto the LORD, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations which he subdued.”
 - b. Wrought righteousness, as Samuel – Verse 33; 1 Samuel 8:7 “And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.” 1 Samuel 12:4 “And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man’s hand.” 1 Samuel 12:23 “Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way.”
 - c. Obtained promises – Verse 33; Joshua 21:45 “There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.” 1 Kings 8:56 “Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.”

- d. Stopped the mouths of lions, as Daniel, Samson and David – Verse 33; Daniel 6:22-23
“My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions’ mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.”
- e. Quenched the violence of fire – Verse 34; Daniel 3:27 “And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king’s counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.”
- f. Escaped the edge of the sword – Verse 34. David and many others.
- g. Made strong – Verse 34; Judges 16:28 “And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.”
- h. Valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens – Verse 34; Judges 4:14-15
“And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him. And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet.”
- i. Dead raised – Verse 35; 2 Kings 4:35 “Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.”
- j. Tortured, etc. – Verses 35-38. Although we cannot identify all of these, we can be sure that it is all true – Jeremiah 38:6

E. The Expectation of Faith – Verses 39-40

These all (those mentioned in the chapter) had faith but they did not in their lifetime experience the blessings that we have today. They looked forward to the cross, while we look backward.

Lesson 15

THE RACE AND THE FATHER'S CHASTENING

Memory Verse: 12:6 (N. W. 12:14)

Hebrews 12:1-11

I. CHRIST OUR BLESSED EXAMPLE – Verses 1-4

Christ is not only the object of our faith, but He also is the Author of our faith.

A. Look Unto Jesus – Verses 1-2

- a. Affirmation. “The cloud of witnesses.” Who are they?
 - i. The angels see and know what the saved do – Hebrews 1:14 “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” They are probably not in mind here.
 - ii. “Witnesses” is the Greek “martur” from whence we get the English “martyr.” Elsewhere it is used of God, of Christ and of those who witness for Christ by their death. Here it speaks of those named in chapter 11, and means one or both of the following:
 1. Their record of faith is a witness to us.
 2. They are witnessing or watching us in our service for the Lord.
 - iii. We need to remember that there are many people living all about us who are witnessing the good or the evil in our lives.
- b. Separation and Conservation. “Lay aside every weight ... sin”
 - i. Weight is “ogkon” meaning “bulk mass; a swelling, superfluous flesh.”
 - ii. Sin here means anything that would beset and hinder our service unto God. Here it would be good to just think about the many things of the world system, and of our carnal nature which would hinder us as Christians.
- c. Determination. “Run” not creep or move slowly. 1 Corinthians 2:2 “For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.” Galatians 5:7 “Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?” 1 Samuel 21:8 “And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king’s business required haste.” Romans 12:11 “Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.”
- d. Anticipation. “race ... before us.” illustration. A race horse as he awaits the bell that starts the race.

- e. Concentration. “Looking unto Jesus.” – Verse 2. He is our supreme example. We must keep our eyes on Him, or like Peter we will sink and fail. Matthew 14:30 “But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.” Illustration – Picture an athlete running a race on the track, does he look at the stands or at the goal?
- f. Exultation – Verse 2 “Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.” What He starts, He will finish. Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” He is superior to all the examples of faith in chapter 11. He is also the author and finisher of the faith once delivered to the saints.
- g. Substitution. The joy, the cross.
- h. Termination. The goal reached, the crown won – 2 Timothy 4:7 “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” Isaiah 33:17 “Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.”
- i. Inspiration. He sat down – Verse 2. He finished the race. Hebrews 1:3 “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.” Philippians 2:6-11 “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
- j. Exaltation – Verse 2 “at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 7:25 “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

B. Preparation For What Is Before Us.

- a. The race is before us – Verse 1
- b. The MAN is before us. He won the race, the crown, and the place.
- c. The crown is before us. 1 Corinthians 3:13 “Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is.” 2 Corinthians 5:10 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
- d. The joy is before us.

- e. The instructions on how to win the race are before us. Follow the rules, prepare on bended knee, run in the will of God.
- C. Consider Him – Verses 3-4
- a. Consider Him and contradiction of sinners – Verse 3. “Contradiction” means contradict, dispute etc.
 - b. Consider Him only – 1 Samuel 12:24 “Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.” Galatians 6:9 “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”
 - c. Consider His striving against sin – Verse 4; Revelation 5:9 “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”

II. CHASTENING AS EVIDENCE OF THE FATHER’S LOVE – Verses 5-11

A. The People Who Are Chastened – Verses 5-8

- a. Sons are chastened – Verse 5. The word for chastening is “Paidia” which is used of the whole training, education and discipline of children for correcting mistakes and curbing passions. The word does not have the idea of punishment, but corrective measures to eliminate evil.
- b. Those loved of the Lord are chastened – Verses 6-7; Proverbs 3:11-12 “My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.”
- c. Bastards are not chastened – Verse 8. They are the illegitimate children. Children of Satan and not of God.

