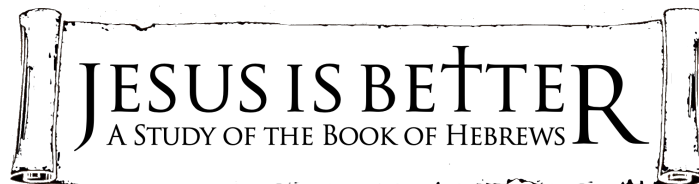


23: Past Payment = Future Hope (Heb 13:7-16)

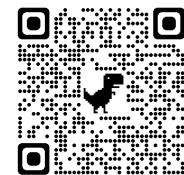
Out of the billions of people who have died over the last 2000 years, we trust in the past payment of ONE Who became a shamed sacrifice to give us a future hope.



teachingnotes

Follow today's teaching notes, Scripture passages & more with your digital device (**wi-fi: Worship Center Guest**).

1. **Open phone camera** and zoom in on the **QR code pic to the right**. **OPEN** our VISUAL NOTES.
2. Access PDF notes to teachings from: **bit.ly/PDFNotes**
3. Watch **FB Live & see teaching notes** on our FB page: **facebook.com/fellowshipofmadison**
4. Check out our webpage: **FOM.life** (including over 400 teachings - audio & video).



VISUAL NOTES

* Bible Translation: **CSB** (Christian Standard Bible)

BIG TRUTH: Jesus' PAST PAYMENT secures our FUTURE HOPE.

If the incredible claims of the 1st century followers are true, then Jesus is BETTER than any other person who has walked the planet including priests, prophets, and sacrifices.

CATCH THE CONTEXT

Over the last couple of weeks we have been challenged to **SWIM AGAINST THE FLOW** of our culture - to...

PURSUE PEACE with PEOPLE, and LIVE in the HOLINESS Jesus has given us.

God is calling US to...

- Love & serve people without expecting something in return - to show hospitality to our brothers & sisters in Christ as well as STRANGERS.
- God is calling us to Live in sexual purity while our culture pushes us to swim the other way.
- God is calling us to Live in contentment, trusting HE is WITH US - rather than loving money.

Following Your Leaders

Hebrews 13:7 (CSB)

Remember your leaders who have spoken God's word to you.

As you carefully observe the outcome of their lives, **imitate their faith**.

Hopefully, the spiritual leaders in your past have lived in such a way that you can **imitate their faith**, examples who have showed you how to run the race - people who love Jesus, are gracious to others, and who give their lives to help build the KINGdom of God.

We should be grateful for leaders who have **spoken God's word** to us, teaching us to obey the commands of Jesus and attempting to teach the truth of the Scriptures in context; willing to bend their beliefs to fit the Bible; people who teach the TRUTH, even when it's hard to hear.

Why is that SO IMPORTANT?

Many customize their own version of Jesus - '**Build-a-bear Jesus**' - usually the cuddly, kind, loving Jesus who never confronts or judges anyone. But, "we can't do that!"

Does Jesus Change?

Hebrews 13:8 (CSB)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The teachings, judgements, character, and love of Jesus do not change with cultural pressure. The **Jesus** of the Scriptures **is the same yesterday, today, and forever!** *What Jesus says and Who Jesus is CAN* be trusted as true.

? ***Have you ever had someone who changes their stance on something they have told you?***

☞ Thankfully, Jesus never changes. The One who never lied can be TRUSTED!

Jesus is the ultimate example of what we BELIEVE and how we BEHAVE! *Like a trustworthy compass* - we can KNOW that we are headed in the right direction when we trust what Jesus says.

Many rather *TWIST* the words of Jesus than *TRUST* the words of Jesus. The author of Hebrews knows this and warns his audience of it.

Hebrews 13:9a (CSB)

Don't be led astray by various kinds of strange teachings ..

Since that was written 2000 years ago, the **strange teachings** have arisen. We have more strange teachings that have compiled over the last 2000 years of Christianity, than the 1st century recipients of this text. But we also have a great privilege that this Hebrew ancient audience did NOT have - the Scriptures in their entirety.

