

The background is a composite image. It features ancient stone ruins, possibly the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, with a rainbow arching over the top. The image is overlaid with various Hebrew text fragments in different colors and fonts, some appearing as if they are floating or reflected. The word 'HEBREWS' is prominently displayed in the center in a large, orange, serif font.

HEBREWS

BOOK STUDY

Biographical Info

- Author – Unknown
- Recipients – Believers with a Jewish background
- Time – 64-68 A.D.

Historical Background

- Occasion – Neronian persecution 64 A.D.
- Occasion – Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple
- Occasion – The unpardonable sin
- Theme – Don't go back to Judaism. Christ is Superior.
- Three Pillars – Angels, Moses, Law

Literary Style

- Sermon
- Pastoral
- Exposition and exhortation
- Five warning sections (2:1-4, 3:7-4:13, 6:4-12, 10:26-39, 12:25-29)
- Difficult to interpret

Chapter 1

Prologue 1-4

- 1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.
- Polymeros and Polytropos
- “Spoken in Son” Christ is God’s final speaking
- Christ is Heir – Eschatological role as King
- Creator of the universe

Prologue 1-4

³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

- Radiance – outshining
- Exact representation – Stamp or imprint

Prologue 1-4

After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

- “Sat Down” is an allusion to Psalm 110:1.
- Psalm 110 has been understood as being Messianic.

Chain of Quotations

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son; today I have become your Father”?

Or again, *“I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”*?

- **Psalm 2** (a royal enthronement psalm) and **2 Samuel 7** both speak about the Davidic King and ultimately to David's greatest descendant Jesus Christ

Chain of Quotations

⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

- The future Kingdom is in view
- The Quotation of Psalm 97 is from the Septuagint which reads “angels” instead of “Gods”

Chain of Quotations

⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, “*He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire.*”

- Psalm 104 is a creation psalm. The Angels serve the creator (v4) who “*through Him also He made the universe*” (Heb. 1:2).

Chain of Quotations

⁸ But about the Son he says, *“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.”* ⁹ *You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.”*

- Psalm 45 is a wedding song for the king
- Companions is a unique word for the author of Hebrews meaning those in close association with Jesus.

Chain of Quotations

⁰ He also says, “ In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ¹¹ They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. ¹² You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.”

- Psalm 102 is a lament over the victory of the psalmist's enemies. Comfort is found in the Lord who vindicates those who are his companions.

Chain of Quotations

¹³ To which of the angels did God ever say, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

- This quotation from Psalm 110 is the zenith of the chapter conveying the final victory of Christ over His enemies.
- King / Priest theme

End of the Inclusio

¹⁴ Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

- The mention of angels connects back to 1:4
- An inclusio is unit of thought or argumentation
- The salvation in view here is not from hell, but deliverance by the Lord at His coming

Chapter 2



Review

- The Son is superior to angels
- He will make His enemies a footstool for His feet
- He will share the joy and blessings with His companions

Warning #1

2 For this reason, we must pay attention all the more to what we have heard, so that we will not drift away.

- What reason
- The author includes himself in his warning
- Drift away – boat unmoored, A father's instruction (Proverbs 3:21)

Neglect

² For if the message spoken through angels was legally binding and every transgression and disobedience received a just punishment, ³ how will we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?

- Law – Acts 7:53, Gal. 3:19
- First class condition – if the law was binding (and it is). Nadab and Abihu, Korah, Achin.
- Neglect – not outright rejection. To not to think about and thus respond appropriately

Salvation

This salvation had its beginning when it was spoken of by the Lord, and it was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ At the same time, God also testified by signs and wonders, various miracles, and distributions of gifts from the Holy Spirit according to his will.

- Salvation – eschatological
- Signs – authenticated the message
- Wonders – the result of the signs

Man

⁵ For he has not subjected to angels the world to come that we are talking about. ⁶ But someone somewhere has testified:

What is man that you remember him,
or the son of man that you care for him?

⁷ You made him lower than the angels
for a short time;

you crowned him with glory and honor

⁸ and subjected everything under his feet. (Psalm 8)

- God, man, creation

Incarnation

For in subjecting **everything** to him, he left nothing that is not subject to him. As it is, we do not yet see everything subjected to him. ⁹ But we do see Jesus—made lower than the angels for a short time so that by God's grace he might taste death for everyone—crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death.

- Taste = fully experience

Pioneer

¹⁰ For in bringing many sons (and daughters) to glory, it was entirely appropriate that God—for whom and through whom all things exist—should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.

- Israelites were sons of God
- Perfected = To reach a goal – suffering made Jesus like us completely

Brothers

That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers (and sisters), ¹² saying:

I will proclaim your name to my brothers (and sisters);

I will sing hymns to you in the congregation.

¹³ Again, I will trust in him. And again, Here I am with the children God gave me.

- Psalm 22, Isaiah 8:17-18

Our Kinsman

¹⁴ Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.

- Kinsman Redeemer – He had to be able to pay the price, be related by blood, and willing to redeem

Our Priest

¹⁷ Therefore, he had to be like his brothers and sisters in every way, so that he could become a merciful and faithful high priest in matters pertaining to God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For since he himself has suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

- He is qualified to be our priest because he became like us

Chapter 3

Review

- First warning – Pay more careful attention to the message of the Son. If you neglect such a great salvation discipline will be the result.
- Remember Jesus was made like us and has delivered us from the fear of death
- We (His companions) share in His coming kingdom
- He is our merciful and faithful high priest and is not ashamed to call us brothers.
- He helps those being tempted

The Readers

3 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.

- **Holy Brothers** and **Partakers in a heavenly calling** remind us the readers are believers.
- **Consider** – give thoughtful attention to...

Moses

² He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as **Moses was in all God's household**. ³ For Jesus is considered worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder has more honor than the house.

