

# Jesus is Greater >

The Book of Hebrews (Part 2)

**Photos from  
Todd Bolen, “Photo Companion: Hebrews,”  
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# Jesus is Greater

## The Book of Hebrews (Part 2)

*Every day, followers of Jesus must orient their minds, hearts, will, and actions towards Jesus Christ.*

Christians are people who have been led to believe in Jesus and make a conscious choice to operate in a trusting relationship with him. As we strive to do this, doubts and concerns can enter our lives. Is Jesus really worth my trust, my allegiance, and my worship? The book of Hebrews is an extensive response to this concern by highlighting the ways that Jesus is greater than all things.

This study companion is designed as a help for this series by providing directions and prompts for deeper reflection and more consistent obedience.

**NOTES:** Taking time to record your thoughts from the Sunday morning sermon

**REFLECTION:** Questions designed to help you consider further implications from the sermon

**PRACTICE:** Daily readings in the Bible during the week that are paired with Sunday's text to encourage obedience and awareness of God's Spirit.

**PRAYER:** Space to record your prayers in the week and follow some guided prayers each week.

**I trust and pray that through this series, you will enter into a deeper assurance of the majesty, worth, and surpassing greatness of Jesus Christ.**

— Pastor Keith

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**Written Prayers are quoted from  
*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*,  
ed. by Kimberly Bracken Long**

GREATER  
THAN ANY  
PLACE OF  
WORSHIP

HEBREWS 9:1-14

# Hebrews 9:1-14

Now the first covenant also had regulations for ministry and an earthly sanctuary. 2 For a tabernacle was set up, and in the first room, which is called the holy place, were the lampstand, the table, and the presentation loaves. 3 Behind the second curtain was a tent called the most holy place. 4 It had the gold altar of incense and the ark of the covenant, covered with gold on all sides, in which was a gold jar containing the manna, Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. 5 The cherubim of glory were above the ark overshadowing the mercy seat. It is not possible to speak about these things in detail right now. 6 With these things prepared like this, the priests enter the first room repeatedly, performing their ministry. 7 But the high priest alone enters the second room, and he does that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.



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# Hebrews 9:1-14

8 The Holy Spirit was making it clear that the way into the most holy place had not yet been disclosed while the first tabernacle was still standing. 9 This is a symbol for the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the worshiper's conscience. 10 They are physical regulations and only deal with food, drink, and various washings imposed until the time of the new order. 11 But Christ has appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come. In the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands (that is, not of this creation), 12 he entered the most holy place once for all time, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow, sprinkling those who are defiled, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works so that we can serve the living God?



- Take time to read and review the passage, observing those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- How does the imagery of the earthly tabernacle and its rituals deepen your understanding of Christ's role as the ultimate High Priest in Hebrews 9:1-14?
- Reflect on the significance of Christ's sacrifice as described in Hebrews 9:11-14. How does this understanding impact your daily life and relationship with God?
- Consider the concept of purification mentioned in Hebrews 9:13-14. How does Christ's sacrifice provide a deeper sense of cleansing and renewal in your spiritual journey?
- Reflect on the idea of a "perfect sacrifice" highlighted in Hebrews 9:12. How does this understanding shape your understanding of salvation and redemption through Christ?
- Consider the symbolism of the blood mentioned in Hebrews 9:7-14. How does this imagery help you comprehend the magnitude of Christ's sacrifice?
- Reflect on the concept of "eternal redemption" presented in Hebrews 9:12. How does this assurance impact your understanding of God's grace and forgiveness?
- Think about the role of faith in approaching God, as discussed in Hebrews 9:14. How does your faith influence your relationship with God and your reliance on Christ's sacrifice?
- Reflect on the idea of conscience and its significance in Hebrews 9:9-14. How does Christ's sacrifice provide assurance and peace for your conscience?
- Reflect on the theme of Christ's sacrifice as a once-for-all offering in Hebrews 9:12. How does this truth shape your understanding of salvation and the sufficiency of Christ's work on the cross?





*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Leviticus 16:11-19 - Details the rituals of the Day of Atonement, which Hebrews 9:7 refers to in discussing the high priest's actions.**

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**Monday: Leviticus 16:11-19 - Details the rituals of the Day of Atonement, which Hebrews 9:7 refers to in discussing the high priest's actions.**

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**Wednesday: Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Foretells of God's promise to cleanse His people and give them a new heart, which relates to the theme of purification and the new covenant in Hebrews 9.**

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**Thursday: 1 Peter 1:18-21 - Discusses the preciousness of the blood of Christ as the Lamb without blemish, echoing the theme of Christ's sacrifice found in Hebrews 9:12-14.**

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**Friday: Ezekiel 36:22-38 - Foretells of God's promise to cleanse His people and give them a new heart, which relates to the theme of purification and the new covenant in Hebrews 9.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 9:15-28**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Speak to us your word, O God, that we may hear Jesus' call to be his disciples. Amen.*





...how much more  
will the blood of  
Christ, who through  
the eternal Spirit  
offered himself  
without blemish to  
God, cleanse our  
consciences from  
dead works so that  
we can serve the  
living God?

**HEBREWS 9:14**





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
CONTRACT

HEBREWS 9:15-28

# Hebrews 9:15-28

15 Therefore, he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, because a death has taken place for redemption from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. 16

Where a will exists, the death of the one who made it must be established. 17 For a will is valid only when people die, since it is never in effect while the one who made it is living. 18

That is why even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood. 19 For when every command had been proclaimed by Moses to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll itself and all the people, 20 saying, This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you. 21 In the same way, he sprinkled the tabernacle and all the articles of worship with blood. 22 According to the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.





