

Chapter 1

**Author:** Most Likely Paul

**Time:** 61AD – 68AD

**Reason:** Due to persecution many Hebrew Jews were returning to temple worship.

**Theme:** To contrast and prove the superiority of the New Covenant to the Old Covenant.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Superiority to Angels (1:1 – 2:18)

Superiority to Moses (3:1 – 3:19)

Superiority to Joshua (4:1 – 4:16)

Superiority to Aaron (5:1 – 5:14)

Christian Perseverance (6:1 – 6:20)

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Priesthood Changed	(7:1 – 7:16)
Christ's Priesthood	(8:1 – 10:39)
Hall of Faith	(11:1 – 12:2)
Chastisement & Warnings	(12:3 – 12:29)
Christian Admonishments	(13:1 – 13:25)

# The Epistle to the Hebrews

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners  
spake in time past unto the fathers by the  
prophets, (2 Peter 1:21) Hebrews 1:1

Sundry: *polumeros* - various

Divers: *polutropos*- in many ways

## **God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake**

Much debate has been made as to whether God speaks. Regardless of the thoughts of the atheist and the deist, God does speak and has spoken many times.

Sundry: *polumeros* - various

Divers: *polutropos*- in many ways

## **unto the fathers by the prophets**

Because God chose to speak through the prophets, we can be assured that the Christian Bible is the Word of God.

**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.

## **spoken unto us by his Son**

"These last days" refer to the past 2000 years - that Christ finished His work and His life has spoken clearly to mankind.

Tells us that Jesus brought to mankind not only the Word of God but the thoughts, the heart, and even the fullness of God.

## **he hath appointed heir of all things**

This speaks of Christ in His incarnation. God has made the man Christ Jesus the heir of ALL things.

## **by whom also he made the worlds**

This speaks of Jesus' deity. Jesus is the architect for the entire creation.

These verses are important because the writer is immediately comparing the Word of God via the prophets and the superiority of the Word of God via the Son.

# The Epistle to the Hebrews

Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; (John 1:1-3)

Hebrews 1:2

## **God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake**

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## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, *(by His nature)* 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;

Hebrews 1:3

### **Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person**

Jesus is described as the radiance of God's Glory. He cannot be separated from the Father God just as light cannot be separated from fire.

God the Father and the Son are like having a fire. It can be split it into two fires; both fires are of the same nature and essence allowing them to blend as well separate.

### **upholding all things by the word of his power**

This speaks of Jesus' deity. The creation is actively maintained by the Word of the Son of God.

This statement proves that the creation was not wound up like a clock and allowed to operate without the need of it's Creator.

### **he had by himself purged our sins**

Jesus is the sole Agent in the sacrifice for sin. Neither man nor angel assisted Him in purging our sin.

### **sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high**

This shows that Jesus (*a man*) is right now seated at the right hand of the majesty of God (*notice angels do NOT sit in the presence of God*).

The right hand is the hand of power and ability.

All of this description is giving of Christ (humanity and deity) to show His superiority to the angelic host.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Being made so much better than the angels, *(as the Son of Man)* as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name *(Phil 2:9-11)* than they.

Hebrews 1:4

### **Being made so much better than the angels,**

This verse must be understood regarding Jesus' humanity. Jesus as God has always been "better" than the angels. But as man, God resurrected Him to a superior position than the angelic host.

### **he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they**

The name "Lord" is the name Jesus obtained as a result of His sacrifice on the Cross.

**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.

### **Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?**

These first statements reflect the humanity of Christ.

The second statement reflects that God was not always the Father, as Christ was not always the Son. This special relationship occurred via the incarnation.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

Hebrews 1-5

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### **Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?**

These first statements reflect the humanity of Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. (Luke 2:13-14) And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his Ministers a flame of fire.

*leitourgos* - a public servant

Hebrews 1:6-7

### when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world

Once again this statement refers to the incarnation of Christ and how the Father "brought Him into the world" via the virgin birth.

### And let all the angels of God worship him.

This statement plainly exhibits Jesus as God and shows His superiority to angels.

This refers to the time of His birth in Bethlehem with all the angels worshipping Him. Although He became man, His position as deity was not diminished. As well, His presence on earth demanded the adoration and worship of the angelic host.

**Luke 2:13-14** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

### Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire

The key word of this phrase is "maketh". Angels are made in a subordinate role to the Son and operate in the capacity as servants (ministers) to His will.

Again these statements are meant to show Christ's superiority to the angelic host.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But unto the Son he saith, <sup>(1)</sup>Thy throne, <sup>(2)</sup>O God, is <sup>(3)</sup>for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy <sup>(4)</sup>kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. Hebrews 1:8-9

### **But unto the Son he saith**

This phrase sets the roles of angels in contrast to the role of the Son, again stressing the vast superiority of the creator over the creation.

### **Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.**

Although the term Son refers to Jesus' humanity. The Holy Spirit refers to the Son as:

1. Having a throne
2. As God
3. As being eternal
4. As having a kingdom

### **hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity;**

This refers to the man Christ Jesus and His perfect righteousness. Which He lived before the Father.

Jesus actually obtained the righteousness, which is in the Law by perfectly adhering to it's just demands.

To the degree that He loved righteousness, He also hated iniquity to the same degree.

### **therefore God**

What follows this phrase is dependant on what precedes it.

The depth of anointing of the Spirit on Jesus was based on His perfect righteousness to God's Law.

### **thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.**

No other man has ever yielded His body to God as perfectly as Christ, in regard to righteousness.

Therefore the Holy Spirit was able to move on and through Jesus to a far greater degree than any other man.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: (John 1:1-3)*

Hebrews 1:10

### **And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:**

The use of the word Lord addresses Jesus Christ. The statement made refers to Him as the Creator.

The term "in the beginning" refers to the creation in Genesis 1:1 and does not refer to God, because He has no beginning.

**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.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.*

Hebrews 1:10-12

### **They shall perish; but thou remainest:**

This statement shows Christ of course greater than His creation, as well it deals with the infinitude of God.

This is the response of the Father to the Son regarding His being crucified. The creation will perish but the cross will not bring an end to the Son.

### **they all shall wax old as doth a garment:**

Everything in creation ages but the Son of God is unaffected by time and age.

### **as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.**

All of these statements display Christ in the elevated position of Creator.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But to which of the angels said he at any time, *Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*

Hebrews 1:13-14

### **Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?**

Again the greatness and dignity of Christ is being compared to the lesser position of angels.

If it is to be noticed, angels are never seated in the presence of God; because to be seated in the presence of the King is a great honor.

We are to never forget that Jesus sits on the right hand of God as a man. Although deity, He is 100% man; even our representative man.

### **Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?**

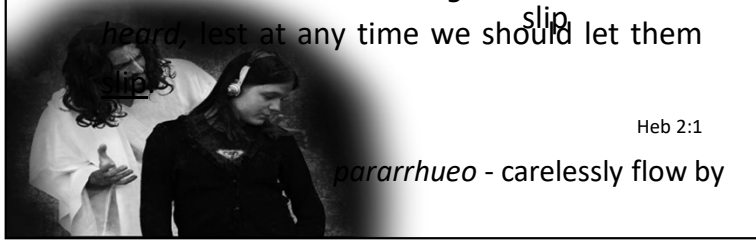
Refers to ALL angels being created in the role of servants (i.e., ministering spirits) and are to serve the heirs of salvation.

Due to Christ's victory at Calvary, the whole of the Church share with Him in the inheritance which includes the angelic host ministering to believers.

Chapter 2

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them*



Heb 2:1

*pararrhēo* - carelessly flow by

### Therefore

What follows “therefore” is dependant upon what precedes “therefore”.

### we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard

The point is that the Old Covenant was given by the prophets and the Law was given by the ministration of angels; yet the New Testament is given by the Word of the Son of God.

“*give the more earnest heed*” refers to setting our attention and taking into consideration. This is an area in which a majority of Christian are not exercised.

We need to listen very carefully and consider what it is that we have heard, because One greater than the prophets has spoken and a greater One than the angels.

### we should let them slip.

Meaning that man is prone to allow things of eternal consequence to slip and the reason is lack of interest in the things of God.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For if the word spoken by angels <sup>(Gal 3:19)</sup> was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; <sup>Neglect.</sup> How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;*  
*ameleo - to be careless with* Hebrews 2:2-3

### **For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;**

The term "spoken by angels" has to do with the fact that angels were involved in the ordination of the Law into the hands of Moses

**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.

When the spoken Law was disobeyed the result was severe and sudden punishment (*Nadab and Abihu*) without respect of persons.

### **if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord**

"*if we neglect*" refers to giving no consideration or only light consideration to.

"*So great a salvation*" refers to a salvation purchased by so great a priced and offering so great benefits.

How shall we escape who have receive the Word not from mere angels but from the Son of God Himself?

### **confirmed unto us by them that heard him**

Refers to the apostles of Jesus Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.*

Hebrews 2:4-5

### **God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles and gifts of the Holy Ghost**

God bore witness to Jesus via the miracles and signs exhibited in Jesus' ministry. These same signs were exhibited in the lives of the apostles and are recorded in the books of Acts.

### **to his own will?**

This phrase is important because miracles NEVER occur at the whim and will of mere men. It is always according to sovereign God's will.

### **unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come,**

Again the contrast is drawn between Christ and angels. As powerful as angels are, they have been given no dominion.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But one in a certain place testified, saying,  
*What is man, that thou art mindful of him?  
or the son of man, that thou visitest him?  
Thou madest him a little lower than the  
angels; (Psa 8:5) thou crownedst him with glory  
and honour, and didst set him over the works  
of thy hands:*

### **What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?**

The term “son of man” refers to mankind in general and not Christ as the Son of Man.

David in writing all of this focuses on the insignificance of mankind in general, yet man is greatly honored by God who visits him via the incarnation.

### **Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:**

**Psalms 8:5** For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

This is a faulty translation from the original language as the word translated *angels* is from the original word *Elohiym* which means “the supreme God”.

Man was created and crowned with a glory and honor that modern mankind can not begin to fathom or understand.

As well, man was originally given dominion over all of God's creation.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. (Eph 1:19-22 – 2:6) For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.*

Hebrews 2:8

### Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet.

“Thou” in this phrase indicates the Father and tells us that the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam had all things subjected to him.

Jesus, the last Adam and representative man, produced via His finished work of Calvary a total victory over ALL things (this He did as man).

**Ephesians 1:19-22** And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when **he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet,** and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

**Ephesians 2:6** And hath raised **us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places** in Christ Jesus:

### For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him.

We understand that when the Lord created Adam, He gave him total dominion over all that he had ever been exposed to.

The Last Adam also has been given dominion over all that He has been exposed to insomuch as He is omniscient “*he left nothing that is not put under him*”.

### now we see not yet all things put under him.

This refers to the fall of man. Although the Lord gave dominion to man, this dominion is currently not being enjoyed.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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.*

Hebrews 2:9

### **But we see Jesus**

Although we do not currently see all things in subjection to man, we do, by faith, see Jesus seated at the right hand of power.

### **who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death,**

Refers to the incarnation and to the fact that Jesus was and is today 100% man. Due to the Cross, He was raised to this position of dominion.

