

**Jesus Our Great High Priest**  
***An Exposition of the Book of Hebrews***

**Serving God Acceptably**  
**Lesson 21**  
**Hebrews 13:1-19**

***Trinity Bible Church Sunday School***  
***May 21, 2017***

# Word of Exhortation (10:19-13:25)

- ▶ Run with endurance
- ▶ The superiority of the work of Christ v. the Law of Moses
- ▶ No contest!

# Two Covenants

- ▶ The Covenant with Israel made at Mount Sinai
- ▶ The Covenant with Christ made before creation
- ▶ The shadow covenant and the true covenant
- ▶ The earthly covenant and the heavenly covenant
- ▶ The new covenant and the old covenant

# The Main Point

- ▶ Sin (x30), faith (x42), righteous (x10), perfect (x14)
- ▶ Faith:
  - Belief
  - That which is believed – a body of truth
  - Faithful
- ▶ The Old Covenant – no solution for sin; demands works
- ▶ The New Covenant – solution for sin by faith
- ▶ The distinguishing feature: Jesus, the Great High Priest
- ▶ The body of truth – the high priestly work of Jesus Christ
- ▶ The outcome – righteousness and perfection

# The Practical Application

- ▶ 5 severe warnings
  - Neglect the word spoken by the Lord – no escape (2:1-4)
  - Hard heart/unbelief – No “rest” (3:7-4:13)
  - No hope for those who fall away (5:11-6:20)
  - The just shall live by faith (10:26-39)
  - Refuse Christ’s word – no escape from a consuming fire (12:25-29)
- ▶ A new and living way – the body and blood of Christ (10:19-25)
  - Let us draw near to God by faith
  - Let us hold fast to our confession of hope because He is faithful
  - Let us consider one another – stimulate to love and good works
- ▶ The great cloud of witnesses to justification by faith (11:1-40)

# The Practical Application

- ▶ Fix your eyes on Jesus, Author and Finisher of our faith (12:1-17)
- ▶ Two mountains – Sinai and Zion (12:18-24)
- ▶ Serving God acceptably (13:1-19)
  - Commandments (13:1-9)
  - Comparison of the Old and New Covenants (13:10-14)
  - Sacrifices which please God (13:15-16)
  - Responsibility to leaders (13:17-19)

# The Grace of God

- ▶ Access to the throne of grace (4:16)
- ▶ Insulting the Spirit of grace (10:29)
- ▶ Do not come short of the grace of God (12:15)
- ▶ Acceptable service to God by grace (12:28)
- ▶ A heart strengthened by grace (13:9)
- ▶ Grace be with you (13:25)
- ▶ Not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14)

# Let Brotherly Love Continue (13:1-3)

- ▶ A command based upon a new reality
  - Partakers of Christ (3:14; 13:3)
  - Evidence of eternal life (1 John 3:14-19; 4:7-8)
- ▶ Provoke one another to love (10:24)
- ▶ Show hospitality to strangers (brothers in Christ)
- ▶ Remember the prisoners and the ill-treated

# **Marriage to be Held in Honor (13:4)**

- ▶ A universal command – for all
- ▶ Second ordinance of God (Genesis 2)
- ▶ Sexual sin, in and out of marriage – judgment of God
- ▶ Proverbs – a deadly sin – self destruction
- ▶ A corruption of the family structure (1 Corinthians 7:14)

# Free from the Love of Money (13:5-6)

- ▶ Equated to being content with what you have
- ▶ Submission to the will of God
- ▶ Not an excuse for laziness (2 Thess 3:10-11)
- ▶ Love of money is root of all kinds of evil (2 Tim 6:10)
- ▶ Do not hope in the uncertainty of riches (2 Tim 6:17)
- ▶ The LORD will never leave us (Deut 31:6, 8)
- ▶ The LORD is my helper. No fear of man (Psalm 118:6)

Free from the love of money: “It does not consist in a slothful neglect of the business of life, or a real or pretended apathy to worldly interests. It is substantially a satisfaction with God as our portion, and what He is pleased to appoint for us.”

**John Brown, 1862**

# Remember Those who Led You (13:7-8)

- ▶ Deceased leaders
- ▶ They spoke the word of God to you
- ▶ Considering the “result of their conduct”
- ▶ Imitate their faith
- ▶ Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever

# **Beware of False Doctrine (13:9)**

- ▶ No need to update the Christian faith/confession
- ▶ The objective: a heart strengthened by grace
- ▶ The danger: no benefit

# **A Lesson from 2 Covenants (13:10-14)**

- ▶ The altar represents the atoning sacrifice
- ▶ The atoning sacrifice burned outside of the camp (Lev 16:27-28)
- ▶ Christ's atoning sacrifice made outside the gate (the Law)
- ▶ Shameful to the Jews under the Law
- ▶ Atoning and sanctifying to those who go out to Christ
- ▶ Illustrated in the communion supper (John 6:53-56)
- ▶ Grace is not from Jerusalem but from the New Jerusalem
- ▶ The New Covenant provides forgiveness and sanctification

# Worship of God (13:15-16)

- ▶ “Let us show grace, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe.” (12:28)
- ▶ Sacrifice of praise to God – thanksgiving
- ▶ Sacrifices of doing good and sharing
- ▶ Sacrifices are acts of worship
- ▶ God is pleased with these sacrifices
- ▶ Through Christ – through partaking of Him (3:14)

# Spiritual Leaders (13:17-19)

- ▶ Obey your leaders
  - Keep watch over your souls – a spiritual leadership
  - Bring joy, not grief – mutual loss or gain
- ▶ Pray for your leaders
  - Their need to have a good conscience and conduct
  - Their continuing ministry

# Confidence at the Throne of Grace

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

(NASB, 1995)