

Hebrews 1:1-14 - May 23, 2021

Calm Down & Look Up

JD Farag

Good morning and welcome. This is our second service on Sunday mornings. We have two services: the first is our Bible Prophecy Update, and the second service is our verse-by-verse study through God's Word. Last week we finished the Book of Philemon, and today, I am very excited to start in the Book of Hebrews. Now our text is going to be the entire chapter, chapter 1. So, you brought lunch with you; you're going to be here for a while. Don't get used to it. This does not mean we're going to do a chapter a week - just today. I'm really looking forward to with the Lord has for us.

I will invite you, if you're not there already, to turn to Hebrews Chapter 1, and we'll begin in verse 1. If I can trouble you to stand for those of you are here, you can follow along as you read. If not, where you're seated is fine.

The writer of Hebrews begins in verse 1, "In the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by his Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful Word. After he had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

So (Verse 4) He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs. For to (Verse 5) which of the angels did God ever say 'You are my son; today I have become your Father?' Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my son?' And again, (Verse 6) when God brings His in firstborn into the world, He says, 'Let all God's angels worship Him.' In speaking of the angels, He says (Verse 7) 'He makes his angels spirits, and His servants flames of fire.' But about the Son, He says, 'Your throne, O God, (That's the Father to the Son) will last forever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of Your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness (Verse 9) and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has set you above Your companions by anointing You with the oil of joy.' He also says (Verse 10), 'In the beginning, Lord, You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain. They will all wear out like a garment. You (Verse 12) will roll them up like a robe; like a garment, they will be changed. But You remain the same, and Your years will never end.' To which of the angels did God ever say, 'Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet?' Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?"

That's what I'm saying! Let's pray. Let me catch my breath. Wow! Wow, Lord! Lord, we have just read here in Your Holy Word this anointed passage of Scripture that's all about You, Jesus. So, Lord, that's why we're here today because we need to hear what it is that You want to speak into our lives in this Chapter that we have before us. We also want to see; we want to have eyes to see what it is You want to show us because clearly there's something You want to show us here. So, Lord, we want to give you our undivided attention with no distractions because we want to hear every word that proceeds out of Your mouth, O Lord, from Your Word, O Lord. We want to hear what the Spirit says to us, your church. So, Lord, speak; your servants are listening. In Jesus' name. Amen and amen. You can be seated. Thank you.

I want to talk with you today about why it is that we as Christians can calm down and look up, especially in light of, I would even say, despite everything that's happening in the world today. That's what's woven into the fabric of this chapter that we have before us today. I think you would agree that each passing day brings increasing pressure and stress, not to mention even the persecution of Christians, in these the very last days as we know them. Thankfully, the Spirit of God speaks through the Word of God to us as the people of God concerning these perilous times in which we find ourselves living today.

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Before we jump into this, there are a couple of things that I think we would do well to know that are going to be germane to our understanding of this amazing book! I know I say that about every book, but this is an amazing book! First, and this is interesting, God did not deem it necessary to identify the writer of this book. Conspicuously absent is the name of who wrote it. Also interesting, it is written in a very unique way to these Hebrew Christians in that day. Well, it had to be before 70 A.D., as we're going to see, but it is believed it was written in the 60s. I'm not talking about the 1960s, but 60 A.D. That would explain a lot if it was, but it's not.

It's very unique in the way it's written, and by unique, I mean it is unlike the other books in the Bible in the sense that it sort of starts out like a sermon to be preached and then ends as a letter to be read. It is just chock-full of Jesus. Jesus is all throughout this amazing book. If you would put a caption on this book, it would probably need to be something along the lines of don't be discouraged. Stay strong in the superiority of Jesus. That would be the caption. Namely, the superiority of who Jesus is and the superiority of what Jesus has done such that He died for us in order to save us.

Now it's important to understand that these Hebrew Christians to whom this was written were facing enormous trials and under tremendous persecution from particularly their own Jewish brothers, the brethren. It's for this reason that the writer of Hebrews will draw upon what one has counted as over 80 references to the Old Testament.