The premiere reason for the incarnation was so that Jesus could die. As God's death was an impossibility for Christ, but in becoming man He would be able to die as our sacrifice.

### **crowned with glory and honour;**

Although mankind does not today reflect the original dominion man was to have, we see the promise of such in Jesus and His position at the right hand of Power.

### **by the grace of God should taste death for every man.**

By God's goodness Jesus died on behalf of every man. The potential is such that EVERY man can be saved, if proper faith is forthcoming.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,*

### **For it became him**

It was suitable and consistent with divine wisdom and omniscience.

### **for whom are all things, and by whom are all things,**

**For whom** tells us that all things were made for His good pleasure.

**By whom** tells us that all this were made by his omnipotent power.

### **in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.**

God's plan of salvation is to have the end effect of bringing many sons (and daughters) to a position of glory.

- Although it is many in number, it will be small in percentage to the whole.

The main thought of this verse is, "*It was suitable and consistent with divine wisdom and omniscience to make the chief leader of salvation accomplished via suffering*".

### **both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one:**

Christ is the sanctifier; Christian are those who are sanctified. Both Christ and Christian share the same source which is human nature.

### **he is not ashamed to call them brethren,**

Due to this sharing of the human experience, it is proper for Christ to refer to men as brethren.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Saying, *I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.* (Psa 22:22) And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, *Behold I and the children which God hath given me.* (Eph 2:3)

Hebrews 2:12-13

### I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

**Psalm 22:22** I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Inasmuch as this is a quote from Psa 22 (the passion psalm) it extols the work of Calvary.

It is believed by some that Jesus quoted the all of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm was quoted by Jesus on the Cross.

### Behold I and the children which God hath given me.

Again this speaks of the Cross which is how Christians were changed from children of wrath to children of God.

**Ephesians 2:3** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and **were by nature the children of wrath**, even as others.

**Romans 8:16** The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that **we are the children of God**:

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

Hebrews 2:14-15

### **Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood,**

The children refers to mankind in general. We are flesh and blood creatures. Therefore, Jesus also became flesh and blood.

This is one of the reasons for the incarnation. As the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam was 100% man and lost dominion, Christ became 100% man and won back the dominion.

### **through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;**

Death, which is the result of sin, is Satan's greatest power over the human race but Jesus, via Satan's own weapon, destroyed him.

This was all made possible due to the incarnation.

### **deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

In destroying death, Jesus potentially removed the fear of death from Christian lives and destroyed the bondage of that fear.

Jesus' finished work delivered mankind from the terrible threat death posed.

Death is a huge aberration that stands just outside of the human experience and strikes, stinging men with the stinger of sin, injecting them with the venom which ultimately brings the victim to death itself.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.* (Heb 10:4)

Hebrews 2:16-17

### **For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.**

Again, the contrast is made to the angels being less than Jesus and to Jesus taking on human faculties.

**the seed of Abraham:** refers to the fact that for men to be redeemed they must come into the Abrahamic Covenant which is “by faith”.

### **it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God**

It was only proper for Jesus to be consistent with the type of creation which His finished work redeemed.

This is why the blood of bulls and goat could not take away sin.

**Hebrews 10:4** For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, (James 1:13) he is able to ~~succour~~ <sup>Succour:</sup> succour them that are tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

to aid or relieve

### he himself hath suffered being tempted

Jesus, as a man, had to suffer temptation as all men do.

**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.

We should understand that Jesus' temptation was not to sin in the manner that men do daily. Rather, it was a temptation to operate outside of the Father's will for Him.

Jesus' temptation in the wilderness was a temptation to get Him to act as God rather than as a man.

### he is able to succour them that are tempted.

His suffering allows Him to be a compassionate High Priest of His people.

Because He suffered temptation successfully, He is able to show us the way through temptation.

Chapter 3

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, <sup>Consider</sup> the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.*

*katanoeo - to observe <sup>Hebrews 3:1-2</sup> fully:*

### **Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling**

Paul refers to these Hebrew Jews as “holy brethren.” It is the partaking of the heavenly calling that renders one in a position of holy.

### **consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;**

Paul is pleading with these brethren to “*consider*” Jesus meaning the request is to “*fully observe*” Him.

A superficial understanding and observation of Jesus is one of the biggest sins in the Church today. We must continually “consider” Jesus.

### **Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.**

Paul leaves off contrasting Jesus to angels and now begins to contrast Jesus to Moses.

### **Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house**

Moses is handled very delicately here and due to the fact that he is esteemed highly in Jewish minds.

Paul is careful not to diminish Moses’ standing at all but is careful to ensure Christ is seen as greater than even the great Moses.

As Moses was a faithful servant in his house (his ministry to the Lord), so Jesus was also faithful to the God in His ministry.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.*

Hebrews 3:3-4

### **For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses**

This would have been a biting statement to the Jewish mind, stating that Jesus is greater than Moses.

### **he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.**

The “house” refers loosely to the house of God, as Israel was the Church of that day. This means that Jesus is maker of all men who make up Israel.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.*

Hebrews 3:5-6

### **And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant**

As great as Moses was and as faithful as he was in his ministry, he was but a servant.

The greatest of servants cannot begin to be compared to the son of the house, even if they shared the same function.

### **But Christ as a son over his own house;**

As the house that Moses was over was the Old Covenant people (Israel), Christ is over the New Testament house (the Church).

Christ as a son exceeds Moses in honor and privilege because the house that Moses served in belongs to Christ.

### **whose house are we,**

Not only is it the New Testament people collectively that make up the House of God, it is the Christians individually as well.

### **if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.**

This is a conditional statement that proves unconditional eternal security is not scriptural.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, (Zech 7:12) as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.*

Hebrews 3:7-9

### **Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith,**

These statements are made by God the Holy Spirit and as such should be taken extremely seriously.

### **To day if ye will hear his voice**

We are to understand these statement are made to the Christian and not the unsaved.

As warning comes today, the adherence to what is said must as well occur today.

### **Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation,**

The warning is NOT to harden our hearts, which is the natural reaction of the carnal mind.

**Zechariah 7:12** Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

### **When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.**

During the 40 years in the wilderness, Israel tempted (tested) the Lord and yet continually responded to Him in unbelief.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Wherefore I ~~was~~ grieved with that generation, and said, *They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.*)

*prosochthizo* – to be indignant

Hebrews 3:10-11

### **I was grieved with that generation, and said**

Israel's tendency to constantly operate in unbelief was the reason the Lord was indignant with them.

### **They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.**

The heart is the seat of man's spiritual and emotional character.

Although Israel had known God's great acts, they did not know His ways. To know His ways is of greater import than to know His acts.

### **I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)**

God's threat of judgment came by way of an oath. Wrath is even more pronounced under grace than under Law.

The possibility of His rest was removed.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

~~Take heed~~, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

*blepo* – to look at and <sup>Hebrews 3:12-13</sup> beware of

### **Take heed, brethren.**

Take heed means to instruct the Christian Jews to consider their ancestor's failure and beware of making the same mistake.

We too as the people of God must beware of the mistakes of the past.

The word brethren proves that this book is written to Christians and not to unbelieving Jews as some attempt to assert.

### **there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.**

The Holy Spirit defines an unbelieving heart as a departure from the living God.

All who come to Christ come because they "will" to do so, this means that a departure can occur by a reversed "will".

### **exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

Christians are to understand the danger of and exhort one another against the deceitfulness of sin on a daily basis.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For we are made partakers of Christ, <sup>(Rom 6:3)</sup> if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.*

Hebrews 3:14-15

### **we are made partakers of Christ**

To be a partaker of Christ, one must be baptized into Jesus Christ (Rom 6:3) and maintain faith in the finished work of Calvary.

Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

### **if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end**

The condition of salvation is that we must continue in the Faith until the very end.

### **To day if ye will hear his voice,**

This is the third time the Holy Spirit uses the word "today," emphasizing the importance of an immediate response to the Lord.

A failure to hear the voice of the Lord is in conjunction with unbelief and will harden the heart .

### **harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.**

This represents a warning that we must not allow apostasy, apathy or luke-warmness to cut us off from the Lord.

Sin hardens the heart against the Lord even to the degree that we allow a provocation the wrath of God.

We are admonished not to follow the example of Israel in the wilderness.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. (Gal 5:7) But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?*

### **For some, when they had heard, did provoke:**

The adult generation that came out of Israel heard, refused, and provoked the Lord's wrath.

This provocation ultimately destroyed that entire generation with the exclusion of Joshua and Caleb.

### **howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses**

The entire generation that came out of Egypt by Moses started rightly but then provoked the Lord via unbelief ending wrongly.

The thought is that all came out of Egypt meaning they started right but did not continue right.

**Galatians 5:7** Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

### **But with whom was he grieved forty years?**

It was not ALL of Israel who died in the wilderness but only the original generation that came out of Egypt.

It took 40 years for all of them to die physically, although they had long before died spiritually.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.*

Hebrews 3:18-19

### **to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?**

The term “*to whom sware he*” has to do with God taking an oath and to be sure it will be carried out.

Again, Paul is attempting show that it was not all of Israel that was excluded from going into the promises but only those who operated in unbelief.

### **we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.**

The culmination of Paul’s arguments is this: Unbelief prevents Christians from entering into the promises of God.

Chapter 4

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Let us therefore ~~fear~~lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 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. Heb 4:1-2*  
*phobeo - to be alarmed, to frighten*

### **Let us therefore fear.**

Paul is stating that every Christian should be alarmed by the wilderness experience.

We should never take our salvation for granted, because the possibility exists that we too can lose our way and fall short of the promise.

### **a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.**

A promise of rest has been left for every Christian but not every Christian appropriates that promise.

This rest refers to a cessation of works, as the Sabbath day was a day of rest. Jesus Christ is the true Sabbath for the believer.

### **For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them:**

Paul draws an important parallel:

1. As the Gospel was preached to Israel of old, the Gospel was preached to Christianity (no difference)
2. The preached Gospel did not have the desired effect on them and today does not have the desired effect on many Christians
3. The problem then was a refusal to operate under God's word by faith, the problem is the same today

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For we which have believed <sup>(past tense)</sup> do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.*

Hebrews 4:3

### **For we which have believed do enter into rest**

As a portion of Israel successfully traversed the wilderness and came into Canaan, Some Christians successfully traverse modern obstacles and enter into the rest provided by Christ.

Paul is pointing out that some, including himself, have entered into rest (past tense).

### **I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.**

If God's swears that unbelief will keep one out of the promise, then the opposite is also sworn.

The rest that modern Christians have was foreknown and completed in the mind of God from the foundation of the earth.

God in Canaan had prepared for Israel a heavenly rest as well. But many fell short of the promise.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day <sup>(Gen 2:3)</sup> on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. And in this place again, *If they shall enter into my rest.**

Hebrews 4:4-5

### **For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day**

This refers to the Lord speaking with regard to His own rest after 6 days of creation effort (Gen 2:3).

**Genesis 2:3** And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

As the Lord rested the seventh day, He commanded His creation also rest on the seventh day. Now Jesus is at rest at the right hand of Power and we are to rest in Him.