- Moses was the most revered figure in Judaism
- Moses presided over the building of God's house.
Jesus was also faithful high priest over God's House.
- Exodus 12:7

Moses

³ For Jesus is considered worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder has more honor than the house. ⁴ Now every house is built by someone, but the one who built everything is God. ⁵ Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's household, as a testimony to what would be said in the future.

- Moses was a faithful servant over God's house

Jesus

⁶ But Christ was faithful as a Son over his household.
And we are that household if we hold on to our
confidence and the hope in which we boast.

- Believers are a worshiping body of believer priests
- We must remain faithful to that function
- If we do not hold on, then we will cease to function as worshiping priests

Warning #2 - Psalm 95

⁷Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
on the day of testing in the wilderness,

⁹where your ancestors tested me, tried me,
and saw my works ¹⁰for forty years.

Therefore I was provoked to anger with that generation
and said, “They always go astray in their hearts,
and they have not known my ways.”

¹¹So I swore in my anger,

“They will not enter my rest.”

Meribah and Massah

- Historical reference to Exodus 17
- Greater story is the disobedience of the wilderness generation
- The culmination was at Kadesh Barnea

Warning #2

¹² Watch out, brothers and sisters, so that there won't be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

- Falling away is the negative side of holding fast (v6)
- Falling away was a willful withdrawal from Service as believer priests

Antidote

¹³ But encourage each other daily, while it is still called **today**, so that none of you is hardened by sin's deception.

- Encouragement and fellowship in a community of believers is critical

Antidote

¹⁴ For we have become participants in Christ if we hold firmly until the end the reality (confidence) that we had at the start.

- Companions in close association with Jesus
- Salvation from hell is not in view here
- You were running a good race. Who cut in on you?
(Gal)

Consequences

¹⁵ As it is said:

**Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.**

¹⁶ For who heard and rebelled? Wasn't it all who came out of Egypt under Moses? ¹⁷ With whom was God angry for forty years? Wasn't it with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, if not to those who disobeyed? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Wilderness Generation

- They lost the blessing of Yahweh's rest
- They experienced physical death
- Disobedience is unbelief pressed into action

Chapter 4

Review

Don't Drift

Unbelief

Hardening of
the heart

Disobedience

Loss of
blessing

Review

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

¹⁹ And so we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief. (3:18-19)

- Rest is the Crux Interpretum
- Background is Psalm 95
- Psalm 106:24-27

Walter Kaiser

“It also follows that the generation of the wilderness could have participated in this future kingdom rest of God to some extent, but they refused to do so in unbelief; therefore they were twice the losers; Temporally and spiritually, in that historic moment and in the second advent.”

Rest

4 Therefore, we must fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short *of it*.

- Therefore connects this with the previous section. We are moving from Instruction to application
- We – the author includes himself in the warning

Rest

4 Therefore, we must fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short *of it*.

- We are going to play three-dimensional chess for a bit

Rest

- The author uses the idea of rest in numerous ways in his argument
 - Rest - is a time of peace and the enjoyment of blessing because of a job well done
 - Sabbath rest
 - Promised land rest (Moses)
 - Conquest Rest (Joshua)
 - Davidic rest
 - Eschatological rest

Coming Up Short

4 Therefore, we must fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.

- We secure rest by trust and obedience
- Some were worried that they missed the opportunity

Good News

² For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also *did*; but the word they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united with those who listened with faith. ³ For we who have believed enter *that* rest, just as He has said,

“AS I SWORE IN MY ANGER,
THEY CERTAINLY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST,”

- Believing Gods promise leads to good works

Sabbath Day Rest

although His works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh *day*: "AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS"; ⁵ and again in this *passage*, "THEY CERTAINLY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST."

- God rested from his completed works
- The Hebrews needed to faithfully complete their works

Today

⁶Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who previously had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷He again sets a certain day, "Today," saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

- There was a rest available in David's day

Joshua

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.

⁹ Consequently, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

- Joshua settled the people in the land, but they did not fully obey God, so they never experienced His full blessings

Future Rest

¹⁰ For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.

- Rest and Reward is available to those who faithfully complete their work
- Justification is not the issue here because it is through grace alone not by works

Make Every Effort

- ¹¹Therefore let's make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by *following* the same example of disobedience.
- What is the falling?
- Temporal death

Word Of God

¹² For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- Jesus is the Word of God
- The sword cuts both ways
- The believer's entire self is known
- Judge – kritikos - critic

Naked

¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

- Standing in your underwear
- Trachelizo - having your neck exposed in battle

High Priest

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let's hold firmly to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things just as *we are*, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let's approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace for help at the time of our need.

Chapter 5



Review

- Our high priest is uniquely positioned in heaven to help those he represents
- The readers rather than “drifting away” needed to “Draw near” and make use of this High Priest
- The issue for the believer is never one of supply but one of appropriation
- They needed to ask for grace

Qualifications for High Priests

- Priests represented the people before God
- The author will lay out four qualifications for a high priest and then show how Jesus meets those qualifications
 - Human
 - Appointed
 - Compassionate
 - Belonging to an order

Qualifications

5 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of people in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins;

- Here we see the first two qualifications
- Priests were appointed by God like Aaron
- Korah, Saul, and Uzziah are all examples of those who tried to perform priestly duties when they were not appointed to the office.

Qualifications

² he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is clothed in weakness; ³ and because of it he is obligated to offer sacrifices for sins for himself, as well as for the people.

- Gently – to be in the middle between harshness and apathy
- Ignorant and going astray – defiant sin is not within the scope of the scriptures; old or new
- Day of Atonement – The Old Testament 1 John 1:9

LEVITICUS

1-7

GOD GLORIFIED

The FIVE OFFERINGS

FELLOWSHIP

1

BURNT OFFERING

Male - All Burnt
on Altar.
Skin for Priest.