# Hebrews 9:15-28

23 Therefore, it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves to be purified with better sacrifices than these. 24 For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with hands (only a model of the true one) but into heaven itself, so that he might now appear in the presence of God for us. 25 He did not do this to offer himself many times, as the high priest enters the sanctuary yearly with the blood of another. 26 Otherwise, he would have had to suffer many times since the foundation of the world. But now he has appeared one time, at the end of the ages, for the removal of sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And just as it is appointed for people to die once—and after this, judgment—28 so also Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- How does the contrast between the old and new covenants presented in Hebrews 9:15-18 deepen your appreciation for the grace and mercy found in Christ?
- Reflect on the hope expressed in Hebrews 9:28 regarding Christ's return. How does this hope influence your perspective on suffering and perseverance in your faith journey?
- Reflect on the concept of redemption discussed in Hebrews 9:15. How does the assurance of redemption through Christ's sacrifice impact your understanding of your own worth and value in God's eyes?
- Consider the idea of Christ as the mediator of a new covenant in Hebrews 9:15. How does this role of Christ shape your understanding of God's relationship with humanity and your personal relationship with Him?
- Reflect on the imagery of Christ's blood as the means of redemption in Hebrews 9:22. How does this imagery deepen your appreciation for the extent of God's love and the cost of your redemption?
- Think about the importance of faith and perseverance in Hebrews 9:27-28. How does the anticipation of Christ's return motivate you to live a life of faithfulness and obedience?
- Consider the contrast between Christ's sacrifice and the repeated sacrifices of the old covenant priests in Hebrews 9:25-28. How does this understanding impact your gratitude for Christ's once-for-all sacrifice?
- Reflect on the idea of Christ bearing the sins of many in Hebrews 9:28. How does this truth shape your understanding of forgiveness and the freedom found in Christ?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Isaiah 53:1-12 - The prophecy of the suffering servant, which Hebrews 9:28 connects to the sacrifice of Christ.**

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**Tuesday: Romans 5:6-11 - Explores the concept of justification through faith in Christ, which is central to the discussion of redemption in Hebrews 9:15.**

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**Wednesday: Jeremiah 31:31-34 - The promise of a new covenant, which Hebrews 9:15-18 discusses in contrast to the old covenant rituals.**

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**Thursday: Ephesians 1:7-10 - Discusses the redemption and forgiveness of sins through Christ's blood, echoing themes found in Hebrews 9:22-28.**

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**Friday: 1 John 1:5-2:2 - Discusses Jesus Christ as the atoning sacrifice for our sins, aligning with the concept of Christ's sacrifice for redemption in Hebrews 9:15-28.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 10:1-18**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Holy Spirit, your people call out for understanding. Bring to our yearning hearts and minds the truth of your Word; in Jesus' name. Amen.*





And just as it is appointed for people to die once—and after this, judgment—so also Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

**HEBREWS 9:27-28**





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
SACRIFICE

HEBREWS 10:1-18

# Hebrews 10:1-18

10:1 Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come, and not the reality itself of those things, it can never perfect the worshipers by the same sacrifices they continually offer year after year. 2 Otherwise, wouldn't they have stopped being offered, since the worshipers, purified once and for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? 3 But in the sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year after year. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. 5 Therefore, as he was coming into the world, he said: You did not desire sacrifice and offering, but you prepared a body for me. 6 You did not delight in whole burnt offerings and sin offerings. 7 Then I said, "See — it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, God." 8 After he says above, You did not desire or delight in sacrifices and offerings, whole burnt offerings and sin offerings (which are offered according to the law), 9 he then says, See, I have come to do your will. He takes away the first to establish the second.



# Hebrews 10:1-18

10 By this will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time. 11 Every priest stands day after day ministering and offering the same sacrifices time after time, which can never take away sins. 12 But this man, after offering one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. 13 He is now waiting until his enemies are made his footstool. 14 For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are sanctified. 15 The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. For after he says: 16 This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, the Lord says, I will put my laws on their hearts and write them on their minds, 17 and I will never again remember their sins and their lawless acts. 18 Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the inadequacy of the old covenant sacrifices described in Hebrews 10:1-4. How does this deepen your appreciation for the completeness and sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice?
- Consider the obedience and willingness of Christ to fulfill God's will as described in Hebrews 10:5-7. How does this inspire you to align your own life with God's purposes?
- Reflect on the contrast between the temporary effectiveness of the old covenant sacrifices and the permanent efficacy of Christ's sacrifice in Hebrews 10:11-14. How does this truth impact your understanding of salvation and forgiveness?
- Think about the assurance of forgiveness and cleansing offered through Christ's sacrifice in Hebrews 10:17-18. How does this assurance shape your attitude towards repentance and reconciliation with God?
- Reflect on the significance of Christ's sacrifice as a once-for-all offering for sins, as emphasized in Hebrews 10:10. How does this truth impact your understanding of grace and your response to God's love?
- Consider the idea of sanctification through the offering of Christ's body once for all, as discussed in Hebrews 10:10. How does this understanding shape your pursuit of holiness and transformation in your daily life?





*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Leviticus 16:1-34 - Describes the rituals of the Day of Atonement, which Hebrews 10:1-4 references in discussing the inadequacy of the old covenant sacrifices.**

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**Tuesday: Psalm 40:1-10 - David's expression of trust in God's deliverance and his desire to do God's will, which is quoted in Hebrews 10:5-7 regarding Christ's obedience.**

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**Wednesday: Exodus 29:38-46 - Describes the daily offerings and rituals for atonement in the tabernacle, providing context for Hebrews 10:1-4 regarding the ineffectiveness of repeated sacrifices.**

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**Thursday: Isaiah 1:10-20 - God's call for sincerity and obedience rather than empty rituals, which echoes the sentiments expressed in Hebrews 10:5-10 regarding the inadequacy of sacrifices without true repentance.**

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**Friday: Romans 3:21-26 - Explores the concept of justification through faith in Christ's sacrifice and the demonstration of God's righteousness, which parallels the themes of redemption and forgiveness in Hebrews 10:1-18.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 10:19-25**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