### **If they shall enter into my rest.**

The term "IF" tells us that some will enter into rest and others won't. Entering the rest of Christ is not a given, it requires faith.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:*

Hebrews 4:6

### **Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein**

It is clear that some do enter into God's rest telling us it is very much possible.

The bar is NOT raised so high that no one can enter in.

### **they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:**

Unbelief is the response that will prevent one from entering into the rest of God.

Unbelief is also the response that can cause one to lose their soul eternally as it was threatening to do to the Hebrews

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Hebrews 4:7

### **he limiteth a certain day**

This tells us that God has put a limit on His call to dying humanity.

There is a point of no return in putting off the mercies of God.

### **To day, after so long a time**

The Holy Spirit emphasizes that “today” is the day to hear and obey the voice of God.

### **To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

The worse response one can have to hearing the voice of God is to harden the heart against that voice.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For if Jesus (Joshua) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.*

Hebrews 4:8-9

### **For if Jesus had given them rest**

The name Jesus is a derivative of the Hebrew name Joshua and should have been translated Joshua in this instance.

Joshua was the one who brought Israel into the promise land given them a physical rest but not the spiritual rest.

While in the promise land Israel still labored under the “works” of Levitical law.

### **would he not afterward have spoken of another day**

Meaning that in the days of David (*400 years after Joshua*), the Lord still promised a rest.

### **There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.**

This is Paul’s proof that a rest is still promised to the people of God and that this is a rest from our religious works.

That which occurred prior to Christ was not the actual rest but only pointed to the rest we have in Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, <sup>(Eph 2:8)</sup> as God did from his. Let us ~~labour~~ therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.*

*spoudazo - to use speed and diligent <sup>Hebrews 4:10-11</sup>*

### **For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works,**

For a person to enter into the rest of the Lord demands that person come by faith alone and not at all by works.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

### **Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest,**

This statement does not propose that rest is the end result of labor, rather it's rest demands a diligent effort be made.

### **lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.**

If we do not enter into rest by faith, unbelief will prevent us doing so.

Likewise, if we do not maintain that rest by faith, unbelief is the culprit.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12

### **For the word of God is quick, and powerful, sharper than any twoedged sword**

This tells us the Bible is alive making it unlike any other book in existence.

Additionally, it is empowered by the Holy Spirit.

### **a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

This relates the discerning power of the Word of God. It is able to cut through all of man's self delusions and penetrate the innermost thoughts and intents.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.*

Hebrews 4:13

### **Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight:**

Informs us that God is omniscient and therefore able to discern all of His creation. There is no place to hide even a thought from the Father.

### **all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.**

This tells us that not only does God see all, but ALL THINGS are naked before His piercing gaze.

This statement shows how ridiculous Adam's efforts to hide behind fig leaves and trees of the forest were.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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.*

Hebrews 4:14

### **Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens**

This informs us that, as Aaron passed into the Tabernacles' Holy of Holies, Christ has passed into Heaven itself.

As Aaron was mediator between God and Israel, Christ is mediator between God and man.

This shows Christ's superiority over Aaron and all Levitical priests.

### **Jesus the Son of God.**

Aaron and Moses were sons of Adam; Jesus is the Son of God.

### **let us hold fast our profession.**

Paul's exhortation to the Hebrew Jews was, "don't through off your faith."

This exhortation continues to be of utmost importance today.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.* (Matt 4:3,6,9)

Hebrews 4:15

### **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities:**

One of the reasons for the incarnation was that Jesus, our High Priest, needs to experience life as a man.

Jesus is well acquainted with the frailty and inability of the human condition.

### **in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

We are to carefully consider this phrase lest we conclude that Jesus was tempted with the vileness that is common to man.

Jesus' temptation was as all men's temptation is: to operate outside of the manifest will of God for His life.

**Matthew 4:3** And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

**Matthew 4:6** And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

**Matthew 4:9** And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Let us therefore come ~~boldly~~ unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

Hebrews 4:16

*meta* - denoting accompaniment

### **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace,**

Due to what Jesus did for us on the Cross, man has full access to the Throne of Grace.

We must understand that we are able to come to the Throne with confidence.

### **we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**

We are to maintain a confident approach to the Throne even when we are in need of mercy as well in time of need.

Chapter 5

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.* Heb 5:1-2

Refers to sins of ignorance

Having missed the way of God

### **For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins**

In order for a priest to officiate on behalf of men, one must be of the same nature of those for whom he officiates.

The incarnation was God taking on the nature of men so that He could act as High Priest for us.

An angel, an animal, or God Himself could not function as man's High Priest because those entities are of a different nature (i.e., not of the human nature).

### **Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way;**

**The ignorant:** Refers to sins of ignorance

**them that are out of the way:** refers to those are aware of their sin

### **for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.**

Because Jesus was 100% man, He was acquainted with the weakness and frailty of the human condition.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.*

Hebrews 5:3-4

**And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.**

Due to the infirmities ensconced in human nature, the natural High Priests reasonably offered up sin both for the people and for themselves.

The High priest was to first offer up a ram for his own sin and THEN offer up a lamb for the people.

**no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.**

No man was able to assign himself to the office of priest, let alone the office of high priest.

To be a priest, one had to be a Levite, as well be in the lineage of Aaron.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.*

Hebrews 5:5-6

### **Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest;**

As natural men are appointed by the decree of God, so Christ was appointed by God to be priest.

**he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**

The voice of the same one (God) who claimed Christ as His son, also decreed Christ to be a priest, but not of the Aaronic lineage.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;*

### **Who in the days of his flesh,**

Refers to that time period of the incarnation of Christ, specifically from the time of His baptism to the time of His death.

### **he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;**

This gives us a strong picture of Jesus' humanity, although never ceasing to be God, He was also 100% man. He felt the fears and anxieties that men feel.

Jesus would take these concerns to the Father with strong crying and fear. What do we do in times of fear? Do we respond in prayer to the Father?

### **yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;**

We must understand this statement does not say, "he learned to be obedient" for that would mean there was time He was not obedient.

Rather He learned obedience, meaning to seek and obey the will of God in all things.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.*

Hebrews 5:9-10

### **And being made perfect,**

Jesus has always been perfect as God and was also perfect as man. But Jesus had to “be made” perfect as priest.

This perfection was accomplished as he learned obedience through all the things He suffered.

Being “*made perfect*” He was now ready for the cross.

### **became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him**

**author of eternal salvation:** refers to Christ's death on the cross which is what all salvation streams from

**them that obey him:** does not lay the foundation for salvation because salvation is by faith. However, those who are born-again and love the Lord also want to obey Him.

### **Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.**

Jesus was not called after the order of Aaron because that would demand He be a Levite.

Jesus being from the tribe of Judah demands a fundamental change in the priesthood.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.*

Hebrews 5:11-12

### **Of whom we have many things to say**

Melchisedec has no beginning and no end in Scripture.

**Genesis 14:18** And Melchizedek *king* of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the **priest** of the most high God.

### **hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.**

Paul rebukes the Jewish Christians for their spiritual dullness and because they have forgotten the underlying principles of Christ.

### **For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again**

The Hebrews had been saved long enough to teach others about Christ but had devolved to the point they again needed to be taught themselves.

### **the first principles of the oracles of God;**

The first principles speaks of those underlying typifications and symbolisms that point to Christ.

### **become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat..**

They had reverted to their child-like state as Christians which could to consume only light portions of the Gospel.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

Hebrews 5:13-14

**For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.**

Paul is charging the Hebrews as having reverted back to the status of babes in Christ.

There is a time that all are babes in Christ which during it's proper time is appropriate. However, to be a babe when one should be an adult in Christ speaks of a spiritual retardation that has occurred.

**those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**

The ability to discern good for evil is acquired by reason of use.

If someone does not use the spiritual perception they are given, not only do they not grow, but they diminish.

Chapter 6

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Therefore leaving the ~~principles~~ of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

~~repentance from dead works~~ Hebrews 6:1  
repentance from dead works, beginning refers to the sacrificial system

faith toward God - completeness  
faith toward God is refined as Faith in Christ

### Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ,

The “doctrine of Christ” refers to the whole bible but “*the principles*” speak of those prefigurements in the Old Testament

### let us go on unto perfection

As the Old Testament portrayed Christ un shadow the New Testament portrays Him in substance, hence perfection or fullness

### repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

repentance from dead works : refers to the sacrificial system of the Old Testament

faith toward God: in the Old Testament, faith toward God was all that was available; the New Testament gives us Christ as an object of faith

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit.*

Hebrews 6:2-3

### **the doctrine of baptisms**

The word "*baptism*" should have been translated "washings" in reference to the many washings that were part of the Levitical system

There are three baptisms in the new testament (1) baptism in water (2) baptism into Christ (3) baptism in the Holy Spirit

### **laying on of hands**

Refers to the Old Testament believer bring a sin sacrifice to the brazen altar and laying hands upon it to transfer the guilt of sin to the animal that would then die for the offerer

### **resurrection of the dead**

In the Old Testament the resurrection was not a greatly developed doctrine. They understood that there would be a resurrection but did not understand that there would be two resurrections

### **eternal judgment**

The Old Testament believer saw God as more of a judge than a savior

### **this will we do, if God permit.**

Paul is meaning that we will do (leave the first principles of the doctrines of Christ)

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,*

Hebrews 6:4-5

### **For it is impossible**

Impossible does not mean that it is unlikely, rather that there exist no possibility for those who have been truly born again and subsequently left off believing to ever be saved

### **those who were once enlightened**

Refers to those who have accepted the light of the gospel

### **have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,**

The heavenly gift is Christ referring to salvation and, the believer subsequent partaking of the baptism in the Holy Spirit

### **have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,**

Means they have heard and believed the Word of God and were impacted by the power of the Holy Spirit

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

Hebrews 6:6

### **If they shall fall away**

It is impossible . . . . . If they shall fall away

Falling away has to do with falling away from faith evidenced in Christ

This tells us it is possible for a Christian to fall away from the faith that saved them

### **to renew them again unto repentance**

If they stay in this state of “fallen away from faith” the person would have no other means of being brought to true repentance

### **they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh**

Meaning that hatred is expressed towards the son of God exactly as was by those Jews who crucified them 2000 years ago

They make themselves guilty of the broken body and shed blood of the Savior

### **put him to an open shame.**

Means to deny that He was and is the Son of God., To conclude Him as a deceiver.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.*

Hebrews 6:7-8

**For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God**

Paul uses this term as an analogy:

As the earth receives rain the child of God receives the Word of the Lord  
As the earth brings forth herbs the Christian is also expected to bring forth  
Spiritual fruit

**that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.**

That which receives the rain and yet produces only thorns and briers is

Rejected of the Lord because no fruit has resulted

The end result of this condition put one in danger of be burned

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*

Hebrews 6:9-10

### **But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you**

Paul is encouraging the Hebrews that they do not have to be “rejected of the Lord” and that they can be fruitful

### **God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name,**

For encouragement Paul reminds the Hebrews that God is a PERFECTLY JUST judge

Their labors of love which were done “towards His name” will not be forgotten

because sinners do not exhibit this type of love

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

Hebrews 6:11-12

### **we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:**

Means that all Christians are to be diligent in their labor of love towards the brethren

We are to maintain this diligence and labor of love to the end

### **ye be not slothful**

Refers again to maintaining a diligence to refrain from slothfulness regarding our walk with the Lord

### **followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**

Paul is exhorting the Hebrews to follow those exercise “faith and patience” in pursuit of the promises of God

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

### **when God made promise to Abraham,**

The fact that God (*the greater*) made a promise to Abraham (*the lesser*) shows the strength of the surety of the promise that was made

God's promises are not simply promises rather they are ironclad statements of fact.