JOHN'S GOSPEL
PSALM 40

SWEET SAVOUR

3

PEACE OFFERING

Male or Female
Blood, Fat, Kidneys for God.
Breast and Right Shoulder
for Man.

LUKE'S GOSPEL
PSALM 85

SWEET SAVOUR

2

MEAL OFFERING

Fine Flour - Oil - Frankincense
No Leaven or Honey
season with Salt.
Oven - Pan - Frying Pan

THE PERFECT MAN
PSALM 16

VOLUNTARY
OFFERINGS

JUDGMENT OF SIN

4

SIN OFFERING

Blood and Fat
on Altar.
Bullock Burnt
without the Camp.

MARK'S GOSPEL
PSALM 22

ATONEMENT and FORGIVENESS

5

TRESPASS OFFERING

Blood and Fat of
Ram on Altar.
Principal Restored
and Fifth Part Added.

MATTHEW'S GOSPEL
PSALM 69

SWEET SAVOUR

Designed By R. K. Campbell

5 Sacrifices

- 3 were voluntary
- 2 were mandatory – the sin offering and the trespass offering
- Both mandatory sacrifices were for unintentional sin
- Willful sin was dealt with by capital punishment or restitution or by mercy (David)

Qualifications

⁴And no one takes the honor for himself, but *receives it* when he is called by God, just as Aaron also was. ⁵So too Christ did not glorify Himself *in* becoming a high priest, but *it was* He who said to Him,

“YOU ARE MY SON,
TODAY I HAVE FATHERED YOU”; (Psalm 2)

⁶just as He also says in another *passage*,

“YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER
ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.” (Psalm 110)

MELCHIZEDEK

- Genesis 14:18-20. This predates the law and the Aaronic priesthood
- As Abraham was returning home from a great victory he passes through Salem (Jerusalem)
- A king - priest with nothing else spoken about him comes out to meet Abraham and brings him a feast. He worships Yahweh!
- He tells him that God (Yahweh) gave him the victory
- Abraham offers 1/10 of everything he has to this man
- This gift foreshadowed the amount that the Israelites gave the priests

Qualifications

⁷ In the days of His humanity, He offered up both prayers and pleas with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His devout behavior.

- Of his flesh
- Where did this happen
- Save out of death
- Isaiah 51:17-23

Qualifications

⁸ Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. ⁹ And having been perfected, He became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey Him, ¹⁰ being designated by God as High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

- One would not expect a divine, royal son to learn through suffering
- Perfected means completed

Warning #3

¹¹ Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* difficult to explain, since you have become poor listeners.

- Who is him?
- Dull of Hearing

Warning #3

¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the actual words of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

- It is not that they did not know these things but that they had regressed in their walk with the Lord
- Melchizedek is milk?

Warning #3

¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is unacquainted with the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to distinguish between good and evil.

- Practice makes perfect

Chapter 6



Review

- Christ our great High Priest is in the order of Melchizedek
- The author wanted to say more about this “type of Christ”, but his audience had become dull of hearing
- They should have been teachers but instead needed to relearn the ABC’s.
- They were regressing in their commitment to Christ

Warning #3

6 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God...

- Us- what am I going to say?
- Maturity – Same word as Perfection (5:9)

Warning #3

not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

³ And this we will do, if God permits.

- Jewish rituals are in view here
- Third class condition – The future more probable
- Maturity in the Christian life requires our effort along with God's working

Warning #3

⁴ For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵ and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶ and *then* have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance...

- Those – precedes each of the following five participles. The statements are true of the whole group

5 Participles

- **"Once been enlightened"** – 10:32 states the recipients were believers
- **"Tasted the heavenly gift"** – 2:9 tasted means fully experienced
- **"Shared in the Holy Spirit"** – Shared is the same word for companions in 3:1 meaning those in close companionship with Christ
- **"And have tasted the good word of God"** – This age
- **"And the powers of the age to come"** – 2:4 referring to miracles, signs, and wonders that testify to the power of the coming kingdom

The Various Contexts of Any Passage



Fallen Away

⁶ and *then* have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance...

- Fall away - Only here (hapax legomena).
- The word is grammatically governed by “those”. Some have really fallen away already.
- Fallen away – fallen beside
- What have they fallen away from?
- Their relationship with Christ and their function as worshiping believer priests

Renewed To Repentance

⁶ and *then* have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance...

- Restore (renew) – This word has no subject. What is it impossible to renew them too?
- God? No since nothing is impossible for Him
- Most likely reading would be “It is impossible for us or anyone to renew them to repentance”
- Drifting – Hardening – Dull of hearing - Regressing
- They are beyond the remedy of encouragement

Recrucifying

since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

- Realigning themselves with those who hated the Messiah would result in a public shame of the name of Christ
- These individuals become impervious to the efforts of others calling them to repentance
- The only option for them is judgment, which is the next subject in the form of an analogy

Judgment Analogy

⁷ For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and produces vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; ⁸ but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.

- For – connecting word. The same people are in view
- The ground is the same in both analogies
- The rain-soaked ground fulfilled its divine purpose by providing food for the farmer. It received God's blessing.

Judgment Analogy

⁸ but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.

- The thorns and thistles are useless and are good for nothing
- Worthless = disqualified
- Cursing is directly related to the Mosaic land covenant
- Burning is not hell. The Bema Seat is in view.
- Fields were burnt to clear them of unwanted plants

Pastoral Words

⁹ But, beloved, we are convinced of better things regarding you, and things that accompany salvation, even though we are speaking in this way.

- Future more probable
- “Salvation” in this verse is also eschatological. Not soteriological. Rewards accompany salvation.

Diligence

¹⁰ For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, by having served and by *still* serving the saints. ¹¹ And we desire that each one of you demonstrate the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and endurance inherit the promises.