Why is that important? Because think about this: Every day, these Hebrew Christians at great cost by the way... You have to understand if you were a Jew and you came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ? That's it! You lost your job, you lost your family, you lost your livelihood, you lost everything. This came at a great cost. Every day these Hebrew believers would watch their Jewish brethren go to the temple, worship at the temple, which again is why it's believed that this had to be some time in the 60's A.D. because the temple would be destroyed exactly as Jesus prophesied in 70 A.D.

They are watching their Jewish brethren, family members. They have been ostracized because of their profession of faith in Jesus Christ. You've got to know that there was an intense amount of pressure on them, and there was an immense temptation for them to just give in and go back to Judaism.

Enter the letter, the book of Hebrews. I would suggest that this had to have caused these Hebrew Christians to live in constant turmoil. They paid a very heavy price to follow Christ on a daily basis. It would have been so easy, as some of them were so tempted to do, to just say, what is wrong with going in and going back and performing all of these rituals in observance of the law? You know, boy, it sure would make my life a lot easier.

Does that sound familiar to anyone today? Man, ...My life would be so much easier. My job, so much more secure if I just go with the flow, you know, Bro? I'm going to leave that one right there. That one was not in my notes. This is what they were faced with. But God! But God saw this, knew this, and cared about this so much so that He would inspire the writer to pen this calming and settling letter. Calm down, look up, get your eyes on Jesus. Just keep following Jesus.

What follows are three reasons as to why, like with the Hebrew Christians then, we as Christians now can just have our hearts settled in the Lord, trusting in the Lord, the calming, comforting of the Holy Spirit in spite of everything that is happening in the world today. The first one is because Jesus is holding everything together. Today in the Prophecy Update, I was reminded... Again, it was not in my notes; I sensed the Holy Spirit prompting me to...

Maybe it was just for me because I need to hear this for myself because I get worked up; and freaked out. I know you don't; you're more spiritual than I am. But I have to be reminded that everything that is happening, as crazy as it is, and it's crazy, and it's getting crazier by the hour, it seems. It is kind of

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like we were just talking before the service about how you're looking around, and you're just going... Sometimes you have to take a step back and go: is this really happening? Come on!

And you wake up every morning like... You know how it is when you wake up from a nightmare? You are like, oh, thank you, Jesus! I mean, boy, those are the mornings... My devotions when I wake up from a nightmare, oh, hallelujah! It was only a dream! The only problem is I keep waking up, and it still the same, and it's getting worse. It's like this ain't no dream. This is really happening!

But here's the thing: Everything is going perfectly according to God's prophetic plan. Just calm down, settle down, or as my teachers in school used to always say, simmer down! Simmer down; that's a good one. They were always saying that to me too and nobody else.

In just these first three verses, the writer of Hebrews establishes the superiority of Jesus over the prophets of the Old Testament. Not only is Jesus superior, so too is He the radiant glory, and I like this rendering of the text because it is precise. He's the exact representation of the Father. Jesus would say to his disciples, if you've seen Me, you've seen the Father. The Father and I are one. And not only is He the exact representation of the Father, He's is also seated at the right hand of the Father.

Now that's important. Why? Because when is it that you sit down? When the work is finished. It is finished. Calm down. In fact, sit down, and while you're at it, simmer down too. It's finished. It is finished, the finished work on the cross. I know this is redundancy, and you will forgive me. The finished work on the cross is finished. I know that is deeply profound. You want to look up the word in the original language, the word "finished," you know what it means? Wait for it. Finished! It's done. It's complete. There's nothing else you need to do. You can't add to it; you can't take from it. It's finished. Sit down! Please. You're making me nervous, pacing back and forth. What's the matter with you?

I love this, and we saw this in Isaiah, which again, I mentioned this last week. I mean, you haven't lived until on Thursday nights you're going to the book of Isaiah, and on Sunday mornings you're going through the book of Hebrews. Like, wow! It doesn't get any better than that, right? Jesus can come back now. Isaiah, Hebrews, are you kidding me?