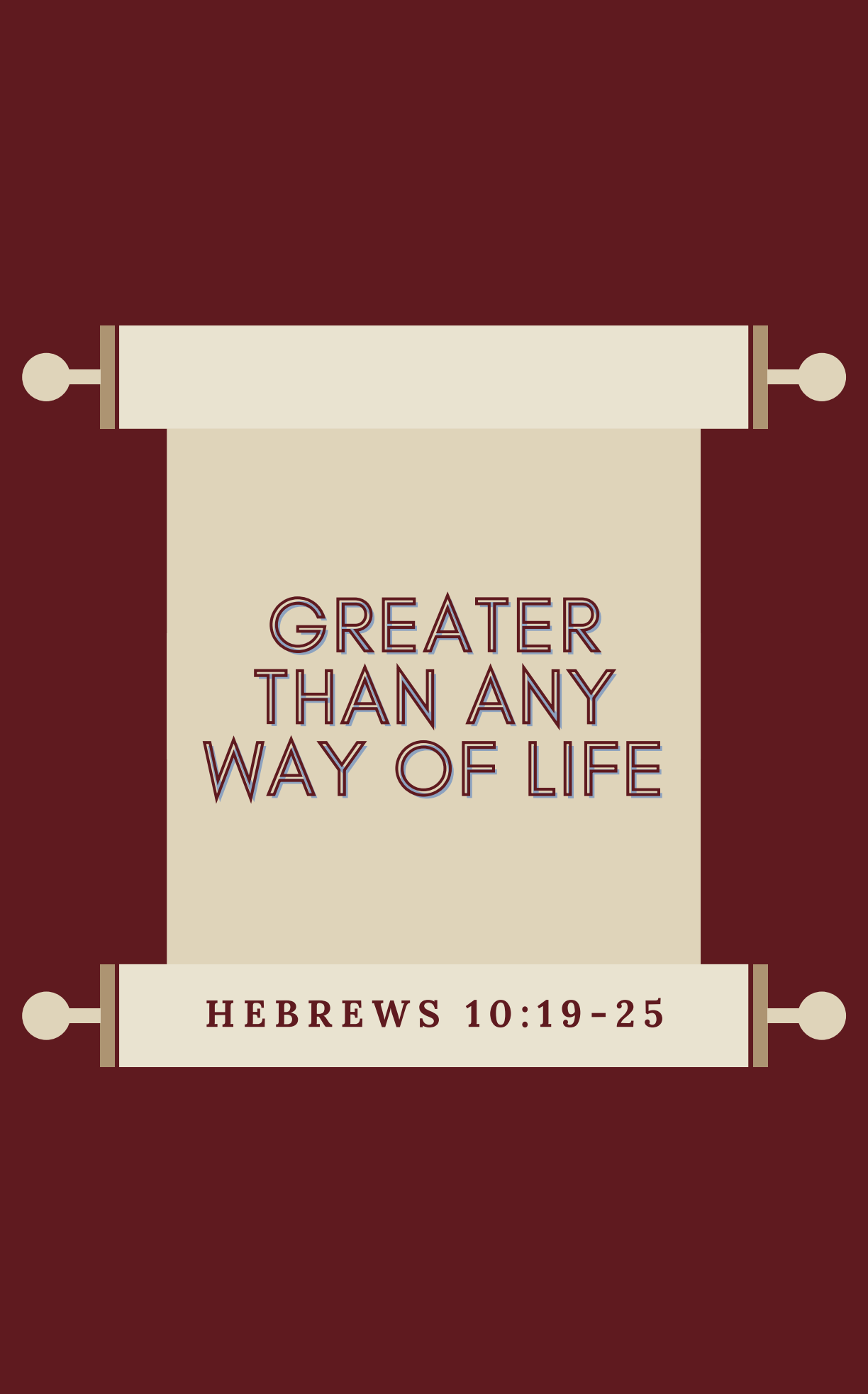
*Holy God, speak to us what has been told from the beginning, your Word that is the foundation of the world. Amen.*



This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, the Lord says, I will put my laws on their hearts and write them on their minds, and I will never again remember their sins and their lawless acts. Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

**HEBREWS 10:16-18**





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
WAY OF LIFE

HEBREWS 10:19-25

# Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus—20 he has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh)—21 and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. 23 Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, 25 not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.





- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the significance of being invited to draw near to God with confidence, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:22. How does this assurance impact your approach to prayer and worship?
- Consider the importance of holding fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, as discussed in Hebrews 10:23. How does this challenge you to maintain steadfastness in your faith, especially during times of doubt or uncertainty?
- Reflect on the call to consider how to encourage one another to love and good deeds, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:24-25. How does this challenge you to actively participate in the life of your faith community and support others in their spiritual journey?
- Think about the significance of meeting together regularly as believers, as emphasized in Hebrews 10:25. How does this challenge you to prioritize fellowship and participation in corporate worship gatherings?
- Consider the encouragement to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:24. How does this challenge you to actively engage in acts of service and kindness toward others in your community?
- Think about the significance of assembling together as believers, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:25. How does this challenge you to prioritize participation in corporate worship and fellowship, even in the midst of busy schedules or competing priorities?
- Consider the importance of accountability and mutual edification in the Christian walk, as highlighted in Hebrews 10:24-25. How does this challenge you to cultivate deeper relationships with other believers and invite accountability into your spiritual growth?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Ephesians 2:18-22 - Reflects on the idea of believers being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit, which aligns with the theme of drawing near to God in Hebrews 10:19-22.**

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**Tuesday: James 4:7-10 - Discusses the call to submit to God, resist the devil, and draw near to God, echoing the themes of repentance and drawing near to God found in Hebrews 10:19-25.**

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**Wednesday: Colossians 3:12-17 - Discusses putting on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, which aligns with the exhortation to consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds in Hebrews 10:24-25.**

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**Thursday: Romans 12:9-21 - Provides practical instructions for living as members of one body, loving one another, and overcoming evil with good, which relates to the encouragement to consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds in Hebrews 10:24-25.**

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**Friday: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22 - Offers exhortations for mutual edification, encouragement, and admonition within the Christian community, aligning with the theme of encouraging one another and building each other up in Hebrews 10:24-25.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 10:26-39**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Give us ears, O God, to hear your word beyond our own expectations. Let your Holy Spirit infuse us with insight, in the light of your continued revealing in our midst. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*



And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

**HEBREWS 10:24-25**







GREATER  
THAN ANY  
CONFIDENCE

HEBREWS 10:26-39

# Hebrews 10:26-39

26 For if we deliberately go on sinning after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire about to consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who disregarded the law of Moses died without mercy, based on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much worse punishment do you think one will deserve who has trampled on the Son of God, who has regarded as profane the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know the one who has said, Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, and again, The Lord will judge his people. 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.



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# Hebrews 10:26-39

32 Remember the earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings. 33 Sometimes you were publicly exposed to taunts and afflictions, and at other times you were companions of those who were treated that way. 34 For you sympathized with the prisoners and accepted with joy the confiscation of your possessions, because you know that you yourselves have a better and enduring possession. 35 So don't throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. 36 For you need endurance, so that after you have done God's will, you may receive what was promised. 37 For yet in a very little while, the Coming One will come and not delay. 38 But my righteous one will live by faith; and if he draws back, I have no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not those who draw back and are destroyed, but those who have faith and are saved.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Think about the assurance of God's faithfulness and promise of salvation for those who persevere in faith, as discussed in Hebrews 10:35-39. How does this assurance impact your confidence in God's provision and your ability to endure trials?
- Consider the warning against shrinking back and the call to faithfulness in Hebrews 10:38-39. How does this challenge you to remain steadfast in your commitment to following Christ, even in the face of adversity or opposition?
- Reflect on the role of faith in pleasing God, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:38. How does this truth encourage you to trust in God's promises and live a life that honours Him, regardless of circumstances or outcomes?
- Reflect on the seriousness of sin and its consequences, as discussed in Hebrews 10:26-31. How does this understanding of sin's impact on our relationship with God shape your daily choices and attitudes toward repentance?
- Consider the assurance of God's promise of salvation for those who endure, as mentioned in Hebrews 10:36-39. How does this assurance affect your perspective on the challenges and trials you face in life?
- Think about the importance of perseverance and endurance in the Christian faith, as emphasized in Hebrews 10:36. How does this challenge you to remain faithful and steadfast, even when circumstances are difficult?
- Consider the significance of the phrase "the righteous shall live by faith" in Hebrews 10:38. How does this truth influence your understanding of what it means to live a life pleasing to God?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Matthew 7:21-23 - Jesus' warning about the importance of obedience and genuine faith, echoing the seriousness of willful sinning and the judgment mentioned in Hebrews 10:26-27.**

