

HEBREWS

Lessons 5 & 6: Faith that Pleases *and* Solemn Warnings

- ❖ To Hebrew Christians fatigued by persecution
- ❖ Jesus: Final Messenger
- ❖ Jesus: Greater than the prophets
- ❖ Jesus: Greater than the angels

- ❖ Exhortation & warning: Heed or drift away
- ❖ Jesus: Made a little lower than angels
 - ❖ High priest, captain of our salvation
 - ❖ Flesh & blood; temptation, suffering, & death
- ❖ Jesus: Greater than Moses

- ❖ Beware unbelief
 - ❖ The fathers fell short of God's rest
 - ❖ Rest still awaits the faithful
- ❖ Jesus: Better High Priest (order of Melchizedek)
 - ❖ Without sin
 - ❖ Author of eternal salvation

- ❖ Rebuke and encouragement
 - ❖ Admonition for spiritual immaturity
 - ❖ “Confident of better things concerning you”
- ❖ God assured Abram (and us) with an oath

- ❖ Jesus: Order of Melchizedek
 - ❖ Greater than Abraham, Levi
 - ❖ Priesthood by oath of God, not law/lineage
 - ❖ Always lives
- ❖ Jesus: Better sacrifice than bulls & goats

- ❖ Jesus: Better covenant/testament
 - ❖ Our God, His people
 - ❖ God's laws in minds & hearts
 - ❖ All know God
 - ❖ Full, eternal atonement
- ❖ Exhortation to press on, hold fast

- ❖ Faith
 - ❖ Substance of things hoped for
 - ❖ Evidence of things not seen
 - ❖ God exists and rewards the diligent
 - ❖ Several OT examples of faithfulness

BY FAITH

THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR

- ❖ What did Moses choose? (11:24–26)
 - ❖ Affliction over pleasure (11:25)
 - ❖ Reproach over riches (11:26)
 - ❖ Leave comfort, endure suffering
 - ❖ Moses saw the Invisible
 - ❖ Kept the Passover, spared destruction
 - ❖ Passed through the Red Sea unharmed

BY FAITH

THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR

- ❖ Why could Egypt not cross the Red Sea? (11:29)
 - ❖ Would they have attempted to cross unless they believed?
 - ❖ God made no promise to deliver them
 - ❖ Did not act **in faith**

BY FAITH

THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR

- ❖ What caused the Jericho's walls to fall? (11:30)
 - ❖ The power of God
 - ❖ Circled for seven days: perseverance, diligence
 - ❖ Persevere first, then see the power of God

BY FAITH

THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR

- ❖ Why did some refuse deliverance? (11:35)
 - ❖ To obtain a better resurrection
 - ❖ Like Moses, choosing affliction over pleasure
 - ❖ Refuse relief, receive a better resurrection (Rev 13:13)

BY FAITH

THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR

- ❖ Why did these not receive the promise? (11:39, 40)
 - ❖ God provides us something better
 - ❖ God makes us perfect with them
- * *“Of whom the world was not worthy”* (11:38)

THE MORE EARNEST HEED

HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE?

- ❖ What would happen if they did not heed? (2:1)
 - ❖ Drift away – Gradual, unintentional
- ❖ Consequence of failing to heed angels? (2:2–4)
 - ❖ Just reward: death
 - ❖ Lot's wife? The law? (Gal 3:19; Acts 7:53)
 - ❖ Lesser → greater: Angels < Jesus

DEPARTING FROM THE LIVING GOD

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS

- ❖ Hardened hearts: Contrasts with drifting (3:8)
- ❖ What caused their hearts to harden? (3:12, 13)
 - ❖ Evil heart of **unbelief** (cf. 3:19)
 - ❖ Deceitfulness of sin
- ❖ How to avoid drifting? (3:13)
 - ❖ Daily exhortation (10:24, 25; Php 2:4)

DEPARTING FROM THE LIVING GOD

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS

- ❖ Who fell in the wilderness? (3:16–19) All who ...
 - ❖ Came out of Egypt, led by Moses
 - ❖ Sinned
 - ❖ Disobeyed
 - ❖ Did not believe