### **because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself**

Promises are often confirmed by swearing to a higher authority (ex: I swear to God). The Lord has no higher authority and so He swore by Himself.

### **Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.**

This is a portion of the great promise made to Abraham

### **after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.**

There is always a time span between he giving and the fulfillment of the promise

That time demands patiently endurance from those who obtain the promise

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:*

Hebrews 6:16-17

### **men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife**

Men confirm a promise with an oath to end any strife and to confirm one willingness to keep the promise

This is equivalent to a modern contract which is confirmed by the law of the land

### **Wherein God, willing**

Despite the insult that man would need God to swear to His promise, God was “willing” to do so

Not because God needed to make an oath but rather because Abraham needed to hear an oath

### **the immutability of his counsel,**

The immutability of His counsel speaks to God’s inability of God to change His position on this promise

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;*

Hebrews 6:18-19

### **That by two immutable things**

The two things are (1) God swearing by an oath and (2) God making Christ a High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Whither the forerunner is for us entered,  
even Jesus, made an high priest for ever  
after the order of Melchisedec.*

Hebrews 6:20

### **the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus**

The forerunner for the New Testament Christian is Christ

As Aaron the High Priest enter on behave of Israel, Christ has entered heaven on behalf of born-again Christians

### **made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**

Christ is made a High Priest by God and is our mediator

Everything He has accomplished is extended to Christians that maintain their faith in His finished work

Chapter 7

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For this *Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God*, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; *To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all*; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

Hebrews 7:1-2

### **Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God**

We find that Melchisedec typifies Christ in multiple ways:

1. He was King of Salem (*Salem is Jerusalem*). Jesus will be King of Jerusalem during the millennium.
2. He was a priest of God but was not of the Levitical order.
3. As we read Gen 14, we find that no beginning or end is given for Melchisedec (*Christ also has no beginning or end*).

### **To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all**

We see Abraham, the lesser, paying tithe to Melchisedec, the greater.

In as much as Levites were in the loins of Abraham when they tithed to the Melchisedec, the type of Christ, Christians should continue to tithe to Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually. Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.*

Hebrews 7:3-4

**Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life;**

All of this was faithfully recorded by Moses, under inspiration of the Spirit, to show the eternal nature of Christ's ministry

**consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth**

If Father Abraham paid tithe to Melchisedek , it speaks to his greatness

Nevertheless, Melchisedek was merely a shadow of Christ. The substance, which is Christ, is even greater than the shadow.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, *have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law*, that is, of their brethren, *though they come out of the loins of Abraham*:

Hebrews 7:5

**have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law,**

Tithing under the Law was very different from what we consider tithing today and amounted to 23% of one's personal income.

**though they come out of the loins of Abraham:**

The Levites (who came from Abraham's loins) received tithes of the other tribes who also proceeded from Abraham's loins.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.*

Hebrews 7:6

**he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.**

Melchisedek did NOT proceed from Abraham's loins and therefore did not pay tithe to the Levites; Melchisedek received tithes from Abraham showing his superiority.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.*

Hebrews 7:7-10

### **without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.**

It can not be contradicted that the less is always blessed of the better.

**Genesis 14:18-19** 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:

### **here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth**

This states that mortal Levites, to whom tithe was paid, died as all men do. But Melchizedek's scriptural history proclaims He (Christ) ever liveth.

### **Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes to Abraham.**

Because the tribe of Levi was in Abraham's loins when He paid tithe to Melchizedek, it shows the extent of superiority of Melchizedek over the Levitical priests.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.* Hebrews 7:11-12

**If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest**

Paul statement is made to show the imperfection of the Levitical priests.  
Their sacrifices:

1. Could not remove sin, only cover them (Jesus' sacrifices takes away sin)
2. Their work was never complete, evidenced by no chairs in the old tabernacle (Jesus is seated at the right hand of power)
3. The High Priest died as all men do and had to be superseded (Jesus ever liveth)

**the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.**

The priesthood mediated with regard to the Levitical law. If the priesthood is being changed from Levi to Christ, then it demands a change in the Law as well.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.*

Hebrews 7:13-14

**he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar**

Jesus is from the tribe of Judah not Levi.

Judah had no responsibilities regarding the brazen altar.

**it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda;**

There is no contradiction as to Jesus' tribe.

**Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.**

No mention of priesthood is made by Moses regarding Judah.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.*

Hebrews 7:15-16

### **it is yet far more evident:**

...more evident than the fact that Jesus is of the tribe of Judah and no priesthood proceeded from that tribe.

### **that after the similitude of Melchisedek there ariseth another priest,**

The purpose for the typology of Melchisedek is to introduce another priesthood which is:

1. Older than the Levitical priests
2. Greater than Abraham

### **Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.**

The carnal commandment spoken of has to do with Mose's commandment concerning the priesthood.

Christ's priesthood includes the power of a life that will never end in death – which has no power over Jesus.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. (Psa 110:4) For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for (because of) the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.*

Hebrews 7:17-19

### **For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**

David prophesied there would be an eternal priest (priest forever), not after Levi but after Melchisedek.

Psalms 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The priesthood was to change from the order of Aaron to the order of Melchisedek.

### **there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.**

The commandments and Old Covenant Law was definitely disannulled.

**Disannulling:** (to cancel, to do away with something established)

The commandment was termed "*weak and profitable*" due to it's temporary nature, as well as it's inability to conclude in perfection.

### **the law made nothing perfect,**

Mosaic law provided for animal blood that could not take away sin.

Without the sin debt, removing sin was impossible.

### **the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.**

The sacrifice of Christ brought in a better hope of perfection.

The removal of the sin debt allows us to draw nigh unto the Lord.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest:*

Hebrews 7:20-22

### **inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest:**

Earthly priests were NOT sworn in with an oath due to the temporary appointment of their office. Death terminated their priesthood.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

(For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, *The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:*) By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Surety:

Hebrews 7:20-22

security for the fulfillment of an obligation

### **The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:**

God took an oath and swore Jesus into His priesthood.

As well, He swore this priesthood would be eternal.

### **so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.**

This proves the inferiority of the Aaronic priesthood to that of Melchisedek.

Jesus is the security that this Testament is eternal and better.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 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.*

Hebrews 7:23-25

### **And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:**

The Levitical priesthood was limited in that each High Priest died making a new priest necessary.

The fact of death shows the vast inferiority of the Levitical priesthood to that of Christ's.

### **this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.**

Jesus will never die. Therefore, His priesthood will never change.

### **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**

Jesus does not have to actively attend to our intercession. Just His presence in Heaven is intercession for mankind.

**come unto God by him:** There is only one way to come to God and that is by Christ.

**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.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.*

Hebrews 7:26-27

### **For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners,**

Whereas the Levitical High Priest were natural men. they were also sinners.

### **made higher than the heavens;**

Refers to the fact that Christ is now: (a) seated and (b) at the right hand of Power.

The Tabernacle had no chairs because the priests were never seated. Their work was never complete.

The sphere of the Levitical priest's operation was the earthly Tabernacle and not Heaven.

### **Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.**

All High Priests were demanded to offer a ram for their own sin before they could offer a lamb for the sins of the people.

This was completed by the High Priest on the great day of Atonement and done twice daily by the chief priests.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.*

Hebrews 7:28

### **For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity;**

The Levitical order was inferior because it could rise no higher than the performance of frail men.

### **the word of the oath, which was since the law**

Refers to the oath that a Redeemer who would come and become the Eternal High Priest.

Chapter 8

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Christ's Priesthood (8:1 – 10:39)

Hall of Faith (11:1 – 12:2)

Chastisement & Warnings (12:3 – 12:29)

Christian admonishments (13:1 – 13:25)

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.*

Hebrews 8:1-2

### **Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum:**

A summary of the argument Paul has made thus far follows.

### **such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;**

Jesus, our High Priest, sits at the throne of Heaven and does, so as a man.

### **minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.**

As the Levitical order served in the tabernacle, which was a replica of the true Tabernacle, Christ serves in the true Tabernacle.

We see the uniqueness of Christ sitting at the Throne of Majesty yet at the same time being a servant (*hence the word minister*).

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:*

Hebrews 8:3-4

### **every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices:**

The purpose of a High Priest is to offer gifts and sacrifices.

Gifts have to do with thanks; sacrifices have to do with offerings.

### **it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer**

For Christ to be High Priest, He MUST have a sacrifice as all other High Priests.

Christ offered Himself with His own Blood which is infinitely greater than the blood of bulls and goats.

### **if he were on earth, he should not be a priest,**

Christ was not from the tribe of Levi and therefore could not be a priest on earth.

That fact that Jesus is our High Priest indicates that His priesthood has transcended the Law and the levitical order.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.*

Hebrews 8:5

### **Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things**

These Levitical priests served as merely a shadow of the heavenly realities of which Christ is the substance.

### **See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.**

This phrase proves that the tabernacle in the wilderness was merely a replicate of the heavenly.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But now hath *he obtained a more excellent ministry*, by how much also *he is the mediator of a better covenant*, which was established upon *better promises*. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

Hebrews 8:6-7

### **But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry,**

The ministry of Christ is far superior to the ministry of Aaron.

### **how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant**

The New Covenant Christ mediates is far superior to the Old Covenant Aaron's lineage mediated.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

The Old Covenant (contract) was between God and man - with man constantly breaking the Covenant.

The New Covenant (contract) is between God and man - with Christ upholding man's side of the Covenant.

### **established upon better promises.**

The promises afforded by the New Covenant far exceeds the promises of the Old Covenant

- The Old covenant (contract) was between God and man - with man constantly breaking the Covenant.
- The New Covenant (contract) is between God and man - with Christ upholding man's side of the Covenant.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

### Five Reasons the New Covenant is Better

1. The priest was a sinner
2. Animal sacrifice could not take away sin
3. Man broke the old covenant
4. The priest never ceased their labors (no rest)
5. The Holy Spirit could not come into the hearts of believers

**if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.**

The Old Covenant was faulty in many ways, some of those ways are:

- The priest was a sinner
- The blood of goats and bulls could not take away sin
- Mankind constantly broke the Covenant
- The priest never ceased their labors (no rest)
- The Holy Spirit could not come into the hearts of believers

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But now hath *he obtained a more excellent ministry*, by how much also *he is the mediator of a better covenant*, which was established upon *better promises*. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

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The New Covenant Christ mediates is far superior to the Old Covenant Aaron's lineage mediated

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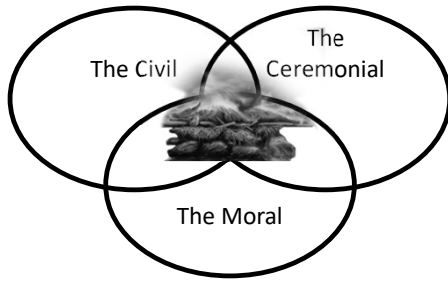
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The Old Covenant was faulty in many ways, some of those ways are:

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- The blood of goats and bulls could not take away sin
- Mankind constantly broke the Covenant
- The priest never ceased their labors (no rest)
- The Holy Spirit could not come into the hearts of believers

# The Epistle to the Hebrews

The Law



## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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:*

Hebrews 8:8

### **For finding fault with them,**

- The term “them” refers to the degenerate character of the Israelites and not the Law itself.