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**Tuesday: Romans 6:1-12 - Paul's teaching on the implications of grace and sin, emphasizing the need to avoid continuing in sin once we have received God's grace, which relates to the warning against willful sinning in Hebrews 10:26.**

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**Wednesday: James 2:14-26 - James' exposition on the relationship between faith and works, emphasizing that genuine faith is demonstrated through obedient actions, which aligns with the call to endure and demonstrate faithfulness in Hebrews 10:26-39.**

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**Thursday: 2 Peter 2:1-22 - Peter's warning about the danger of returning to a life of sin after knowing the truth, echoing the seriousness of willful sinning and the judgment mentioned in Hebrews 10:26-27.**

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**Friday: 1 John 5:16-17 - John's distinction between sins that lead to death and those that do not, emphasizing the seriousness of persistent sin and the need for believers to pray for one another's spiritual well-being, which relates to the warning against willful sinning in Hebrews 10:26-27.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 11:1-40**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Holy God, by your Spirit speak to us your resounding yes! 2 Cor. 1:20 as we listen to your Word. Amen.*



So don't throw  
away your  
confidence, which  
has a great reward.  
For you need  
endurance, so that  
after you have done  
God's will, you may  
receive what was  
promised.

HEBREWS 10:35-36





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
BLESSING

HEBREWS 11:1-40

# Hebrews 11:1-40

Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen. 2 For by this our ancestors were approved. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. 4 By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was approved as a righteous man, because God approved his gifts, and even though he is dead, he still speaks through his faith. 5 By faith Enoch was taken away, and so he did not experience death. He was not to be found because God took him away. For before he was taken away, he was approved as one who pleased God. 6 Now without faith it is impossible to please God, since the one who draws near to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. 7 By faith Noah, after he was warned about what was not yet seen and motivated by godly fear, built an ark to deliver his family. By faith he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. 8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and set out for a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out, even though he did not know where he was going. 9 By faith he stayed as a foreigner in the land of promise, living in tents as did Isaac and Jacob, coheirs of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 By faith even Sarah herself, when she was unable to have children, received power to conceive offspring, even though she was past the age, since she considered that the one who had promised was faithful. 12 Therefore, from one man—in fact, from one as good as dead—came offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and as innumerable as the grains of sand along the seashore. 13 These all died in faith, although they had not received the things that were promised. But they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that they were foreigners and temporary residents on the earth. 14 Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. 16 But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. 17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. He received the promises and yet he was offering his one and only son, 18 the one to whom it had been said, Your offspring will be traced through Isaac. 19 He considered God to be able even to raise someone from the dead; therefore, he received him back, figuratively speaking.



# Hebrews 11:1-40

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. 21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and he worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. 22 By faith Joseph, as he was nearing the end of his life, mentioned the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions concerning his bones. 23 By faith Moses, after he was born, was hidden by his parents for three months, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they didn't fear the king's edict. 24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter 25 and chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasure of sin. 26 For he considered reproach for the sake of Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, since he was looking ahead to the reward. 27 By faith he left Egypt behind, not being afraid of the king's anger, for Moses persevered as one who sees him who is invisible. 28 By faith he instituted the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn might not touch the Israelites. 29 By faith they crossed the Red Sea as though they were on dry land. When the Egyptians attempted to do this, they were drowned. 30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after being marched around by the Israelites for seven days. 31 By faith Rahab the prostitute welcomed the spies in peace and didn't perish with those who disobeyed. 32 And what more can I say? Time is too short for me to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets, 33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the raging of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, gained strength in weakness, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received their dead, raised to life again. Other people were tortured, not accepting release, so that they might gain a better resurrection. 36 Others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. 38 The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and on mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground. 39 All these were approved through their faith, but they did not receive what was promised, 40 since God had provided something better for us, so that they would not be made perfect without us.





- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the definition of faith presented in Hebrews 11:1. How does this understanding of faith challenge your own perception and practice of faith in God?
- Consider the examples of faith mentioned in Hebrews 11:4-40, from Abel to the prophets. How do these examples inspire you to trust God more fully and step out in faith in your own life?
- Reflect on the faith of Abraham, as highlighted in Hebrews 11:8-19. How does his willingness to obey God, even when it seemed impossible, encourage you to trust God's promises and guidance in your own journey?
- Think about the perseverance of Moses, as described in Hebrews 11:23-29. How does his example of enduring hardship and following God's leading challenge you to persevere in your own faith journey, especially in times of adversity?
- Reflect on the suffering endured by the heroes of faith, as described in Hebrews 11:35-38. How does their steadfastness in the face of trials encourage you to trust God's faithfulness and sovereignty, even in the midst of suffering?
- Consider the assurance of the promises of God, as highlighted throughout Hebrews 11. How does this assurance give you hope and confidence to trust God's faithfulness in your own life?
- Reflect on the ways in which your own life reflects the characteristics of faith described in Hebrews 11. How can you cultivate and strengthen your faith in God based on these examples?
- Consider the impact of faith on your daily decisions, relationships, and priorities. How can you align your life more closely with the example of faithfulness demonstrated by the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Genesis 4:1-16 - The story of Cain and Abel, highlighting Abel's faith and offering, which is referenced in Hebrews 11:4 as an example of faith.**

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**Tuesday: Genesis 12:1-9 - The call of Abraham and his journey of faith, which is mentioned in Hebrews 11:8-19 as an example of trust and obedience to God.**

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**Wednesday: Exodus 14:1-31 - The account of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea by faith, which is referenced in Hebrews 11:29 as an example of trusting God's deliverance.**

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**Thursday: Psalm 27:1-14 - David's psalm of trust and confidence in God's protection and deliverance, reflecting the essence of faith and reliance on God's promises, as emphasized in Hebrews 11.**