Abraham

¹³ For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear an oath by no one greater, He swore by Himself, ¹⁴ saying, "INDEED I WILL GREATLY BLESS YOU AND I WILL GREATLY MULTIPLY YOU." ¹⁵ And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

- Did Abraham patiently wait?

God's Promises

¹⁶ For people swear an oath by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *serving* as confirmation is an end of every dispute. ¹⁷ In the same way God, desiring even more to demonstrate to the heirs of the promise the fact that His purpose is unchangeable, confirmed it with an oath, ¹⁸ so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to hold firmly to the hope set before us.

- God first gave Abraham a promise then he gave him an oath. These are the two immutable things. (Gen. 12, 17)

Anchor

¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and reliable and one which enters within the veil, ²⁰ where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Chapter 7



MELCHIZEDEK

- Genesis 14:18-20. This predates the law and the Aaronic priesthood
- As Abraham was returning home from a great victory he passes through Salem (Jerusalem)
- A king - priest with nothing else spoken about him comes out to meet Abraham and brings him a feast. He worships Yahweh!
- He tells him that God (Yahweh) gave him the victory
- Abraham offers 1/10 of everything he has to this man
- This gift foreshadowed the amount that the Israelites gave the priests

Melchizedek

7 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ² to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth of all *the spoils*, was first of all, by the translation *of his name*, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace.

³ Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually.

Melchizedek

⁴ Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils. ⁵ And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have a commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their countrymen, although they are descended from Abraham.

- Abraham – Isaac – Jacob – Levi
- Mel was not racially related to Abraham

Melchizedek

⁶ But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises. ⁷ But without any dispute the lesser *person* is blessed by the greater. ⁸ In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one *receives them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives *on*. ⁹ And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, has paid tithes, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his forefather when Melchizedek met him.

Perfection

¹¹ So if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need *was there* for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?

- What was the purpose of the law
- It could only reveal sin

Tribe Of Judah

¹² For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also. ¹³ For the one about whom these things are said belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses said nothing concerning priests.

Undying

¹⁵ And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, ¹⁶ who has become *a priest* not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷ For it is attested *of Him*,

“YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER
ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.”

Better Hope

¹⁸ For, on the one hand, there is *the* nullification of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness ¹⁹ (for the Law made nothing perfect); on the other hand, there is the introduction of a better hope, through which we come near to God. ²⁰ And to the extent that *it was* not without an oath ²¹ (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him,

"THE LORD HAS SWORN
AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND,
'YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER'");

New Covenant

²² by the same extent Jesus also has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

- New Covenant of Jeremiah 31
- Promise of Perfection for Israel

Saved Forever

²³ The *former* priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing; ²⁴ Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save forever those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Perfect Priest

²⁶ For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens; ²⁷ who has no daily need, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the *sins* of the people, because He did this once for all *time* when He offered up Himself. ²⁸ For the Law appoints men as high priests who are weak, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, *appoints* a Son, who has been made perfect forever.