### **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**

This is scriptural proof that God had promised a New Covenant in which He would impact the interior of those within the Covenant.

**Jeremiah 31:31-33** 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.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.* (Jeremiah 31:31-33)

Hebrews 8:9

### **For finding fault with them,**

- The term “them” refers to the degenerate character of the Israelites and not the Law itself

### **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**

This is scriptural proof that God had promised a New Covenant in which He would impact the interior of those within the covenant

**Jeremiah 31:31-33** 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.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For this is the covenant that *I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts:* and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Hebrews 8:10

### **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts:**

This is one of the great strengths of the New Covenant. The moral code of God is written on our hearts with the Holy Spirit reproofing us when that code is broken.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.*

Hebrews 8:11

**And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.**

This does not mean that teachers are not needed under the New Covenant, rather that it is far different that the Old Covenant

Priests and scribes were the privileged few in the Old Covenant, this privilege is available for all under the New

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.*

Hebrews 8:12-13

### **For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness**

God has always been merciful but His mercy is more accessible under the New Testament than under the Old.

### **their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more**

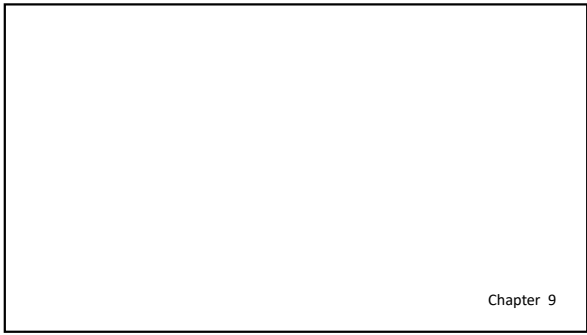
The Old Testament afforded for the covering of sin from one year to the next (each great Day of Atonement).

The sacrifice of Christ **“taketh away”** the sin and the Father remembers it no more.

### **In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.**

The New Testament was meant not to provide an option but rather to signal the passing away of the Old Testament.

Soon after something becomes old, it dies away and vanishes from sight.



Chapter 9

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Christ's Priesthood (9:1 – 10:39) cont.

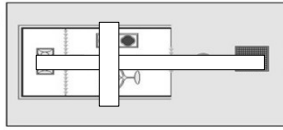
Hall of Faith (11:1 – 12:2)

Chastisement & Warnings (12:3 – 12:29)

Christian Admonishments (13:1 – 13:25)

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Then verily *the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewb*



*ctuary.*

Hebrews 9:1-2

### **the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary**

The first covenant had its temple and the ordinances associated with temple worship.

The term “*worldly sanctuary*” does not mean evil rather is a contrast to the heavenly temple.

### **there was a tabernacle made**

The old tabernacle was made with hands; the new tabernacles are made without hands (our bodies).

### **wherein was the candlestick**

Represents Jesus as the light and illumination for one’s life and living (*abiding **IN** the tabernacle*).

### **the table, and the shewbread**

The shewbread represents Jesus as the Bread of Life (*abiding **IN** the tabernacle*).

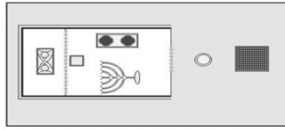
## The Epistle to the Hebrews



The  
Candlestick

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Then verily *the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewb*



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### **wherein was the candlestick**

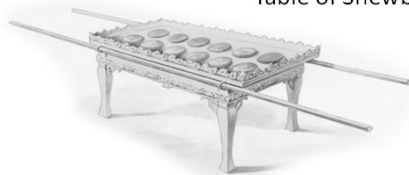
Represents Jesus as the light and illumination for ones life and living (*abiding **IN** the tabernacle*).

### **the table, and the shewbread**

The shewbread represents Jesus as the Bread of Life (*abiding **IN** the tabernacle*).

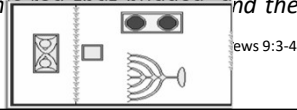
# The Epistle to the Hebrews

The  
Table of Shewbread



## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;*



### **And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all**

This refers to the Holy of Holies which was the innermost portion of the tabernacle separated from the court by two different veils.

### **the golden censer.**

This was actually called the Altar of Worship and sat in the Holy Place. But since it was associated with the presence of God, it is connected to the Holy of Holies.

### **the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;**

The Ark of the Covenant represented the presence of God. In fact, God hovered above the Mercy Seat between the Cherubim.

**The golden Pot of manna:** represent Jesus as the Bread of Life and also represents man in his disobedience to the Lord.

**Exodus 16:18-20** And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating. And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

**Aaron's rod that budded:** represents Jesus in His resurrection and man's rebellion against the Lord's way.

**Numbers 16** records mans constant rebellion against God's ways with **Numbers 17** showing God re-choosing who He had already chose for the priesthood.

**the tables of the covenant:** represent Jesus as the only Law-Keeper and mankind as constant law-breakers.

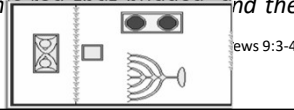
# The Epistle to the Hebrews

The  
Golden Censor



## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;*



### **And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all**

This refers to the Holy of Holies which was the innermost portion of the tabernacle separated from the court by two different veils

### **the golden censer,**

This was actually called the Altar of Worship and sat in the Holy Place. But since it was associated with the presence of God, it is connected to the Holy of Holies.

### **the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;**

The Ark of the Covenant represented the presence of God. In fact God hovered above the Mercy seat between the Cherubim.

**The golden Pot of manna:** represent Jesus as the Bread of Life and also represents man in his disobedience to the Lord.

**Exodus 16:18-20** And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating. And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

**Aaron's rod that budded:** represents Jesus in His resurrection and man's rebellion against the Lord's way.

**Numbers 16** records mans constant rebellion against God's ways with **Numbers 17** showing God re-choosing who He had already chose for the priesthood.

**the tables of the covenant:** represent Jesus as the only Law-Keeper and mankind as constant law-breakers.

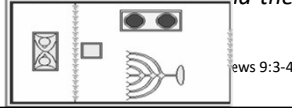
# The Epistle to the Hebrews

The  
Ark of the Covenant



## The Epistle to the Hebrews

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## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And over it *the cherubims of glory* (Ezek 1:5-14, Rev 4:6-8)  
*shadowing the mercyseat;* <sup>Cherubims:</sup> of which we cannot  
now speak particularly. Now when these things  
were thus ordained, *the priests went always*  
*into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the*  
*service of God.* Hebrews 9:5-6

A transliteration of the Hebrew term  
meaning "Living Creatures"

### **And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat;**

These cherubim's are replicas of the living creatures that stand at the throne of God

**Ezekiel 1:5-14** Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

**Revelation 4:6-8** And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

### **when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.**

When the Old Covenant was in place, the priests were allowed in the Holy Place but excluded from the Holy of Holies.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:*

Hebrews 9:7-8

### **But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood**

As stated, the tabernacle had two veils which separated the outer courtyard from the Holy Place and the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies.

Only the High Priest could pass into the Holy of Holies but with restrictions:

- Only on the great day of Atonement
- The first time with the blood of a ram for his own sins
- The second time with blood for the sins of the people

### **The Holy Ghost this signifying,**

- All of these are designs and typification laid out by God the Holy Spirit.

### **the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:**

- As long as the first tabernacle was standing (*not in man's eyes but in God's eyes*), the presence of God was not accessible by man.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;*

Hebrews 9:9

### **Which was a figure for the time then present**

All of this was symbolic for that time that Moses built the tabernacle until the death of Christ on the Cross.

### **offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;**

The Levitical offerings did not sooth the conscience of the sinning Israelites as no mere ritual can.

The sense of guilt continued to plague the sinner even though they were ceremonially clean.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.*

Hebrews 9:10

*diorthosis*: straighten thoroughly, rectify

**Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.**

All of these refers to ceremony and the accoutrements thereof. These were established until Calvary reconciled and rectified man's situation.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;*

Hebrews 9:11

### **But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come**

Meaning Christ did not come from within the sphere of humanity but rather from without as such He is not what has been but what is to come.

### **a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;**

He does not mediate from an earthly temple but from the true Tabernacle in Heaven.

The tabernacle in the wilderness was made from man's hands, not so of the true Tabernacle in Heaven.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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:*

Hebrews 9:12-13

### **Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place**

Again showing the vast superiority of Christ's ministry:

- Aaron entered with the blood of bulls and goats; Christ entered with the Blood of the God incarnate.
- Aaron entered the Holy of Holies each Year; Christ entered only once as His one sacrifice was complete and perfect.

### **obtained eternal redemption for us**

This tells us the effect of Jesus being one sacrifice which He voluntarily offered on the cross of Calvary.

### **if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:**

Meaning that the ceremony involving the blood of animals made only ceremonially clean.

Both the ceremonial uncleanness and the ceremony to cleanse were types of Christ's finished work.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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?*

Hebrews 9:14

### **How much more shall the blood of Christ**

Refers to the ceremony of atonement bringing about ceremonial cleanness; how much more shall the Blood of the True Man cleanse from actual sin.

### **through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God,**

Refers to the fact that God the Holy Spirit superintended the crucifixion of Christ, actually telling Him when He could breathe out His life and expire.

### **purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

The crucifixion of Christ does not leave the Christian with a conscience of guilt.

True repentance and acceptance of forgiveness removes the guilt of sin.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And for this cause he is the Mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

9:15 <sup>Hebrews</sup> one who intervenes between two to make or restore peace of friendship

### **for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament**

With this perfect sacrifice in place. His is the perfect mediator of this New Covenant.

### **by means of death**

Tells us unmistakably that reconciliation was produced by Jesus' death and not by His resurrection.

The resurrection was the Father's validation that The Son's death was accepted.

### **the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament**

The death of Christ not only pays for the sins of those that lived under the New Testament but, as well, reaches backwards to those who died in the Faith.

### **they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.**

Meaning that all under this True High Priest (Christ) received the promise of Eternal Life.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For where a ~~testament~~ is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.*

a will, one that relates to the disposition of one's personal property

### **For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator**

The testament refers to “the last will and testament” of Jesus Christ.

A will and testament does not come into power until the person to whom this will belongs to dies.

### **a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.**

Many people have wills (testaments) but they can not be executed until the testator has expired.

The New testament is the last will and testament of Jesus Christ, as well, the resurrected Christ is the executor of the will.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.*

Hebrews 9:18

### **Whereupon NEITHER the first testament was dedicated WITHOUT blood**

The double negative makes this phrase difficult to understand. It means the first testament **WAS** dedicated with blood.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.*

Hebrews 9:19-20

**when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,**

Most all of the furnishings in the tabernacle were dedicated with blood indicating that everything man touches is defiled due to sin.