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**Friday: Isaiah 40:27-31 - Isaiah's prophecy of renewed strength for those who wait on the Lord, demonstrating the power of faith to sustain and empower believers, as seen throughout Hebrews 11.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 12:1-2**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Spirit of the Living God, write your Word on the tablets of our hearts, (2 Cor. 3:2-3) that we may be your letter to the world, showing forth the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

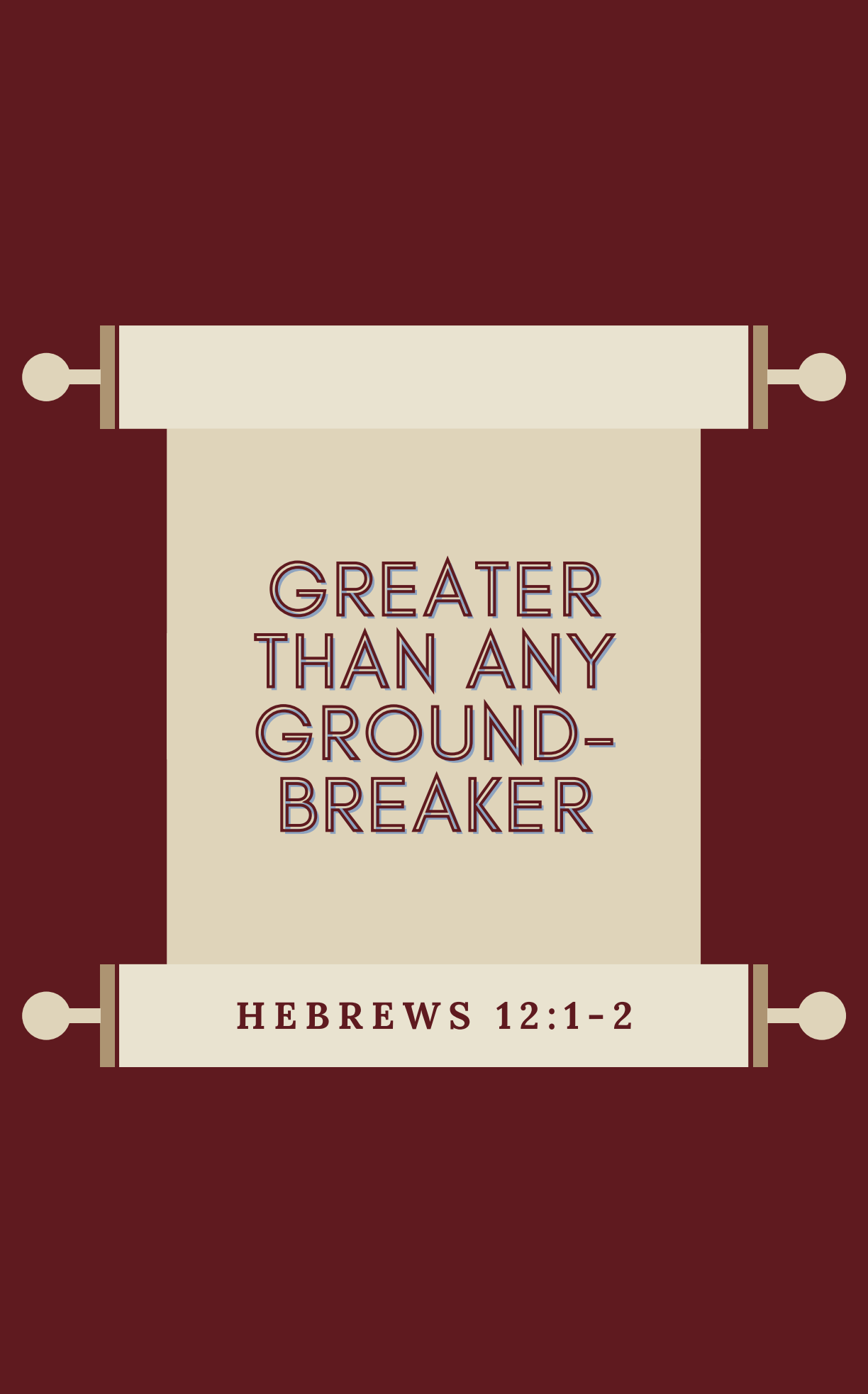


Now without faith  
it is impossible to  
please God,  
since the one  
who draws near  
to him must  
believe that he  
exists and that  
he rewards those  
who seek him.

**HEBREWS 11:6**







GREATER  
THAN ANY  
GROUND-  
BREAKER

HEBREWS 12:1-2

# Hebrews 12:1-2

**12:1 Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, 2 keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the image of Jesus as the “author and perfecter of our faith,” as mentioned in Hebrews 12:2. How does this truth shape your understanding of the role of Christ in your life, and how can you entrust Him with every aspect of your faith?
- Consider the call to “fix our eyes on Jesus,” as emphasized in Hebrews 12:2. How does this challenge you to prioritize intimacy with Christ in your daily life, and how can you cultivate a deeper relationship with Him?
- Reflect on the endurance of Jesus in enduring the cross and disregarding its shame, as described in Hebrews 12:2. How does this inspire you to persevere in times of suffering or hardship, knowing that Jesus endured similar challenges?
- Reflect on the humility of Jesus in enduring the cross, as discussed in Hebrews 12:2. How does this challenge you to cultivate a spirit of humility in your own life, especially in times of conflict or adversity?
- Consider the invitation to follow Jesus’ example in enduring trials and suffering, as mentioned in Hebrews 12:2. How can you apply Jesus’ example of endurance and obedience to your own life circumstances, trusting in His grace and strength to sustain you?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Matthew 11:28-30 - Jesus' invitation to come to Him and find rest, which resonates with the call to lay aside every weight and run with endurance in Hebrews 12:1-2.**

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**Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 - Paul's analogy of the Christian life to a race, highlighting the need for discipline and self-control, which aligns with the exhortation to run with endurance in Hebrews 12:1-2.**

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**Wednesday: Philippians 3:12-14 - Paul's encouragement to press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus, echoing the theme of perseverance and striving forward in Hebrews 12:1-2.**

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**Thursday: 1 Peter 2:21-25 - Peter's reminder of Christ's example of suffering and perseverance, encouraging believers to follow in His steps, which aligns with the call to fix our eyes on Jesus in Hebrews 12:2.**

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**Friday: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Paul's exhortation to put on the whole armour of God and stand firm against the schemes of the devil, reflecting the need for spiritual endurance and perseverance in Hebrews 12:1-2.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 12:3-13**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Holy God, we give thanks for your Word (2 Cor. 4:5, 7) speaking through Scripture, like a treasure in clay jars. Let us carry these words with us and live as vessels of your truth, proclaiming the good news of life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*





Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**HEBREWS 12:1-2**





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
FATHER

HEBREWS 12:3-13

# Hebrews 12:3-13

3 For consider him who endured such hostility from sinners against himself, so that you won't grow weary and give up. 4 In struggling against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons: My son, do not take the Lord's discipline lightly or lose heart when you are reprovved by him, 6 for the Lord disciplines the one he loves and punishes every son he receives. 7 Endure suffering as discipline: God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline? 8 But if you are without discipline—which all receive—then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we had human fathers discipline us, and we respected them. Shouldn't we submit even more to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time based on what seemed good to them, but he does it for our benefit, so that we can share his holiness. 11 No discipline seems enjoyable at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore, strengthen your tired hands and weakened knees, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated but healed instead.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Consider the call to “consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself,” as emphasized in Hebrews 12:3. How does this challenge you to shift your focus from your own struggles to Jesus’ example of endurance and resilience?
- Reflect on the discipline of the Lord, as discussed in Hebrews 12:5-6. How does this challenge you to view hardships and challenges in your life as opportunities for growth and refinement?
- Consider the analogy of God’s discipline as evidence of His love for His children, as described in Hebrews 12:6. How does this perspective on discipline reshape your understanding of God’s character and His intentions toward you?
- Consider the call to submit to God’s discipline and be trained by it, as emphasized in Hebrews 12:9. How does this challenge you to surrender to God’s authority and trust His purposes, even in times of discomfort or pain?
- Reflect on the promise of God’s discipline producing a harvest of righteousness and peace, as mentioned in Hebrews 12:11. How does this encourage you to trust in the long-term benefits of enduring trials and challenges with faith and obedience?
- Consider the analogy of physical training and its parallel to spiritual discipline, as described in Hebrews 12:12-13. How does this challenge you to actively engage in spiritual disciplines and persevere in your faith journey?
- Reflect on the call to “make straight paths for your feet,” as emphasized in Hebrews 12:13. How does this challenge you to intentionally pursue holiness and righteousness in your daily choices and actions?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: James 1:2-18 - James' instruction to count it all joy when we face trials, knowing that the testing of our faith produces endurance, echoing the theme of endurance and perseverance in Hebrews 12.**

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**Tuesday: Psalm 94:12-13 - The psalmist reflects on the discipline of the Lord and the comfort that comes from knowing God's care and guidance, echoing the sentiments of Hebrews 12:5-6.**

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**Wednesday: Isaiah 38:16-17 - Hezekiah reflects on the discipline he received from the Lord and how it ultimately led to his restoration and well-being, resonating with the message of discipline and restoration in Hebrews 12:3-13.**

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**Thursday: Matthew 5:10-12 - Jesus teaches about the blessing of persecution for righteousness' sake and encourages endurance in the face of opposition, echoing the call to endure hardship and discipline in Hebrews 12:3-13.**

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**Friday: 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 - Paul speaks about the temporary nature of suffering and the eternal glory that awaits believers, encouraging endurance and perseverance in the midst of trials, which relates to the message of enduring discipline in Hebrews 12:3-13.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 12:14-29**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Speak to us, O Lord our God, (Ps. 50:1; 2 Cor. 4:6; Mark 9:4) and let the fire of your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the gospel: Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen*



We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain. Jesus has entered there on our behalf as a forerunner, because he has become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

**HEBREWS 6:19-20**





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
KINGDOM

HEBREWS 12:14-29

# Hebrews 12:14-29

14 Pursue peace with everyone, and holiness—without it no one will see the Lord. 15 Make sure that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no root of bitterness springs up, causing trouble and defiling many. 16 And make sure that there isn't any immoral or irreverent person like Esau, who sold his birthright in exchange for a single meal. 17 For you know that later, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, even though he sought it with tears, because he didn't find any opportunity for repentance. 18 For you have not come to what could be touched, to a blazing fire, to darkness, gloom, and storm, 19 to the blast of a trumpet, and the sound of words. Those who heard it begged that not another word be spoken to them, 20 for they could not bear what was commanded: If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned. 21 The appearance was so terrifying that Moses said, I am trembling with fear.



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# Hebrews 12:14-29

22 Instead, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God (the heavenly Jerusalem), to myriads of angels, a festive gathering, 23 to the assembly of the firstborn whose names have been written in heaven, to a Judge, who is God of all, to the spirits of righteous people made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which says better things than the blood of Abel. 25 See to it that you do not reject the one who speaks. For if they did not escape when they rejected him who warned them on earth, even less will we if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven. 26 His voice shook the earth at that time, but now he has promised, Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens. 27 This expression, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what is not shaken might remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful. By it, we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.





- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the call to pursue peace with all people and holiness, as mentioned in Hebrews 12:14. How does this challenge you to prioritize reconciliation and living a life that reflects God's character?
- Consider the warning against falling short of the grace of God and allowing bitterness to take root, as discussed in Hebrews 12:15. How does this challenge you to guard against attitudes of resentment and unforgiveness in your heart?
- Consider the imagery of Mount Sinai and the fear it evoked, contrasted with the approach to Mount Zion and the heavenly Jerusalem, as described in Hebrews 12:18-24. How does this contrast shape your understanding of the difference between law and grace, fear and faith?
- Reflect on the call to come to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel, as discussed in Hebrews 12:24. How does this truth deepen your appreciation for the sufficiency and efficacy of Christ's sacrifice?
- Reflect on the promise of a kingdom that cannot be shaken, as emphasized in Hebrews 12:28. How does this assurance impact your perspective on the uncertainties and trials of life, knowing that your ultimate citizenship is in the unshakeable kingdom of God?
- Reflect on the warning against refusing God, who speaks from heaven, as emphasized in Hebrews 12:25. How does this challenge you to respond to God's invitation with faith and obedience, rather than indifference or rebellion?
- Consider the invitation to receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken, as mentioned in Hebrews 12:28. How does this invitation challenge you to prioritize eternal values and invest your life in pursuits that align with God's kingdom purposes?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Matthew 5:1-10 - Jesus' teaching on the pure in heart, who will see God, resonating with the call to pursue holiness and peace found in Hebrews 12:14.**

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**Tuesday: Isaiah 66:1-2 - Isaiah's prophecy about God's favor toward the humble and contrite in spirit, aligning with the call to approach God with reverence and awe in Hebrews 12:28-29.**

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**Wednesday: Psalm 24:3-6 - The psalmist's reflection on who may ascend the hill of the Lord and stand in His holy place, resonating with the call to pursue holiness and reverence in Hebrews 12:14-29.**

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**Thursday: Psalm 50:1-6 - The psalmist's description of God's majesty and righteous judgment, reflecting the awe-inspiring nature of God mentioned in Hebrews 12:28-29.**

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**Friday: 2 Peter 3:10-13 - Peter's description of the day of the Lord, when the heavens will disappear with a roar and the elements will be destroyed by fire, aligning with the imagery of God's consuming fire in Hebrews 12:29.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 13:1-6**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*By the illumination of your Holy Spirit, O God, open our hearts that we may hear your Word and amend our lives; through Jesus Christ. Amen.*




Therefore, since we  
are receiving a  
kingdom that cannot  
be shaken, let us be  
thankful. By it, we  
may serve God  
acceptably, with  
reverence and awe,  
for our God is a  
consuming fire.