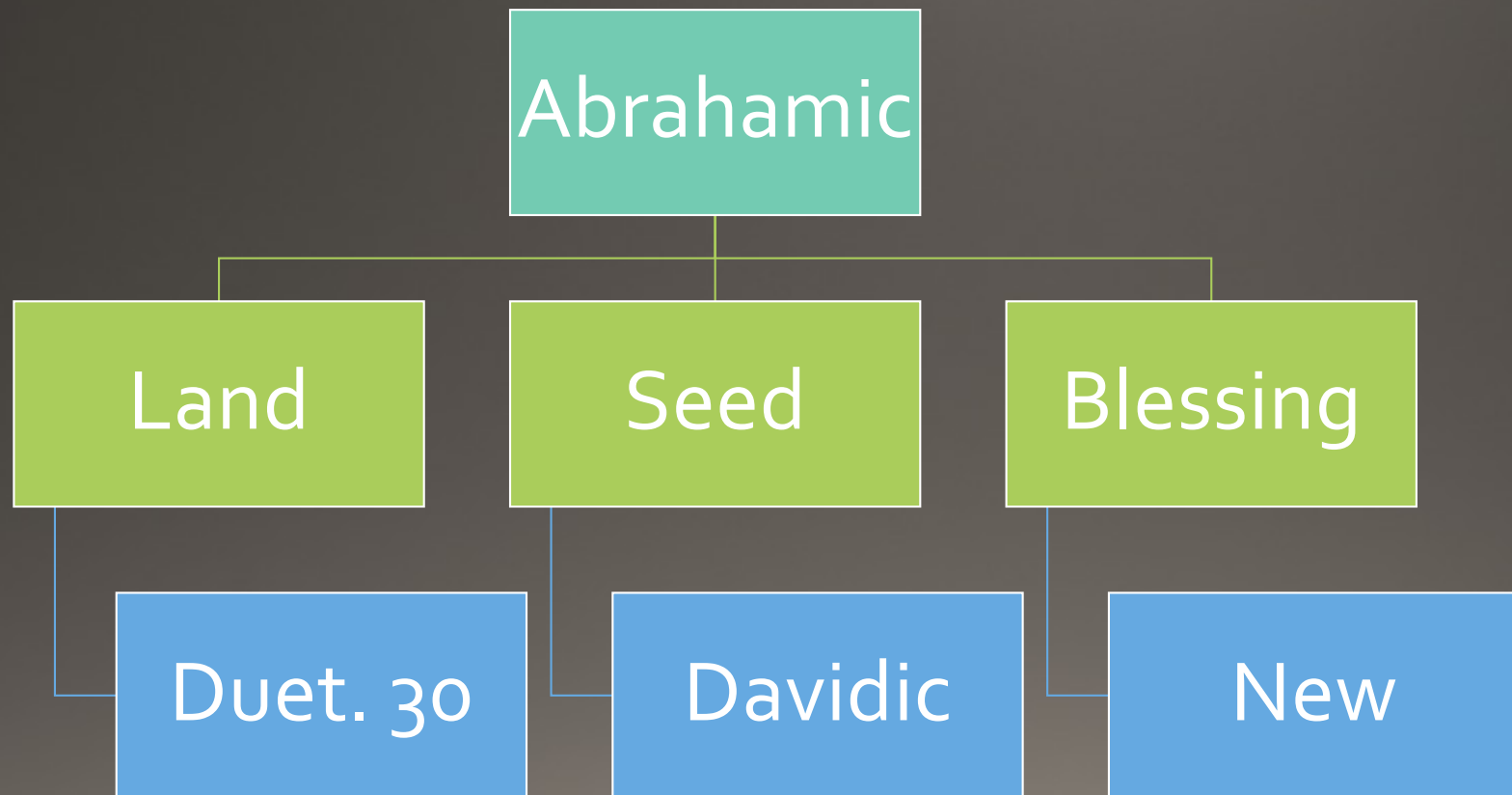
Chapter 8



Review

- Christ is priest of all; Aaron only of Israel
- Aaron was a priest; Jesus a king / priest
- Aaron's ministry was about sin and judgment; Jesus' ministry was about righteousness and peace
- Jesus did not inherit his priesthood or pass it on; The Levitical high priests did
- Aaron's ministry kept people in infancy; Jesus' ministry brings people to perfection
- Aaron was sinful; Jesus was perfect
- Aaron died; Jesus lives forever

Covenants



Mosaic Covenant

- It is not an organic covenant but was added in
- Conditional covenant
- Temporary
- Will be replaced

The Point

8 Now the main point in what has been said *is this*: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens...

- What is the meaning of “has taken his seat”
- What is the significance of Jesus being “at the right hand of the throne of God”
- Why does it matter that He is in heaven

True Temple

² a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord set up, not man.

- The true temple is in heaven

Unqualified

³ For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices; so it is necessary that this *high priest* also have something to offer. ⁴ Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law...

- Did Jesus have something to offer
- What did he offer
- Why would Jesus not have been qualified to be a priest on earth

Pattern

⁵ who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned *by God* when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, “SEE,” He says, “THAT YOU MAKE all things BY THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN TO YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN.”

- Exodus 25:40

Better Promises

⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, to the extent that He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

- Why is Jesus' ministry better
- He offered better promises

New Covenant

⁷ For if that first *covenant* had been free of fault, no circumstances would have been sought for a second.

⁸ For in finding fault with the people, He says,

- The fact that a coming new covenant spoken by the prophets immediately made the old covenant temporary and necessary
- The fault was not the law but the people
- The law came with no power to obey or justify

New Covenant Promises

- Internal Knowledge and desire to do God's will
- Enjoy a privileged and unique relationship with God
- They would know the Lord directly and personally
- Experience permanent forgiveness of their sins

WOW

¹² FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TOWARD THEIR WRONGDOINGS,
AND THEIR SINS I WILL NO LONGER REMEMBER."

- Never ever remember

**How great will the new
covenant be... in the old
God demands of sinful
man “Thou shalt”! In the
New God promises “I will”!**

Old and New

¹³ When He said, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is about to disappear.

- New is **kainos** not neos - New in quality and time
- “Old” is paleos not Archaios – Useless
- The old is based on Law the new on grace
- When did the Old covenant disappear

Chapter 9



Review

- The promise of a New Covenant for Israel spoken of by the prophets proved the authors point that the Old (Mosaic) Covenant was never designed to be permanent.
- It was not an organic covenant growing out of God's unconditional covenant with Abraham but was added later.

Why?

- Why did God institute this covenant? This was still better than what people had before. It made clear the holiness of God and revealed man's sinful heart. It revealed how the believer should live. It showed the need for a Messiah who could once for all deal with mans sin and make perfect the worshiper.
- Revelation is progressive – even we do not have all the fulness of revelation