Even though the Old Testament was temporary, it was still necessary to dedicate it with blood; however, it was the blood of animals.

### **This is the blood of the testament**

The blood is what makes the testament (old or new) valid.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And *almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

Hebrews 9:21-22

### **almost all things are by the law purged with blood**

Virtually everything in the tabernacle was sprinkled with blood - with some very few things being purged with water or fire.

The blood of animals could provide ceremonial cleansing but could not actually take away sin.

### **without shedding of blood is no remission.**

If a covenant existed that did not provide for shed blood, it would produce no remission of sin.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.*

Hebrews 9:23

**It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these;**

For the Old Testament tabernacle to be a valid replica of the New Testament, the shedding of blood had to play a key role.

The shed blood of animals typified the shed blood of Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For *(Because)* Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Hebrews 9:24

### **the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these**

The heavenly anti-type had to be established with better blood than that of the Old Testament's animal sacrifices.

### **Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands**

Better blood was required because Christ does not mediate in an earthly temple but in the True Tabernacle of Heaven.

The Aaronic High Priest presented Himself at the Mercy Seat; Christ presents Himself at the actual Throne of God.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.* (John 1:29)

Hebrews 9:25-26

### **Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;**

The Levitical sacrifices had to be performed again and again over the course of 1600 years:

1. The Great day of Atonement occurred annually
2. The temple sacrifices occurred twice a day
3. Men's personal sacrifices occurred daily

The repetition was due to the low quality of the blood that was used.

### **now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**

Unlike the Levitical sacrifices, which occurred 100,000's of times, Jesus' sacrifice occurs once and is sufficient throughout eternity.

**John 1:29** The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Only the Blood of the eternal Son of God could deal with sin on an eternal level.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation*

Hebrews 9:27-28

### **And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:**

As certain as death is for every member of mankind, so is judgment a certainty.

As inescapable as death is, so is the judgment inescapable.

### **Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many;**

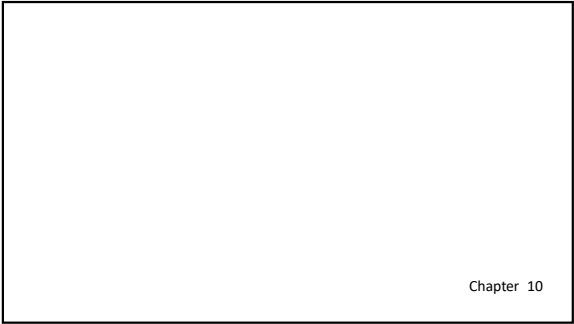
This is why it is so wrong for man to add anything to the finished work of Christ; it is in essence saying Christ's Blood was not enough.

This also informs us that Christ's bloody death was primarily to deal with the sin of mankind (not sins but sin).

### **he appear the second time without sin unto salvation**

Jesus' return to earth will not be to deal with sin in any manner that has already been accomplished.

He will return to bring to mankind the full benefits of that for which He sacrificed Himself.



Chapter 10

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.*

Hebrews 10:1

### **For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things**

The Law could only offer mankind a foreshadowing of the “good things” that would later be purchased by the Blood of Jesus.

### **never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.**

It was impossible for the sacrifices of bulls and goats to produce perfection, also because the blood was not from a perfect source.

Event though the sacrifices were offered up continually, it could still not produce perfection.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.*

Hebrews 10:2-3

### **For then would they not have ceased to be offered?**

That the Old Covenant could not produce perfection is obvious because the sacrifices of the Old Testament could never cease being offered.

### **that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.**

Inasmuch as the blood of goats and lambs could only cover sin and not take away sin, the consciousness of a sin was not removed.

### **But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.**

Not only were sin sacrifices offered once a year on the great day of Atonement, but additionally:

1. During Passover Week sometimes 250,000 lambs and goats were offered
2. Each morning at 9am
3. Each Evening at 3PM

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:*

Hebrews 10:4-5

### **For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins**

This statement tells us plainly why the old levitical process could never rectify man's sinful condition.

The blood of these animals was insufficient because it was the blood (1) of an animal and (2) of an imperfect being (3) a different creation type.

### **when he cometh into the world,**

This speaks of Jesus coming into this world via the incarnation.

### **Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:**

This phrase refers to Jesus coming into this world:

- He came NOT to offer animal sacrifices but Himself
- He came via the virgin birth so that His body could be offered a perfect sacrifice for sin

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) <sup>(John 5:39)</sup> to do thy will, O God.*

Hebrews 10:6-7

### **In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.**

Simply states the ineffectiveness of animal sacrifices, regardless of the numbers of them offered.

Even though the animal sacrifices were a temporary stop-gap measure, they provided no satisfaction for God's sense of righteous judgment.

### **Then said I, Lo, I come**

Proclaims the fact that the Old Testament continually foretold of the coming of the promised one from Genesis 3:15.

### **the volume of the book it is written of me**

Refers again to the fact that the entirety of the Old Testament speaks of Jesus.

**John 5:39** Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

### **to do thy will, O God**

The heart and effort of the Lord Jesus during His incarnation was to perform the will of God.

This as well should be the heart of every born-again Christian.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.*

Hebrews 10:8-9

**Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God.**

This refers back to Verse 5 and simply reiterates the same statement in order to emphasize the meaning of the statement.

**He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.**

This Scripture proves the Hebraic Roots movement as having no credibility.

One CANNOT have the Old Covenant AND the New Covenant.

The New Testament was ratified by the resurrection of Christ and completely ends the Old Covenant (but not the Law).

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

Hebrews 10:10



### **By the which will**

This speaks of the will of God as indicated in verse 9.

### **sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ**

The offerings of Jesus Christ's perfect body and faith evidence in that offering is the means of sanctification.

As Levitical offerings afforded ceremonial cleansing, the offering of Christ affords actual cleansing.

### **once for all**

No other offering will ever be accepted by God and because no other offering will ever be needed.

The offering of Calvary is a finished work that requires no other additions of amendments.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;* (Matthew 11:28)

Hebrews 10:11-12

### **And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices**

Every Levitical priest would:

1. Stand
2. Offer offerings
3. Same sacrifices (over and over)

### **which can never take away sins**

Although these levitical priest offered these offerings for 1500 years, they could not take away sin.

Although literally millions of lambs, goats, rams, and turtles doves were offered, they could not take away sin.

Man's modern methodologies, be it psychology, Hebraic Roots, 40 days of Purpose, G12, etc., cannot take away sins.

### **But this man**

Refers to Christ in His humanity. Although He is and has always been God, He added humanity to His deity.

Jesus often referred to Himself as the "Son of man," also emphasizing His incarnation and human nature.

If Jesus came as anything other than 100% man, He would be invalidated as a legal sacrifice.

**after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever,**

The contrast is that the Levites offered millions of sacrifices over 1500 years, whereas Christ offered only one sacrifice and offered Himself only one time.

**sat down on the right hand of God;**

Again the contrast is that the "*priest standeth daily*" and offered them daily but Christ offered Himself once and sat down.

The seated posture of the Lord emphasizes that His work is finished and He is now in a position of rest.

Christians are now to join Christ, by proper faith, in His rest.

**Matthew 11:28** Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering <sup>(Gen 4:3-4)</sup> he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,*

Hebrews 10:13-15

### **From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool**

Jesus will remain seated at the Father's right hand until every enemy of Christ bows at His feet.

What Christ performed on the Cross will ultimately dispel every enemy of righteousness forever.

### **by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.**

The "one offering" spoken of here is the offering of Calvary. It is the only offering needed and the only offering God will accept.

**Genesis 4:3-4** 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.

This one offering of the Son of God has eternal effectiveness hence the usage of the term "for ever".

### **the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us:**

Paul is acknowledging two things in this statement:

1. The Holy Spirit is the author of the Word of God
2. What is written is a validation of the point Paul is bringing out

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;*

Hebrews 10:16

**This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;**

The Old Covenant could only address the externals of man's makeup and could not deal with the sin nature within man. Therefore, the Holy Spirit did not abide in man and so did not bring about His sanctifying role.

The New Covenant lays dormant the sin nature and so the Holy Spirit is now able to abide within the heart. He is able to apply the moral code of God to our hearts and minds.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And *their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where <sup>Remission</sup>remission of these is, there is no more <sup>Boldness</sup>offering for sin.* Having therefore, brethren, *boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,* (John 14:6)

Hebrews 10:17-19

*aphesis* freedom, pardon confidence

**their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.**

**Remission:** *aphesis* – freedom, pardon (pardon is a legal term as salvation is a legal work).

When the sacrifice is efficient to cause sins to be remembered no more (*pardoned*), there is no more need for additional sacrifices to be offered.

**boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,**

The term “brethren” indicates that this access to the Throne is the privilege of born-again Christians only.

The access to the Holiest was restricted to the High Priest alone. The Holiest represented the presence of God.

The shed Blood of Jesus has purchased access to the presence of 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.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

Hebrews 10:20

**new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;**

The Old Testament veil that protected the Holiest typifies the physical body of Christ.

Only through the broken body of Jesus does man have access to God.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

And *having an high priest over the house of God*; Let us draw near <sup>(1)</sup> with a true heart in full assurance of faith, <sup>(Heb 11:6)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup> *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience*, and <sup>(3)</sup> our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:21-22

### **having an high priest over the house of God;**

As the high priest of Israel is the representative of the Israelites, so Christ is the representative of Christianity.

Unsaved man is without an adequate representative before the Lord.

### **a true heart in full assurance of faith,**

Faith is the currency that spends in God's economy, but it must be faith with a proper object.

**Hebrews 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please him: for *he that cometh to God must believe* that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

### **having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience**

This alludes to the sprinkling of temple accoutrements with the blood of the sacrifice; likewise Christian must be covered in the Blood (in a spiritual sense).

### **our bodies washed with pure water**

This phrase refers to the "great laver" or "great sea" which stood outside the tabernacle.

The priest were baptized (washed) in this laver, this symbolizes the new birth,

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without  
waving; (for he is faithful that promised;)* (James 1:6)

And let us consider one another to provoke unto  
love and to good works:

Hebrews 10:23-24

### **Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)**

Christians are to evidence faith in Christ without wavering, based on our knowledge of the faithfulness of God.

**James 1:6-7** 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. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

Hebrews 10:25

### **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;**

The Jews who were returning to temple worship were discontinuing fellowship with the brethren.

Paul links “*hold fast the profession of our faith*” with “*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.*”

### **as ye see the day approaching.**

Refers to the last days and the Holy Spirit insisting that Christians remain faithful to church assembly.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.*

Hebrews 10:26-27

### **if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth,**

This refers to the sin of walking away from God's grace and returning to Law.  
This sin is the launching point of all of the sins of the flesh.

### **remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,**

If the one sacrifice that God will accept is rejected, there is no further possibility of salvation. That person stands before God without a sin sacrifice.