HEBREWS 12:28-29







GREATER  
THAN ANY  
MORAL  
CODE

HEBREWS 13:1-6

# Hebrews 13:1-6

13:1 Let brotherly love continue. 2 Don't neglect to show hospitality, for by doing this some have welcomed angels as guests without knowing it. 3 Remember those in prison, as though you were in prison with them, and the mistreated, as though you yourselves were suffering bodily. 4 Marriage is to be honored by all and the marriage bed kept undefiled, because God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. 5 Keep your life free from the love of money. Be satisfied with what you have, for he himself has said, I will never leave you or abandon you. 6 Therefore, we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the exhortation to continue loving one another as brothers and sisters, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:1. How does this challenge you to demonstrate genuine love and kindness to others in your daily interactions?
- Consider the call to show hospitality to strangers, as emphasized in Hebrews 13:2. How does this challenge you to open your heart and home to those in need, extending God's love and grace to others?
- Reflect on the reminder to remember those in prison and those mistreated, as discussed in Hebrews 13:3. How does this challenge you to advocate for justice and compassion for those who are marginalized or oppressed?
- Consider the call to honour marriage and keep the marriage bed pure, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:4. How does this challenge you to uphold the sanctity of marriage and prioritize faithfulness and commitment in your own relationships?
- Reflect on the exhortation to be content with what you have, as emphasized in Hebrews 13:5. How does this challenge you to cultivate a spirit of gratitude and trust in God's provision, rather than being consumed by material desires?
- Consider the promise of God's presence and provision, as discussed in Hebrews 13:5-6. How does this assurance impact your perspective on life's challenges and uncertainties, knowing that God will never leave you nor forsake you?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Romans 12:9-13 - Paul's exhortation to love sincerely, show hospitality, and bless those who persecute you, reflecting the themes of love and hospitality found in Hebrews 13:1-2.**

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**Tuesday: 1 Peter 4:8-11 - Peter's encouragement to love one another deeply, show hospitality without grumbling, and use our gifts to serve others, echoing the call to love and hospitality in Hebrews 13:1-2.**

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**Wednesday: Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus' teaching on hospitality and the blessings that come from inviting the poor, crippled, lame, and blind to meals, resonating with the call to show hospitality to strangers in Hebrews 13:2.**

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**Thursday: Ephesians 5:21-33 - Paul's teaching on mutual submission and love within marriage, which aligns with the call to honour marriage and keep the marriage bed pure in Hebrews 13:4.**

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**Friday: James 1:27 - James' description of pure and faultless religion as caring for widows and orphans in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world, which aligns with the call to show kindness and care for those in need in Hebrews 13:3.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 13:7-19**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Speak to us your word, O God, that we may hear Jesus' call to be his disciples. Amen.*





Let brotherly love  
continue.  
Don't neglect to show  
hospitality, for by  
doing this some have  
welcomed angels as  
guests without  
knowing it.

HEBREWS 13:1-2





GREATER  
THAN ANY  
LEADER

HEBREWS 13:7-19

# Hebrews 13:7-19

7 Remember your leaders who have spoken God's word to you. As you carefully observe the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. 9 Don't be led astray by various kinds of strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be established by grace and not by food regulations, since those who observe them have not benefited. 10 We have an altar from which those who worship at the tabernacle do not have a right to eat. 11 For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the most holy place by the high priest as a sin offering are burned outside the camp. 12 Therefore, Jesus also suffered outside the gate, so that he might sanctify the people by his own blood. 13 Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing his disgrace. 14 For we do not have an enduring city here; instead, we seek the one to come. 15 Therefore, through him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. 16 Don't neglect to do what is good and to share, for God is pleased with such sacrifices. 17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, since they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account, so that they can do this with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. 18 Pray for us, for we are convinced that we have a clear conscience, wanting to conduct ourselves honorably in everything. 19 And I urge you all the more to pray that I may be restored to you very soon.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the examples of faithfulness and leadership mentioned in Hebrews 13:7. How have these spiritual leaders impacted your own faith journey, and what lessons can you learn from their lives?
- Reflect on the unchanging nature of Jesus Christ, as emphasized in Hebrews 13:8. How does this truth anchor your faith and provide stability amidst life's uncertainties and challenges?
- Consider the warning against being led astray by various teachings, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:9. How does this challenge you to discern truth from error and remain steadfast in your commitment to sound doctrine?
- Consider the call to go outside the camp and bear the reproach Jesus endured, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:13. How does this challenge you to embrace the cost of discipleship and stand firm in your allegiance to Christ, even if it means facing opposition?
- Consider the exhortation to obey and submit to spiritual leaders, as discussed in Hebrews 13:17. How does this challenge you to humbly submit to the authority and guidance of those entrusted with shepherding your spiritual growth?
- Reflect on the call to pray for spiritual leaders, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:18. How does this challenge you to intercede for those who labor in ministry and uphold them in prayer?
- Consider the desire for restoration and the prayer for God's working in the hearts of believers, as discussed in Hebrews 13:19. How does this challenge you to pursue reconciliation and unity within the body of Christ, seeking God's transformative work in your own life and in the lives of others?



*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 - Paul's instruction to respect and esteem those who labor among you and to live in peace with one another, which resonates with the call to remember and imitate faithful leaders in Hebrews 13:7.**

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**Tuesday: Acts 20:28-32 - Paul's farewell address to the Ephesian elders, where he urges them to keep watch over themselves and the flock, resonating with the call to obey and submit to spiritual leaders in Hebrews 13:17.**

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**Wednesday: 1 Peter 5:1-4 - Peter's instruction to elders to shepherd God's flock willingly and eagerly, as examples to the congregation, resonating with the call to obey and submit to spiritual leaders in Hebrews 13:17.**

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**Thursday: Galatians 6:6-10 - Paul's encouragement to share all good things with those who teach, reflecting the importance of supporting and honouring spiritual leaders in Hebrews 13:7 and 13:17.**

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**Friday: James 5:13-16 - James' instruction on praying for one another and confessing sins to each other for healing, reflecting the importance of prayer and mutual support in Hebrews 13:18.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 13:20-25**

Take time to prayerfully reflect on the sermon text for tomorrow's worship gathering.

Consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word tomorrow during the worship gathering:

*Speak to us, O Lord our God, (Ps. 50:1; 2 Cor. 4:6; Mark 9:4) and let the fire of your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the gospel: Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen*



Don't neglect to do what is good and to share, for God is pleased with such sacrifices.

Obey your leaders and submit to them, since they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account, so that they can do this with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

**HEBREWS 13:16-17**





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HEBREWS 13:20-25

# Hebrews 13:20-25

20 Now may the God of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus—the great Shepherd of the sheep—through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 equip you with everything good to do his will, working in us what is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. 22 Brothers and sisters, I urge you to receive this message of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. 23 Be aware that our brother Timothy has been released. If he comes soon enough, he will be with me when I see you. 24 Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those who are from Italy send you greetings. 25 Grace be with you all.



- Take time to read and review the passage, noting those things that stand out to you, but also noting the things that didn't catch your attention.
- Reflect on the blessing of peace through the blood of the eternal covenant, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:20. How does this assurance of peace with God through Jesus Christ impact your daily life and relationships?
- Consider the description of Jesus as the great shepherd of the sheep, as emphasized in Hebrews 13:20. How does this image of Jesus as the shepherd guide, protect, and care for His flock resonate with your own experience of His shepherding in your life?
- Reflect on the call to equip you with everything good for doing His will, as discussed in Hebrews 13:21. How does this challenge you to actively seek God's guidance and empowerment to fulfill His purposes in your life?
- Consider the reminder to do what is pleasing in God's sight through Jesus Christ, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:21. How does this challenge you to align your thoughts, words, and actions with God's will and desires for your life?
- Consider the request for prayers in Hebrews 13:18-19. How does this challenge you to prioritize prayer for spiritual leaders and for the work of God's kingdom, recognizing the importance of intercession in the body of Christ?
- Reflect on the benediction in Hebrews 13:20-21. How does this prayer for God's peace, provision, and empowerment resonate with your own desires and needs in your spiritual journey?
- Consider the call to accept the word of exhortation, as mentioned in Hebrews 13:22. How does this challenge you to remain open and receptive to God's word and the encouragement of fellow believers for your spiritual growth?





*Take time this week to read and reflect on the following passages that relate to this week's sermon text. As you read, consider the following questions:*

- How does this passage further develop the ideas shared on Sunday?
- How do these words lead me to a fuller understanding of Christ?
- How is the Holy Spirit directing me to follow or obey in ways that I have not previously considered?

**Monday: Psalm 23 - The psalmist's description of the Lord as our shepherd who leads us beside still waters and restores our souls, resonating with the image of Jesus as the great shepherd in Hebrews 13:20.**

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**Tuesday: John 10:11-18 - Jesus' teaching about Himself as the good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep, echoing the image of Jesus as the great shepherd in Hebrews 13:20.**

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**Wednesday: Isaiah 55:10-11 - Isaiah's prophecy about the word of God accomplishing its purpose and not returning void, aligning with the idea of God equipping believers with everything good for doing His will in Hebrews 13:21.**

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**Thursday: Romans 16:25-27 - Paul's doxology praising God for His ability to establish believers according to the gospel and the revelation of Jesus Christ, aligning with the benediction in Hebrews 13:20-21.**

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**Friday: Jude 24-25 - Jude's doxology praising God for His ability to keep believers from stumbling and to present them blameless before the presence of His glory, echoing the benediction in Hebrews 13:20-21.**

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**Saturday: Hebrews 1**

Take time to prayerfully reflect what you have discovered about Jesus in this series in Hebrews.

As you walk into the summer months and the times of worship, consider the following prayer that asks God for his Spirit to help you as you receive his Word during the weekend worship gatherings:

*Gracious God, in rushing waters and in dry wilderness, (Gen. 7:11-12; Mark 1:12) in every season and circumstance, we need your sustaining word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, proclaim the good news among us today (Mark 1:14-15) so that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled and the kingdom has come near; in Jesus Christ your Son, our Saviour. Amen.*

**Pray in the morning and evening using these supplied prayers as a help or guide. Continue in your prayers, using the space below to record other matters, concerns, or celebrations that are on your heart.**

## **Morning Prayer:**

God of ancient covenants, your steadfast love and faithfulness are still new every morning. I thank you that I can begin this day in the confidence of your abiding love and unending mercy. Help me to treat others— family, friends, coworkers, classmates, and even strangers— with love and mercy in our encounters today. When I disappoint or am discordant, help me to show love to others. Open my eyes to the places, people, and circumstances in which your kingdom has come near. I pray in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, my Saviour. Amen.

## **Evening Prayer:**

God of peace, as the day draws to a close and the evening draws in around me, I think of the creatures of the earth that also seek rest in the hours of the night. You love them even as you love me, and your covenant faithfulness covers all of us. (Gen. 9:9) So, with the birds of the air, the beasts of the field, and the tiny ones who burrow in the ground, I offer you all thanks and praise: for your unending goodness; for the beauty of our home, the earth; for your gift of life instead of a deserved destruction. As your colourful bow now rests in the clouds, (Gen. 9:13) so may we colour the earth with the ways of peace until all creation rests with you in completeness. (Gen. 2:2-3) In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

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Now may the God of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus—the great Shepherd of the sheep—through the blood of the everlasting covenant, equip you with everything good to do his will, working in us what is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**HEBREWS 13:20-21**





# THE BOOK OF Hebrews

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of his nature, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.*

- Hebrews 1:3

**This opening verse of Hebrews sets a tone that echoes throughout this important letter to a community of Christians who share a Jewish heritage. These 'Hebrews' were coming to grips with how Jesus was the promised Messiah and what this meant for their existing beliefs and practices. What is more, their faith in Jesus was going to have dynamic implications in the ways they interacted with their culture of origin and their culture of daily life.**

**The book of Hebrews maintains a resonant theme: Jesus is greater. He is greater than the prevailing ideas of our society, greater than the best moralistic practices we can muster, greater than any spiritual entity or influence.**

**And since Jesus is greater than all of these, he is able to accomplish our redemption, secure our salvation, and champion a new life of faith and trust in him.**

**Please join with us as we continue to behold the greatness of Jesus Christ and explore how his greatness impacts our daily lives.**