The Tabernacle

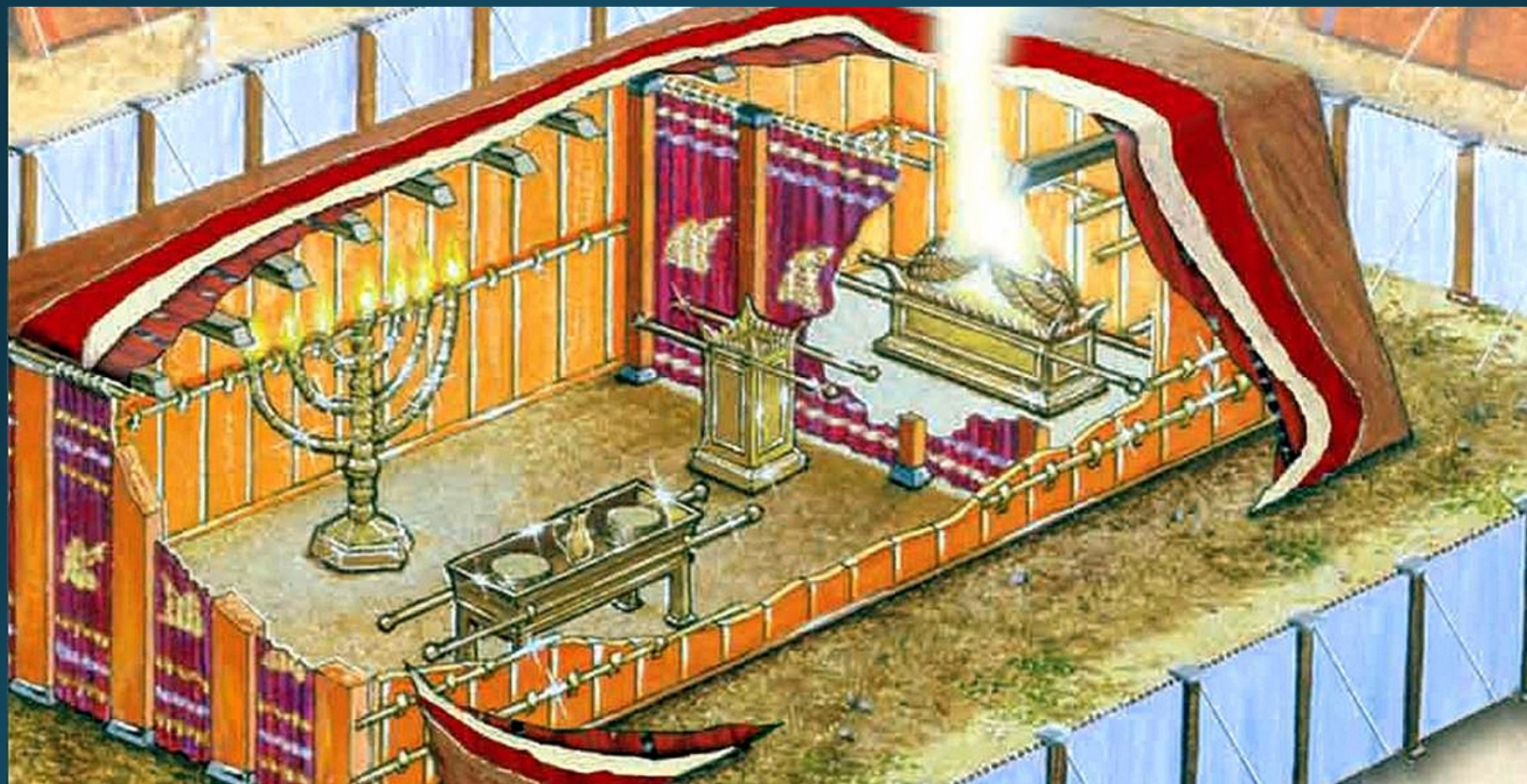
9 Now even the first *covenant* had regulations for divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.

- Tabernacle of Moses is in view
- Regulations regarding worship were numerous and very specific. One might say exacting!

The Tabernacle

² For a tabernacle was equipped, the outer *sanctuary*, in which *were* the lampstand, the table, and the sacred bread; this is called the Holy Place. ³ Behind the second veil there was a tabernacle which is called the Most Holy Place, ⁴ having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron's staff which budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it *were* the cherubim of glory overshadowing the atoning cover; but about these things we cannot now speak in detail.





Day Of Atonement

⁶ Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, performing the divine worship, ⁷ but into the second, only the high priest *enters* once a year, not without *taking* blood which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.

- Day of Atonement is in view
- In Ignorance

Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Only one man, out of one family, out of one clan, out of one tribe, out of one race, out of all humanity ever had access to the presence of God!

The Conscience

⁸The Holy Spirit *is* signifying this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing, ⁹ which *is* a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience, ¹⁰ since they *relate* only to food, drink, and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

- Inward verses outward cleansing

Once For All

¹¹ But when Christ appeared *as* a high priest of the good things having come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by hands, that is, not of this creation; ¹² and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all time, having obtained eternal redemption.

Purpose of Sacrifices

¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the (His) eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

New Covenant Ratified

¹⁵ For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the violations that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

- The old covenant could point out sin but could not bring in the promised inheritance (New Covenant promises)
- People in the old testament were saved by grace through faith in what Christ WOULD DO!

Last Will And Testament

¹⁶ For where there is a covenant, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it. ¹⁷ For a covenant is valid *only* when *people are* dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives. ¹⁸ Therefore even the first *covenant* was not inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹ For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, "THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU."

- Christ's death provided an inheritance for believers.

Sprinkling Blood

²¹And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood. ²²And almost all things are cleansed with blood, according to the Law, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

- The applying of blood here is for the cleansing of the tabernacle

Heavens Cleansed

²³ Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these things, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ did not enter a holy place made by hands, a *mere* copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; ²⁵ nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year by year with blood that is not his own.