- The BIBLE is NOT 1 writing, an ancient library - a collection of 40 writings, written over 1400 years.
- The Scriptures tell us *WHO Jesus is* and *WHAT Jesus says*, helping us recognize strange teachings & make right judgments based on TRUTH.

This Hebrew audience was facing **strange teachings** that would have dragged them away from Jesus & the New Covenant and back to the types and shadows of the Old Covenant as well as man-made myths.

Hebrews 13:9 (CSB)

Don't be led astray by various kinds of strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be established [strengthened = NET, ESV, NIV] by grace and not by food regulations, since those who observe them have not benefited.

Hebrew people who did NOT believe Jesus was the Messiah continued to live by the Old Covenant laws. This included following the **food regulations** as prescribed in the Old Covenant writings. But those who had not perfectly obeyed the commands (which includes everyone), needed the GRACE of God for forgiveness. There is no amount of dietary diligence that can make a person clean on the inside. Only God can clean one's soul.

The people of Jesus' time were impacted by rabbinical tradition that went way beyond what the Scriptures taught and honored the tradition of the elders (Mark 7:3) up as if they were from God. Religious leaders were upset at Jesus' disciples for not following the ceremonial washings (man-made traditions). Jesus responded:

Mark 7:8-9 (CSB) **Abandoning the command of God**, you hold on to human tradition." He also said to them, "You have a fine way of invalidating God's command in order to set up your tradition!"

Following man-made rules OR living by the Old Covenant laws while stiff-arming Jesus & His New Covenant has no benefit (Heb 13:9). Our **hearts** are only **strengthened** when we bask in **grace** of Jesus, the One who has perfectly fulfilled the Law in every way. We experience that grace when we recognize that Jesus - the righteous One - gave up His life to fully pay for our sins!

A Place at God's Table

Hebrews 13:10 (CSB)

We have an altar from which those who worship at the tabernacle do not have a right to eat.

What's THAT mean? The writer is contrasting 2 different groups:

1. Hebrews who trust Jesus as their Messiah & Savior, who **DO have an altar** and **have a right to eat** *versus*
2. Hebrews who **DON'T TRUST** Jesus as Messiah & Savior, who **DON'T** have an altar and **DON'T** have a right to eat.

Diving Deeper:

During the many sacrifices throughout the Hebrew year, many animals would be killed on the tabernacle/temple grounds and then grilled on the altar. Afterwards, the priests and people were allowed to **eat** them. NOT SO on **the Day of Atonement** (Yom Kippur) when 1 bull was sacrificed for the sins of the high priest & his family, while 1 goat was chosen to be sacrificed for the rest of the Hebrew people.

- The **blood** of these 2 animals was taken INTO the Most Holy Place and sprinkled on the Ark of the Covenant - making atonement for sins of the people (Lev 16:27a).
- Instead of offering the body of the bull or goat on the altar like other sacrifices, the **bodies** of these sacrificial substitutes were taken from the tabernacle/temple OUTSIDE the Hebrew camp to be burned (Lev 16:27b).

TAKE SOME NOTES HERE!

Hebrews 13:10-12 (CSB)

We have an altar from which those who worship at the tabernacle do not have a right to eat. 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. Therefore, Jesus also suffered outside the gate, so that **He might sanctify the people [NIV = make the people holy] by His own blood.**

Treated like a shameful sacrifice, Jesus **suffered outside the gate**, SO THAT His death would **sanctify** (make holy) all who FOLLOW Him.

❓ *Have you ever just **STOPPED** and considered what Jesus went through...because of YOU?*

Jesus - God who put on skin, lived a perfect life, yet allowed Himself to be treated with disgrace & dishonor, to make us holy! He exchanged OUR sin (2 Cor 5:21) for His righteousness!

That's why...

Hebrews 13:10 (CSB)

We have an altar from which those who worship at the tabernacle do not have a right to eat.