### **a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.**

Rather than having a sacrifice remaining, the Christ-rejecter will have "*judgment and fiery indignation*" remaining on them.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:*

Heb 10:28

**He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:**

Those who stubbornly rejected the Law of Moses fell under a death sentence.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

Heb 10:29

### **Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy,**

The thought here is that the adversaries of Moses received a death sentence; the penalty for being an adversary of Christ is much greater.

### **Those who are adversaries of Christ are defined by the Spirit as;**

***“trodden under foot the Son of God”*** is a sin against the Father who has given the Son to be the sin sacrifice of the world.

***“counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing”*** is a sin against God the Father who sent His son to shed His blood for the remission of sin.

***“Counted”*** refers to a conscience judgment resting on a deliberate weighing of the facts.

***“hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”*** is a sin against God the Spirit who convicts us of sin including the sin of rejecting Jesus Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For we know him that hath said, Vengeance  
belongeth unto me, I will recompense; saith the  
Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his  
people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the  
hands of the living God.*

to return in kind Hebrews 10:30-31

### **For we know him that hath**

The “him” refers to God the Father.

### **Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense,**

This is a foreboding warning to those who would reject Christ.

The word “will” is emphatic. I WILL recompense.

### **The Lord shall judge his people.**

Notice that this warning is to Christians, hence “*his people*”. So the judgment is upon the people of God rather than unregenerate men and women.

### **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**

This refers to falling into God's hands in a negative sense. The fear involves a correct fear to have. However, for this fear of the Lord there is no solution.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.*

Hebrews 10:32-33

**But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;**

Paul is pointing the thoughts of the Christian Jews back to their initial salvation experience and the illumination they received and the persecution that is brought about.

**whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions**

Many of the new Christians had been made spectacles by being exposed to insult, injury and ridicule.

**partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.**

The newly converted Christians began being persecuted when they became companions of those who were already Christians and already persecuted.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*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. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.*

Hebrews 10:34-35

### **For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods**

Many of these Jewish Christians had helped Paul as He endured persecution and the threat of death from Judaism.

### **knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance**

Christians are to realize that their faith will be rewarded with one that is eternal in the heavens.

### **Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.**

Based on this confidence, Paul exhorts them to not surrender the confidence they have in Jesus Christ as Savior.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. (John 14:28) Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

Hebrews 10:36-38

### **For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.**

The Christian must have patience in order to navigate from the promise to the fulfillment of the promise.

If patience is not exhibited on the part of a Christian, the promise may well not be attained to.

### **yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith**

We have this solid promise that the Lord IS COMING BACK.

**John 14:28** Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

We are to live our lives based on faith in the promises of God.

### **if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.**

Without faith, it is consistent with “draw back” from God. Such will solicit no pleasure from God in such a person.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.*

Hebrews 10:39

### **But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition**

Paul gives the recipients of this epistle the benefit of the doubt by separating them from those who have “*drawn back*”.

### **them that believe to the saving of the soul.**

Paul rather believes his listeners will be of those who continue to believe to the saving of the soul.

This tells us that a lack of faith (a position of no-confidence in Christ) can have the effect of the loss of the soul.

## Chapter 11

1

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Now faith is the substance: of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Heb 11:27) For by it the elders obtained a good report. (Heb 11:6)*

Hebrews 11:1-2

*hupostasis* - a setting under, confidence  
*elegchos* - proof

2

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (John 1:1)*

Hebrews 11:3

3

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*

Hebrews 11:4

4

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.* (Jude 1:14)

Hebrews 11:5

5

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

Hebrews 11:6

6

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*

Hebrews 11:7

7

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:*

Hebrews 11:8-9

8

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*

Hebrews 11:10

9

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.*

Hebrews 11:11

10

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.*

Hebrews 11:12

11

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

Hebrews 11:13

12

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.*

Hebrews 11:14-15

13

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: *for he hath prepared for them a city.* (John 2 14:2, Rev 21)

Hebrews 11:16

14

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:*

Hebrews 11:17-18

15

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.*

Hebrews 11:19-20

16

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.*

Hebrews 11:22

17

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.*

Hebrews 11:23

18

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

Hebrews 11:24-25

19

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.*

Hebrews 11:26-27

20

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.*

Hebrews 11:28-29

21

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.*

Hebrews 11:30-31

22

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,*

Hebrews 11:32-33

23

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:*

Hebrews 11:34-35

24

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;*

Hebrews 11:36-37

25

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.*

Hebrews 11:39-40

26

Chapter 12

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with *so great a cloud of witnesses*, (Acts 1:9) let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Hebrews 12:1

### **so great a cloud of witnesses**

The “cloud of witness” refers to the Old Testament saints spoken of in Chapter 11 and many not mentioned.

**Acts 1:9** And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

### **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us**

The Christian must lay aside not only the sins but also the innocent weights that easily beset us all.

### **let us run**

Weights and sin are often no encumbrance while the Christian is standing still. But once the Christian begins to run for the Lord, the hindrances becomes obvious.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

Hebrews 12:2

### **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;**

The idea is that the race we run presents Jesus as the object of faith and as the finish line.

The author refers to the individual Christian faith originating from the finished work of the Cross (even for OT saints) and the finisher speaks of Jesus being the one who brings our faith to perfection.

### **endured the cross, despising the shame,**

This refers to Christ laying aside all that He was prior to the incarnation and condescending to human form and enduring the shame of the cross all to save humanity.

### **set down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Jesus is shown sitting at the right hand of the Father showing that the work of Calvary is a finished work.

Calvary will never need to be amended or altered. It is finished.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.*

Hebrews 12:3-4

### **consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself**

We are to consider the anguish and persecution of Christ and compare it to the final outcome of His position at the right hand of the Father.

### **ye be wearied and faint in your minds**

If we do not consider the persecutions of Christ life or the saints who have gone on before us, we may easily become wearied by trials.

### **Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.**

This does not mean that we will or that we must resist unto blood; it simply means others have gone through worse trials than we currently are going through.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, *My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.*

### **My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him**

As earthly fathers and mothers are to train and correct their children, so our Heavenly Father corrects and trains us.

This training from God the Father is called chastening. We are to endure this chastening understanding that it is for our own good.

### **the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.**

Christians should understand that the Lord's chastening is due to the Lord's love for us and not His anger.

As well, we must understand that every Christian receives chastening with none being excluded.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.*

Hebrews 12:7-8

### **If ye endure chastening.**

By the use of the word IF, we are told that some do not or will not endure the chastening of the Lord.

### **for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?**

Paul shows that the chastening of the Lord is much like the chastening of our earthly Fathers.

A father that will not chasten his son / daughter is not functioning as a parent should.

### **if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.**

Paul strongly states that if a Christian will not endure the chastening of the Lord, it is due to two reasons:

1. God is not their Father
2. They do not know who their true father is

**John 8:41-44** Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.*

Hebrews 12:9-10

**Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits,**

As we respected and revered our natural fathers who corrected and chastened us, we should much more have respect and reverence for our Heavenly Father.

If we voluntarily subjected ourselves to our natural parents, how much more should we subject ourselves to the Lord of Hosts.

**they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.**

The thought is that the chastening of our earthly parents may or may not have been for our good.

All chastening of the Lord is for our good and for our eternal good.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;*

Hebrews 12:11-12

#### **Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous:**

If, when the Christian understands that chastening is for his/her own good, it is still not an enjoyable prospect, rather it is grievous.

#### **nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.**

Even though grievous, chastening yields fruit of righteousness.

Therefore, the child of God should be more than willing to endure chastening that he/she may become fruitful.

#### **lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;**

Hands which hang down have to do with discouragement.

Feeble knees speak of a wrong direction in ones life.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

Hebrews 12:13-14

### **And make straight paths for your feet,**

Again, this has to do with the direction of one's walk before the Lord, meaning we are expected to walk straight before the Lord.

### **lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.**

Those areas in which we have not walked straight due to spiritual lameness can as well be healed.

### **Follow peace with all men, and holiness**

Christians should eagerly seek peace with all men. However, it should not be at the expense of compromising the Gospel.

### **without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Our holiness is the result of our proper faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross. Without this imputed righteousness, man has no holiness of righteousness that God will accept.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.*

Hebrews 12:15-16

### **Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God;**

Holiness can only be produced in a life as we receive the grace of God to live it.

The grace of God must be pursued on a daily basis.

This statement also implies that it is possible to fail the grace of God as documented in Galatians 2:21 and Galatians 5:4.

### **any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

**Roots of Bitterness** is proof that the Spirit is not being allowed to produce the fruit of the Spirit in one's life.

**Defilement** refers to one being defiled by efforts of the flesh to sanctify itself, which is not God's prescribed order.

### **Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.**

Esau was in the family of God (Jacob's brother) but was not of the family of God.

Due to unbelief and apathy, Esau cared not at all for the things of God insomuch that he sold his birthright for a bowl of lentils.

The birthright refers to the rights that are afforded by the lineage of one's birth. Christians are born-again into the family of God and should cherish our birthright in Christ.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.*

Hebrews 12:17

### **For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected:**

Esau definitely did want the blessing but he did not want God of the blessing.

The blessing was twofold: (1) the eldest received the greater inheritance and (2) became priest of the family.

Esau rejected God in his life and was rejected of the Holy Spirit (who is God).

### **he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.**

Esau did not seek repentance with tears but rather he tearfully sought the blessing.

There can be no blessing without the Blesser.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more:*

Hebrews 12:18-19

### **For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest**

The modern Christian is not coming to God via the covenant that was cut at Mt. Sinai (this was a fearful experience to meet with God under the Old Covenant).

**Exodus 19:16-18** And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled. And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

### **the sound of a trumpet**

The trumpet blast symbolizes the holiness of an infinite Holy God and rings fear in the hearts of fallen mankind.

### **they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more:**

Meeting with God under the Old Covenant was a fearful experience insomuch that Israel asked to no more hear His voice.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

(For they could not endure that which was commanded, And *if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)*

Hebrews 12:20-21

**if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:**

If either beast or man came to close to the Lord under the Old Testament, they did so under pain of death.

**so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)**

The sight of the mountain quaking and the lighting and thunder and the sound of God's voice speaking is described as "terrible" meaning terrifying.

Moses, who was probably the man closest to God on the planet of that day, "*exceedingly feared and quaked.*"

The idea is that the Old Covenant was cut in awesome and fearful display of God as Judge.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,*

Hebrews 12:22-23

### **But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels**

Paul is contrasting the fearful experience of Mt. Sinai with that of Mt. Sion. The previous passages portray law these now portray grace.

On the day the Law was brought from Sinai to the people, 3000 men died; on the day the Holy Spirit came under the New Covenant, 3000 souls were saved.

Instead of return to Mt. Sinai and the Law, the readers are admonished to continue their approach to Mt. Sion (*where God dwells and reigns*).

### **the general assembly and church of the firstborn**

Refers to those who are approaching Christ via grace and not by Law.

Church of the Firstborn refers to those within the Church of Jesus Christ.

### **written in heaven**

This clearly alludes to those whose names are written in the Book of Life which can only be accomplished by faith in Christ and never by efforts of flesh i.e. Law.