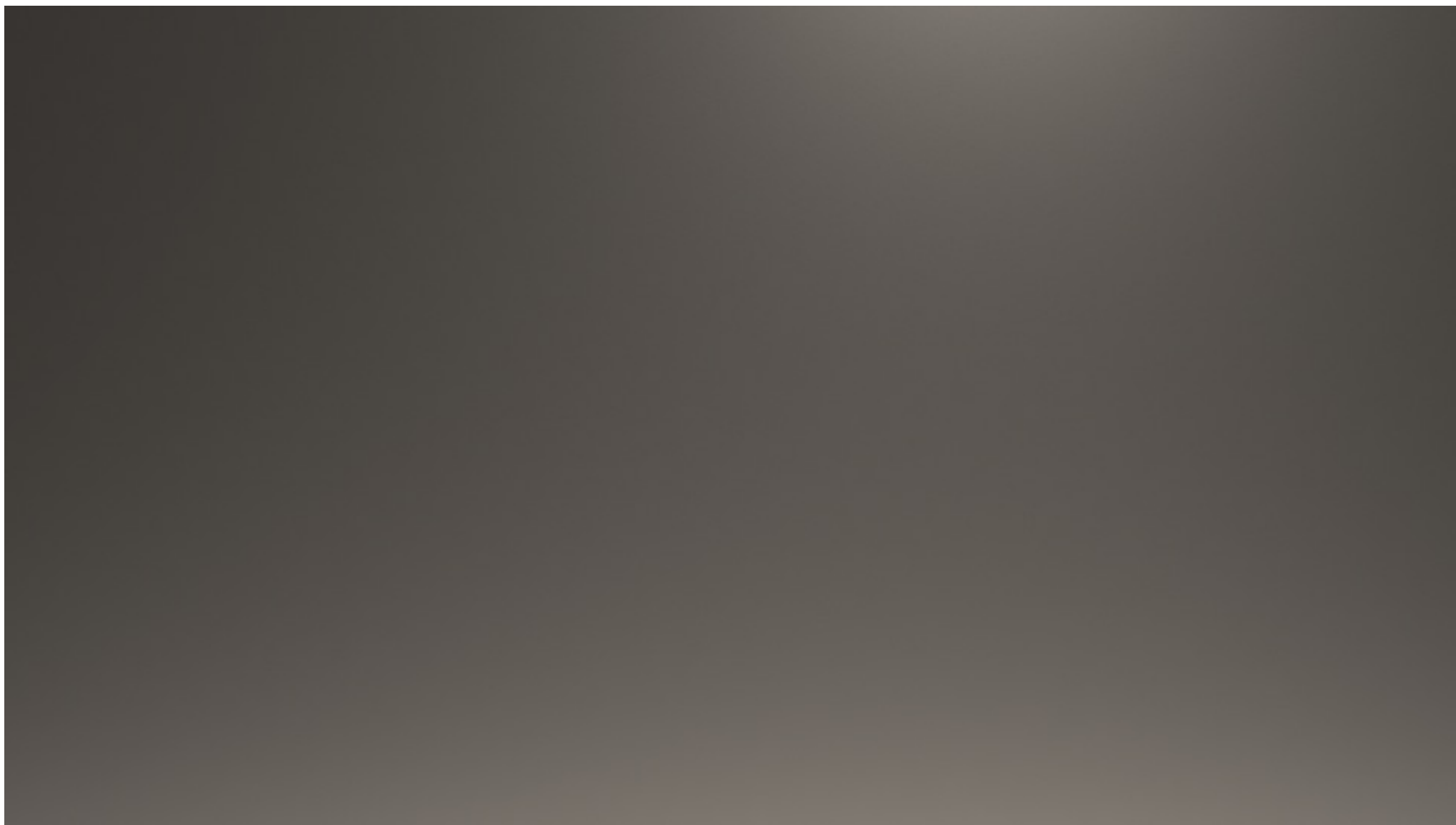
First And Second Advent

²⁶ Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been revealed to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. ²⁷ And just as it is destined for people to die once, and after this comes judgment, ²⁸ so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

- The High priest exited the Holy of Holies to the cheers of the crowd

Chapter 10





Perfect

10 For the Law, since it has *only* a shadow of the good things to come *and* not the form of those things itself, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually every year, make those who approach perfect.

- Sanctification and glorification is in view here NOT Justification

Impossible

² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? ³ But in those *sacrifices* there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Free Will Offering

⁵Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says,

"YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED SACRIFICE AND OFFERING,
BUT YOU HAVE PREPARED A BODY FOR ME;

⁶YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN PLEASURE IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS
AND *OFFERINGS* FOR SIN.

⁷THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME

(IT IS WRITTEN OF ME IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK)
TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'"

- 1 Samuel 15 – Psalm 40

Free Will Offering

⁸ After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND *OFFERINGS* FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE *IN THEM*" (which are offered according to the Law), ⁹ then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ By this will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time.

- The First is the old covenant, the second is the New covenant

Seated

¹¹ Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; ¹² but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, ¹³ waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES ARE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying...

New Covenant

- ¹⁶ "THIS IS THE COVENANT WHICH I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, DECLARES THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEARTS, AND WRITE THEM ON THEIR MIND,"
- *He then says,*
- ¹⁷ "AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL NO LONGER REMEMBER."
- ¹⁸ Now where there is forgiveness of these things, an offering for sin is no longer *required*.

Warning #4

1. Don't drift
2. Don't have an unbelieving heart
3. If you fall away, you can't be renewed to fellowship while you are hard hearted
4. No sacrifice for sins is left

Application

¹⁹Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, through His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, ²² let's approach God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let's hold firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;

Spurred

²⁴ and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds, ²⁵ not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Judgment

- ²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

Temporal Death

²⁸ Anyone who has ignored the Law of Moses is put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." ³¹ It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Believers

³² But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,
³³ partly by being made a public spectacle through insults and distress, and partly by becoming companions with those who were so treated. ³⁴ For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better and lasting possession.

Reward

³⁵ Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

³⁷ FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

³⁸ BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE WILL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

Destruction

³⁹ But we are not among those who shrink back to **destruction**, but of those who have faith for the safekeeping of the soul.

Chapter 11



Review Chapter 10

³⁵Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

³⁷FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

**³⁸ BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE WILL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.**

³⁹ But we are not among those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith for the safekeeping of the soul.

Faith

¹¹ Now faith is *the* certainty of *things* hoped for, a proof of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old gained approval.

- Hypostasis – Stand under
- Title Deed

Kent – The Epistle to the Hebrews

“Steadfast endurance in the face of obstacles is the evidence of faith. It was this very feature which the O.T. heroes exemplified in their lives. For the readers to give up their present faith in order to escape suffering would be contrary to the stalwart examples of these O.T. greats whose memories were justly honored. One would not be showing respect for O.T. religion, even if one reverted to Judaism, by abandoning the very essence of his ancestors worship.”

Creation

³ By faith we understand that the world has been created by the word of God so that what is seen has not been made out of things that are visible.

Abel

⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he was attested to be righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.

Enoch

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for before he was taken up, he was attested to have been pleasing to God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and *that* He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.

Noah

- ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned *by God* about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Abraham

⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he left, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he lived as a stranger in the land of promise, as *in* a foreign *land*, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond *the* proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore even from one man, and one who was *as good as* dead at that, there were born *descendants who were* just as the stars of heaven in number, and as the innumerable *grains of* sand along the seashore.

