

Are You Ready for the Coming Persecution?

Hebrews 13

August 13th, 2023

Introduction:

Two kinds of context: literary and cultural

The literary and cultural context of Hebrews 13:

10:32–36

11

12:3

Continued in 13: 3, 6, 12–13

13:1)

Definition of love: Desiring and doing what is best for others, regardless of the personal cost.

The biggest impediment to love is:

Solution:

“brotherly love”

“continue”

13:2) “strangers”: 2 and 3 John

13:3) “Remember”

Honor/shame culture:

13:4)

13:5–6) Sex and money related

The inverse relationship between our love for God and our love for money

13:7–8)

13:9–10) To follow JC, you have to leave some things.

13:11–14) Directional change in Hebrews: from going in to going out

Motivation for going outside the culture and bearing his reproach: 11:10, 26, 35

13:15–16) Guarding our hearts and minds with thanksgiving: Philippians 4:6–7

Conclusion:

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you learn from the sermon on Hebrews 13? What did God teach you?
2. Do you believe persecution is coming to us soon? Why or why not?
3. Which of the Hebrews 13 commands do you want to focus on obeying this week?
4. How would things change if we really saw ourselves as a church family and understood family the way the biblical culture did? (13:1)
5. How can you honor marriage? (13:4)
6. What are some things we can do to keep our lives free from the love of money? (13:5)
7. Why is it encouraging that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever? (13:8)
8. Spend some time giving praise and thanks to God. (13:15)