### **God the Judge of all**

**1 Peter 4:4-5** Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to **judge the quick and the dead.**

Christ (who is God) will judge the quick (*spiritually alive are judged at the Judgment seat of Christ*) and the dead (*spiritually dead are judged at the Great White Throne judgment*).

**spirits of just men made perfect,**

This refers to those who approach God by grace and faith having the operation of the Holy Spirit perfecting them.

Progressive Sanctification

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And to Jesus the **mediator** of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

Hebrews 12:24

*mesites* - a go-between

### **And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**

This tells us that Jesus is the ONLY mediator between God and man.

It also tells us that mediation is ONLY within the confines of the New Covenant which excludes the possibility of salvation under the Old testament.

### **the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.**

Old testament saints were saved not because of the Law but rather because of their faith in the sacrificial system which prefigured the sacrifice of Calvary.

The Old Testament sacrifices pointed forward to Christ.

The blood of a human being is better than the blood of an animal. Furthermore, when the human being is the Son of God, better is an inadequate description.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. (Heb 1:1-2) For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.*

### **See that ye refuse not him that speaketh.**

The reader is warned to beware of refusing the voice of Christ who speaks not from earth but from Heaven.

**Hebrews 1:1-2** God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; (*See that ye refuse not him that speaketh*)

### **if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven**

If the Jew could not escape the voice of the Law, much less can one escape the Lord Jesus who the Law pointed to and who speaks from Heaven.

### **Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.**

During the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai, the mountain literally shook under the presence and power of God.

What God now speaks through His Son is of far greater importance than the old Law which and shakes both heaven and earth.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

*And this word, <sup>(1 Cor 1:18)</sup> Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.*

Hebrews 12:27

### And this word,

The “Word” spoken of here is the “Word of the Cross.”

**1 Corinthians 1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The word translated “preaching” in **1 Corinthians 1:18** is the Greek word “*Logos*” which means “*Word*”, so the “*preaching of the Cross*” should have been translated “*the Word of the Cross.*”

**Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.**

That which Jesus did at Calvary will ultimately remove all things of the curse and those things created by man that need to be removed from this planet.

Only those things which are 100% of God will remain unshaken.

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

Wherefore *we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved*, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Hebrews 12:28

### **Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved,**

The same work of Calvary has placed the Christian into the Kingdom of God, which Kingdom is eternal and can not be moved.

### **whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear**

Understanding what God has done for us at Calvary and the fearful price that was paid, we should serve Him with reverence and godly fear.

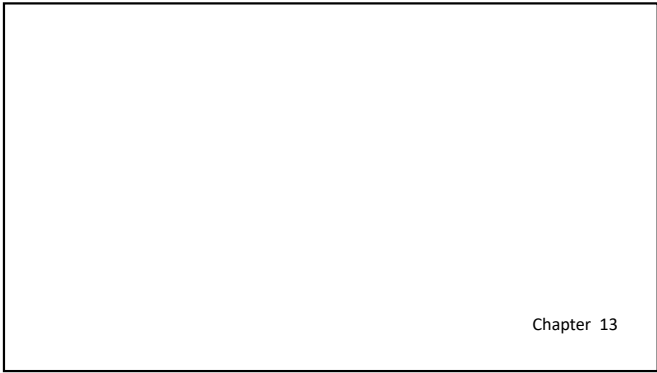
## The Epistle to the Hebrews

For our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:29

This verse is not merely, as people often say, that God out of Christ is a consuming fire, or that He is a consuming fire to the unsaved alone, but it is His very nature that is here in view.

Consuming fire is holiness manifested in Judgment. God, Who is Light and Love, must consume everything that is contrary to His Holy Will. For the believer, of course, this will mean eventually absolute conformity to Christ, when the last vestige of the flesh has been destroyed. This is the work of the Spirit and is meant to be taking place constantly in the heart and life of each Believer.



Chapter 13

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.*

Hebrews 13:1-3

### **Let brotherly love continue.**

Brotherly love is perhaps the most important virtue in the New Testament.

However, brotherly love cannot continue, if Christ is not the focus of faith and center of worship.

Love is a product of the Holy Spirit who is only fully active within the parameters of the finished work of Christ on Calvary.

### **Be not forgetful to entertain strangers:**

Paul is alluding to the fact that Abraham (*Ge 18:20*) and Lot (*Ge 19:1-38*) received angels without knowing it.

### **Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them;**

The admonishment is to remember those Christians who had been persecuted unto chains and consider that they are still a part of the Body.

### **them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.**

Those who were being persecuted for the cause of Christ were also to be prayed for and helped as one would help himself.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Marriage is honourable in all, <sup>(Gen 2:24)</sup> and the bed undefiled: but ~~Whoremongers:~~ and ~~Adulterers:~~ adulterers God will judge.*

Hebrews 13:4

*pornos - a (male) prostitute*

*moichos- an illicit lover*

### **Marriage is honorable in all**

The institution of marriage is God's creation and is sanctified and encouraged by the Holy Spirit.

Marriage is defined by the creation model as 1 man and 1 woman. God does not recognize marriage between 2 men or 2 women, and such is an abomination unto the Lord.

The Creation Model *(is one man and 1 woman)*

**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.

### **the bed undefiled:**

The Holy Spirit clearly defines physical intimacy between *(a male)* husband and *(a female)* wife as pure in the eyes of God.

Some began to teach that asceticism - which denies the child of God anything pleasurable.

### **whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.**

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Let your conversation be without covetousness and be content with such things as ye have: for (because) he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Heb 13:5

*tropos* - mode or style or style of living

*pleonexia* – avarice, greedy

### Let your conversation be without covetousness

Conversation should have been interpreted as “manner of living.”

**Covetousness:** inordinately desirous of wealth or possessions, greedy.

**Colossians 3:5** Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

### be content with such things as ye have

If this one instruction of the Lord were obeyed, it would no doubt reduce America’s credit card debt by 80+ %.

### I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Realizing that the Lord is always with us, we should be happy with those things which He has provided.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

Hebrews 13:6-7

### **So that we may boldly say**

If we remember Jesus never leaves nor forsakes us, it allows us to live contently ... “we may boldly say”

### **Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God:**

*“them who have rule over you” should have been translated “those who are your leaders.”*

A person cannot be a leader of God’s people unless they faithfully *“preach the word of God.”*

### **follow, considering the end of their conversation.**

Christians are admonished to follow their leadership, ONLY AS THEY CONSIDER the lifestyle of those leaders.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.*

Hebrews 13:8-9

### **Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.**

Faith anchored in Christ and His finished work will never change.

**Malachi 3:6** For I am the LORD, **I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

This is also an exhortation to point the Christian to correct doctrine as the next verse reiterates the idea.

### **Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines**

If one keeps their faith anchored in Christ, they will not be carried about by heresies.

This is the reason that the Church is given the ministry gifts (five-fold ministry).

**Ephesians 4:11-14** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

### **a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats**

**The heart being established in grace** refers to faith in Jesus which provides access to the grace of God.

**Not with meats** refers to faith in one's external ceremonies which can never change the heart.

### **have not profited them that have been occupied therein.**

Those who follow the external ceremonies of Judaism never truly experienced a heart change.

The Pharisees were a perfect example of those who strained at every nuance of the Law but whose hearts were filled with murder and religious pride.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*

Hebrews 13:10-12

### **We have an altar, where of they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.**

Christianity has the altar called Calvary on which the Lamb of God was sacrificed.

Those whose faith is in animal blood and Levitical law **have no right** to serve at the altar of Calvary.

This tells us plainly that one cannot serve Law and Christ as well; that the two are mutually exclusive.

### **The bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.**

The sin offering demanded that the animal be killed and its blood be sprinkled on the Mercy Seat. Also, portions of the animal were to be burnt outside the camp.

**Exodus 29:12-14** And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar. And *thou shalt take all the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul that is above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and burn them upon the altar. But the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it is a sin offering.*

### **Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.**

Jesus as the true sacrifice also suffered outside of the camp because the Cross was located on a hill called Golgotha (*place of the skull*) which was located outside of Jerusalem.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.*

Hebrews 13:13-15

### **Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.**

The language indicates that the Hebrew Christians were to come out of Judaism and temple worship, and into the sphere of the Cross to serve Christ only.

The move to Calvary will bring a reproach upon those whom they left behind in legalism.

### **Here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.**

“**Here**” refers to the earthly Jerusalem and represents the fact that earthly Jerusalem has served its purpose.

“**continuing city**” refers to the heavenly Jerusalem which we are promised.

**Revelation 21:2** And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

### **By Him let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.**

**BY Him** refers to Jesus and means “by what He did at the Cross.”

The sacrifice of praise to God continually tells us three things: **(1)** we are to praise God, **(2)** We are to do so continually, **(3)** our praise should center upon the Sacrifice of Calvary.

The fruit of our lips refers to “Thanksgiving”, as well, we should constantly remember and give thanks to the Lord for His unspeakable Gift of Love (i.e., Christ Crucified).

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for (because) they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*

Hebrews 13:16-17

### **But to do good and to communicate forget not for with such sacrifices God is well pleased**

Those who are looking to Jesus will “do good” (not to earn righteousness but rather because of righteousness already imputed).

**Communicate** refers to sharing ones worldly goods with those who have loss due to their faith in Christ.

This type of lifestyle is pleasing to the Lord as it is the manifestation of true faith.

### **Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls,**

Paul exhorts Christians to obey and submit to the godly preachers who were preaching the same Gospel he was preaching.

If the preacher of the Gospel is not “*watching for the souls of his congregation,*” he is not to be submitted to.

### **they that must give account,**

Every preacher of the Gospel WILL give account to the Lord of the Gospel he preaches and the care he takes of God’s people.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly. But I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.*

Hebrews 13:18-19

### **Pray for us:**

Paul did not consider himself so spiritual that he could not ask for prayer. Modern preachers and Christians should follow that example.

### **But I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.**

It is believed Paul wrote this epistle in prison and is asking prayer as well for his soon release from captivity.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, *that great shepherd of the sheep*, through *the blood of the everlasting covenant*,

Hebrews 13:20

### **that great shepherd of the sheep,**

Jesus is the Head of the Church, not the Pope, nor a nationally known minister. Christ alone is the Great Shepherd.

All other true Christian ministers are merely under-shepherds.

### **the blood of the everlasting covenant,**

This phrase tells us two things: **(1)** the New Covenant is everlasting, meaning it will never end throughout eternity, **(2)** the Covenant was purchased by the shed Blood of Jesus Christ.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.*

Hebrews 13:21-22

### **Make you perfect in every good work to do his will,**

The power of Calvary provides the power of the Spirit to make believers perfect (i.e., mature).

**To do His will:** The power and endowment of God is ONLY to accomplish the will of God and NOT the will of man.

### **through Jesus Christ**

This phrase “*through Jesus Christ*” always means “through what Jesus Christ did at the Cross.”

### **suffer the word of exhortation**

Means the Christian is to allow and receive the Word of God properly exhorted.

## The Epistle to the Hebrews

*Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you. Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you. Grace be with you all. Amen.*

Hebrews 13:23-25

### **Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty;**

This is another proof that the apostle Paul wrote this epistle as Timothy was often with Paul in his endeavors.

Timothy had already been released from his imprisonment.