B. Examples of God’s Chastening Hand.

- a. Abraham almost lost Sarah when he denied that she was his wife. Genesis 20. He brought sorrow into his life and to the whole Jewish nation when he fathered Ishmael by Hagar. Genesis 16
- b. David brought chastisement upon himself and others, when he committed adultery with Bathsheba. 2 Samuel 11
- c. It is sad that Christians continue to think they can sin against God and not be chastised.

C. The Purpose of Chastening – Verses 9-11

- a. That we might reverence God and be under subjection to Him – Verse 9

- b. That we might be partakers of His holiness – Verse 10
- c. That the peaceable fruit of righteousness might be yielded through us – Verse 11
- d. Ponder the following Scriptures on chastisement – Job 5:17-18 “Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole.” Job 34:31 “Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more.” Psalm 94:12 “Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law.” 1 Corinthians 11:32 “But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.” James 1:12 “Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

Notes

Lesson 16

PROPER CONDUCT UNDER THE NEW COVENANT

Memory Verse: 12:14 (N. W. 13:5)
Hebrews 12:12-29

I. SERIOUS EXHORTATIONS – Verses 12-17

A. Christians To Set A Good Example – Verses 12-15

- a. We are to walk uprightly – Verse 12
- b. We are to make a straight path, with the weak in view – Verse 13
- c. Truth should be spread by peaceful means, not through strife – Verse 14
- d. Our holiness is in Christ, or better is Christ, but we should make His holiness visible in our lives – Verse 14
- e. Christians should be self searching – Verse 15. Those who fail in Christian service will hinder the unsaved.

B. Esau As A Bad Example – Verses 16-17

- a. Esau's unconcern for spiritual things – Verse 16
 - i. The birthright was given to Jacob before he was born – Genesis 25:23 “And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.” Romans 9:11-13 “(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.”
 - ii. Esau did despise the birthright – Genesis 25:29-34 “And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.”
- b. Esau's failure to find repentance – Verse 17

- i. There is nothing said here of Esau trying to repent toward God. His repentance was toward his father Isaac, Genesis 27:34-38 “And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father. And he said, Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing. And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me? And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son? And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? bless me, even me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.”
- ii. Even if he could have changed the mind of his father, this would not of worked, because the gifts and callings of God are without repentance. Romans 11:29 “For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.”

II. MOUNT SINAI & MOUNT SION IN CONTRAST – Verses 18-24

A. Matthew Sinai With Its Law, Gives Fear and Not Salvation – Verses 18-21

- a. The sinner finds fear and death from God’s Holy Law.
- b. Who, in their right mind, would prefer this to Grace – Exodus 19:12 “And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death.” Deuteronomy 9:19 “For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith the LORD was wroth against you to destroy you. But the LORD hearkened unto me at that time also.”

B. Matthew Sion, the Heavenly Jerusalem with its Grace, Brings Us to Something Better – Verse 22-24. See Galatians 4:19-31

- a. “Ye are come to mount Sion.” – Verse 22. This has to do with God’s divine choice. Psalm 78:68-70 “Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim: But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved. And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which he hath established for ever. He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds.” Psalm 125:1 “They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about his people from henceforth even for ever.” Psalm 48:2 “Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.” Isaiah 28:16 “Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.”

- b. "The heavenly Jerusalem." – Verse 22; Revelation 21:1-3 "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."
- c. "An innumerable company of angels." – Verse 22. Angels that didn't sin.
- d. "The general assembly" – Verse 23. "PANEGURIS, from pan, all, and agora, any kind of assembly." This undoubtedly refers to all saved of all ages. Some try make it identical to the angels and some identify it with the church. While it may include both, it is not identical with either. Philippians 3:20 "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ."
- e. "Church of the firstborn" Church is here the "ekklesia" a called out assembly in contrast to assembly in the first phrase. Today each Scriptural ekklesia is a New Testament Church. In glory all Scriptural churches will make up the "church of the firstborn." Ephesians 3:21 "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."
- f. "To God the judge of all" – Verse 23. There will be no veil nor cloud to hide His face. The sin question has been settled forever.
- g. "To the spirits of just men made perfect" – Verse 23. All the Saints.
- h. "To Jesus the mediator of the new covenant" – Verse 24
- i. "To the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel." – Verse 24. Possibly referring to Abel's sacrifice and not his own blood.