The sacrifices on the Day of Atonement were NOT to be eaten, but the sacrifice of Jesus is FOOD that allows us a place at the table of God - a place of eternal relationship. Remember what Jesus said after feeding the 5000+. Many of them came back the next day and expected Jesus to feed them again. Instead, Jesus said,

John 6:27 (CSB) Don't work for the food that perishes but for the **food that lasts for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you**, because God the Father has set his seal of approval on Him."

Then Jesus says:

John 6:35 (CSB) "**I am the bread of life**," Jesus told them. "No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again."

- ✓ Trusting in Jesus - His perfect life, sacrificial death, and His powerful resurrection - is what gives us eternal life and place at God's table.
- ✗ Those Hebrews *trusting the sacrifice of animals rather than the sacrifice of our Savior* have no place at the table.
- ✗ Anyone who thinks they can be a part of heaven *without trusting Jesus payment*, has no place at the table.
- ✗ Those who think their good works will be enough...do not have a right to eat at this table either.

Follow Our Ultimate Leader

Hebrews 13:13-16 (CSB)

Let us, then, **go to Him** outside the camp, **bearing His disgrace**. For we do not have an enduring city here; instead, we seek the one to come. Therefore, through Him **let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise**, that is, the fruit of **lips that confess His Name**. Don't neglect to **do what is good and to share**, for God is pleased with such sacrifices.

Jesus suffered for *US*, and we should be willing to suffer for Him, **bearing His disgrace**, looking beyond our current comfort here on earth to the **enduring city...to come**. Trusting that Jesus' past payment secures our future hope, we should **continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise**.

Our **LIPS & LIVES** should **confess His Name** - never ashamed of the ONE who was NOT ASHAMED to die for us! Thankful followers are to **do what is good and to share** with others because **God is pleased** when we do! So, *while we could never REPAY God's grace*, we can **REPLY** to God's grace by being gracious to others as we treat them with VALUE and share the love of Jesus.

TAKE SOME NOTES HERE!

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNION?

- Communion/Lord's Supper is **ONLY for followers of Jesus** who are walking in right relationship with Him.
- Those who claim to follow Jesus who are living in continual sin without confessing and turning from that... **SHOULD NOT PARTAKE**. Let the bread and juice pass...no one will judge you or ask you for a reason.
- Those who don't claim to follow of Jesus can just relax and observe this ancient practice. Just let the bread and juice pass by you as well.

Lyrics of "The Table" by Jonathan Traylor

Verse 1

There is a table
Filled with best food
Can you hear the Father calling?
There's a seat just for you
At this table
All is forgiven
Trade in your chains of bondage
For crowns of freedom

Chorus

All are welcome at the table
There is a place just for you
No condemnation at the table
There is a place just for you

Verse 2

This is the table
Of new beginnings
These cups are full of love
And it's never ending
And at this table
There are no orphans
Just a loving Father
And His sons and daughters

Bridge

Leave your shame at the door
You won't need it anymore
Hold your head up high
This is the start of your new life
Leave your chains at the door
They can't hold you anymore
Hold your head up high
This is the start of your new life

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (CSB)

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: On the night when He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you. **Do this in remembrance of Me.**"

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. **Do this**, as often as you drink it, **in remembrance of me.**"

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.**

Now, let's go and LIVE like we really believe...

BIG TRUTH: Jesus' PAST PAYMENT secures our FUTURE HOPE.

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

* Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Justin** (704-618-6144), **Christy** (850-673-9764), or another follower of Jesus soon!

* Or call our **deacons & wives**: Alan & Christy Androski (850-464-1428), Steve & Debbie Bass (850-673-7952), Tim & Joni Hughey (850-464-1156), Mark & Dot Mancil (850-253-5405), Boss & Amelia Mulkey (850-464-6717), Jim & Derita Pinkard (850-464-6188), Fain & Linda Poppell (850-464-1282), or Tom & Martha Waddail (850-973-0011).