Promises

¹³ All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen and welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. ¹⁵ And indeed if they had been thinking of that *country* which they left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better *country*, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

Abraham, Jacob, Joseph

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and the one who had received the promises was offering up his only *son*;
¹⁸ *it was he* to whom it was said, "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR
DESCENDANTS SHALL BE NAMED." ¹⁹ He considered that God is able to
raise *people* even from the dead, from which he also received him
back as a type. ²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even
regarding things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, as he was dying,
blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the
top of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made
mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders
concerning his bones.

Moses

²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the temporary pleasures of sin, ²⁶ considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he persevered, as though seeing Him who is unseen. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch them. ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned.

Rahab

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after *the Israelites* had marched around them for seven days. ³¹ By faith the prostitute Rahab did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

Hodge Podge

³² And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed *acts of* righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵ Women received *back* their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection;

Not Worthy

³⁶ and others experienced mocking and flogging, and further, chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented ³⁸ (*people of whom the world was not worthy*), wandering in deserts, *on* mountains, and *sheltering in* caves and holes in the ground.

Better for Us

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

Chapter 12



Kent – The Epistle to the Hebrews

“Steadfast endurance in the face of obstacles is the evidence of faith. It was this very feature which the O.T. heroes exemplified in their lives. For the readers to give up their present faith in order to escape suffering would be contrary to the stalwart examples of these O.T. greats whose memories were justly honored. One would not be showing respect for O.T. religion, even if one reverted to Judaism, by abandoning the very essence of his ancestors worship.”

Witnesses

12 Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us

Example

² looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Endurance

³ For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Discipline

⁴ You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; ⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons,

“MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE **DISCIPLINE** OF THE LORD,
NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE **PUNISHED** BY HIM;

⁶ FOR WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE **DISCIPLINES**,
AND HE **PUNISHES** EVERY SON WHOM HE ACCEPTS.”

- Suffering is not without meaning for the believer
- Proverbs 3:11-12

Illegitimate Children

⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline? ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

F.F Bruce

"A father would spend much care and patience on the upbringing of a true-born son whom he hoped to make a wealthy heir; and at the time such a son might have to undergo much more irksome discipline than an illegitimate child for whom no future of honor and responsibility was envisaged, and who therefore might be left more or less to please himself."

- More committed Christians often experience more trials than less committed Christians

Discipline

⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected *them*; shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined *us* for a short time as seemed best to them, but He *disciplines us* for *our* good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ For the moment, all discipline seems not to be pleasant, but painful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

Straight Paths

¹² Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that *the limb* which is impaired may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

Encourage One Another

¹⁴ Pursue peace with all people, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many become defiled

Esau

¹⁶ that *there be* no sexually immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a *single meal*. ¹⁷ For you know that even afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

Mount Sinai

¹⁸For you have not come to *a mountain* that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind, ¹⁹and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words, which *sound was such that* those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not cope with the command, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." ²¹And so terrible was the sight, *that* Moses said, "I am terrified and trembling."



Mount Zion

²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than *the blood* of Abel.

- Why would anyone want to return to Sinai
- It would be forfeiting their inheritance

Warning #5

²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking.

For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned *them on earth*, much less *will* we *escape* who turn away from Him who warns us from heaven.

Shaking

²⁶And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN." ²⁷This *expression*, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

- Haggai 2:6

Reverence

²⁸Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let's show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire.

- Let us hold Grace
- Duet 4:24

Chapter 13



Review

- Do not refuse him who is speaking
- Don't be like Esau
- Don't live for a shaking kingdom
- "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose"

Authorship

- Chapters 1-12 do not seem to match up with Paul's writing style (Greek)
- Chapter 13 does
- It is possible that Paul lent his apostolic authority to this written sermon by writing chapter 13 and including it in with the rest

Concluding Exhortation

Let love of the brothers and sisters continue. ² Do not neglect hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, *and* those who are badly treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.

- Abraham, Lot, Gideon and Manoah all entertained angels
- Inns were miserable places
- Prisoners were supported by those who were free

Not Alone

⁴ Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage* bed *is to be* undefiled; for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ *Make sure that* your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER ABANDON YOU," ⁶ so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

- Deut. 31:6, Psalm 56:4, 118:6

Leaders

⁷ Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their way of life, imitate their faith.

- “Consider the end of their life (literal reading)”

Good Doctrine

⁹ Do not be misled by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

- Why dietary laws
- To set apart

Altar

¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

- In the fellowship or peace sacrifice the offeror shared the meat with the priest
- Our altar is the cross
- Unbelieving Jews have no right to partake of Christ. They are still eating at the old altar

Outside

¹¹ For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the Holy Place by the high priest *as an offering* for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹² Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the gate, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood. ¹³ So then, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach. ¹⁴ For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking *the city* which is to come.

- Day of Atonement and the Sin offering
- Jesus was crucified outside the city
- Jews needed to leave apostate Judaism and go out to Jesus

Worship

¹⁵Through Him then, let's continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips praising His name.

¹⁶And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

- Believer priests offer spiritual sacrifices

Leaders

¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit *to them*—for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account—so that they may do this with joy, not groaning; for this *would be* unhelpful for you.

- Scary verses
- Elders are judged on how well they shepherded the flock
- Lay people are judged by how easy they made that job for them

Authors Prayer Request

¹⁸ Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things. ¹⁹ And I urge *you* all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you more quickly.

Benediction

²⁰ Now may the God of **peace**, who **brought up from the dead** the great Shepherd of the sheep through the **blood** of the **eternal covenant**, *that is*, Jesus our Lord, ²¹ equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is **pleasing in His sight**, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* the **glory** forever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion

²² But I urge you, brothers *and sisters*, listen patiently to this word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly.

²³ Know that our brother Timothy has been released, with whom, if he comes soon, I will see you. ²⁴ Greet all of your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

²⁵ Grace be with you all.

Thank You!