III. A WARNING NOT TO REFUSE HIM & HIS WORD – Verses 25-29

A. God Shakes By His Mighty Word – Verses 25-27

- a. It is dangerous to refuse Him and His Word – Verse 25; Proverbs 1:24-26
- b. God is going to shake heaven and earth in the future – Verse 26; Haggai 2:6-7 "For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts." Revelation 6:12-13 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind."
- c. The perishable things removed – Verse 27

B. God Preserves By His Mighty Power – Verses 28-29

- a. His kingdom and things ordained by Him shall remain – Matthew 24:35 “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”
- b. “For our God is a consuming fire – Verse 29; 2 Thessalonians 1:8 “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Psalm 50:3

Notes

Lesson 17

EXHORTATIONS & BENEDICTIONS

Memory Verse: 13:5 (N. W. Ruth 1:16)
Hebrews 13:1-25

I. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IN DAILY PRACTICE – Verses 1-17

A. The Practical Christian Walk – Verses 1-6

- a. The importance of brotherly love – Verse 1. “Brotherly love” is the translation of the Greek “philadelphia.” This theme is found in many times in the Scripture. John 13:34-35 “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” John 15:17 “These things I command you, that ye love one another.” Romans 12:10 “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another. Galatians 5:22 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith.” 1 Thessalonians 4:9 “But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.”
- b. Hospitality urged – Verse 2. “Entertained angels.” Genesis 18:2 “And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground.” Genesis 18:22 “And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.” Genesis 19:1 “And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground.”
- c. Remember the persecuted brethren – Verse 3; Hebrews 10:34 “For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.” 2 Timothy 1:16 “The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain.” Galatians 6:2 “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”
- d. Marriage and adultery contrasted – Verse 4
 - i. God approves of marriage – Genesis 2:24 “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Proverbs 5:18 “Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.” 1 Corinthians 7:2 “Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.”

- ii. God condemns adultery – Galatians 5:19 “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness.” Ephesians 5:5 “For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”
- e. The way we are to live – Verses 5-6
- i. Avoid Covetousness – Exodus 20:17 “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour’s.” Psalm 119:36 “Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.” Luke 12:15 “And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.”
 - ii. Be content with what you have – 1 Timothy 6:6 “But godliness with contentment is great gain.”
 - iii. Consider the blessing of His eternal abiding presence.
 - iv. Delight in Him as our helper.
 - v. Enjoy living without fear – 1 John 4:18 “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”
- B. The Practical Christian Life of Separation – Verses 7-17
- a. Remember your Christian teachers – Verse 7
- i. Spiritual leaders are to be respected and followed – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 “And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you. And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”
 - ii. Spiritual leaders have spiritual rule – See verse 17
 - iii. Spiritual leaders are to have their faith followed – Philippians 3:17 “Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.” 1 Corinthians 11:1 “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”
 - iv. Jesus Christ the same – Verse 8. This means that His character, attributes and person is always the same. False teachers abuse this Scripture by using it to show that tongues, healing etc. are all Scriptural today.
 - v. Yesterday Dying for me as a Substitute, Surety, Sin bearer and Sacrifice.
 - vi. Today Living for me as High Priest, Advocate, and intercessor.
 - vii. Forever Coming for me as Bridegroom, Redeemer and Sanctifier.

- viii. Beware of false doctrine – Verse 9. How contrary this verse is to the modern day thinking that all religions and doctrines are good. Acts 20:30 “Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.” Romans 16:17 “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.” Galatians 1:8 “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.” 1 Timothy 4:1 “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.”
- b. The better altar of the believer – Verse 10
 - i. The idea of eating at the altar is taken from the peace offering that the offerer was allowed to eat of. Leviticus 7:15 “And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning.”
 - ii. Also in view here is the fact that adherents of the First Testament are excluded from the privileges of the New Testament.
- c. Bodies of the atonement offering was not eaten, but taken without the camp – Verse 11; Leviticus 16:27 “And the bullock for the sin offering, and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, shall one carry forth without the camp; and they shall burn in the fire their skins, and their flesh, and their dung.”
- d. Christ crucified without the camp outside of the city – Verse 12; John 19:17-18 “And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.”
- e. Believer to be separated unto Him – Verses 13-14; Matthew 10:24-25 “The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?” Matthew 16:24 “Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
- f. The believer’s sacrifices – Verses 15-16; Colossians 3:17 “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” 1 Peter 2:5 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.” Psalm 145:21 “My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.”
- g. Obedience to Pastors as spiritual leaders – Verse 17
 - i. A pastor is a shepherd, and shepherds lead sheep.

- ii. A pastor is a bishop or overseer, and he directs.
- iii. A pastor is an elder, and elders are to be followed.

II. THE BENEDICTION – Verses 18-25

- A. His request for prayer – Verses 18-19; Ephesians 6:18-19 “Praying always with all prayer ... for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.” 1 Thessalonians 5:25 “Brethren, pray for us.” 2 Thessalonians 3:1 “Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you.”
- B. His prayer for them – Verses 20-21
 - a. Under persecution they had access to the “God of Peace” – Verse 20
 - b. They had hope in Christ, who was brought up from the dead – Verse 20
 - c. Personal and pastoral care in that great shepherd of the sheep – Verse 20
 - d. Everything guaranteed by the blood of the everlasting covenant – Verse 20
 - e. For God’s perfecting work in them – Verse 21
 - f. That they would do God’s will – Verse 21
 - g. That they might please God through Jesus Christ – Verse 21
- C. They were urged to accept the exhortations – Verse 22
- D. Timothy had been set free – Verse 23
- E. Salutations – Verses 24-25

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