We saw this in Isaiah, the sixth chapter when Isaiah is... talk about freaking out if I can use that expression for lack of a better one. It was in the year that King Uzziah died, and King Uzziah was a good king. Under King Uzziah, Israel knew only peace and calm, but now he's gone. What are we going to do? So, Isaiah says, I looked up. Always a good thing to do.

If I could just talk about that for a moment if you don't mind? It's been said when the outlook doesn't look good, try the "up look." Look up! Look up. And what happened when Isaiah looked up? He saw the Lord, high and above, exalted, the train of his robe filled... I mean, it was the glory of the Lord. He describes the heavenly scene with the cherubim, but he says... this is the detail which you would think at first read was inconsequential, but it's not. He saw the Lord seated on the throne.

Could you imagine? I think like this: I know there are clinical terms for this, but could you imagine if the Lord was... Here's Isaiah, and he looks up, and the Lord is pacing back and forth before the throne. What are we going to do? Uzziah died? When did this happen? Gabriel, Michael, get over here! What's going on? No, calm down; I got this. It's like what, the Lord doesn't know what's going on? Lord, did you hear what they are saying now? Do you know what the requirements are now? Do you know what the restrictions are now? Could you imagine the Lord going, I did not know this! You don't say? No way? Yeah, way! Yet He's seated, calmly, in control, on the throne.

Here's why, and I love this, and again, at first read, you could easily miss this, but the writer of Hebrews is inspired by the Holy Spirit to say that because He has finished the work on the cross. He now sustains and holds everything together by the word of His power, just His word. I think about

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Revelation 1, just the Word. The creation of the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and all that in them is the power of His word. He has the final word, and He holds everything together.

Think of it like this. We talked about this. I think it was last Thursday, about the judgment of God is seen sometimes as the heavy and of God coming down. Have you ever thought about it like this? The judgment of God is merely Him lifting His hand of blessing off of your life, and everything goes into a complete tailspin and falls apart. Why? Because He was the one holding it together. He holds everything together.

Sometimes I think we do err greatly when we just take for granted just how present He is in our lives. I often wonder... I don't know if we're going to know this in heaven, but I just wonder how many times I should have been killed and wasn't and didn't even know it. I just wonder when we get to heaven...

Again, I know they have clinical terms for this way of thinking, but just indulge me for a moment. We get to heaven, and I'm going to have my own mansion theater. So, I go in - popcorn, popcorn in heaven, by the way. Popcorn is in heaven, and I'm going to sit down, and they are going to show me a film like when you were eight years old, that happened. I remember that! Yeah, I saved your life. I did the same thing when you were: 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10, 10.5, 10.75, 11. All through your life, I held it all together. Calm down. Calm down.

The second one is because Jesus overrules all and rules overall. Verses 4-9 are interesting for a number of reasons. Not the least of which is that the writer of Hebrews is inspired to go at some length to describe how that Jesus is infinitely superior to angels. Now, this would seem like a firm grasp of the obvious, right? Come on, we know that. Well, back in that day, they worshiped angels. This was an issue. Paul, even writing to the Colossians, has to rebuke them in that regard.

What was happening then, really nothing new under the sun. It happens now. It's just got different wrapping paper on it. We have somehow brought Jesus down to the level of the angels, and now all of a sudden, the angels have been brought up and put on the same playing field as Jesus. What the writer Hebrews is telling us is that Jesus is superior to all the angels. He rules over all of them and overrules all of them. Much has been talked about man; there are numerous, a plethora of books about angels. It is a fascinating study; I will cede that.

You know the guardian angels? I owe my guardian angels an apology when I get to heaven because the ones that were given charge concerning me, I can just picture them in heaven. We're going to assign you to this guy. No! Not him! No, him. Go. In fact, we need about 100,000 of you for this guy. You know, you're just going to need it. But see, here's the problem: We're all prone to elevate the stature and the significance and the importance of angels. But the problem with that is that Jesus rules over all of them and overrules all of them, and is set above all of them.

Isn't it interesting and, again, at first read, you kind of read this and say, okay, but why would the writer of Hebrews be inspired to write that Jesus has been anointed with the oil of joy and gladness? I mean, ere can I get me some of that? The oil of joy and gladness? I could use some and gladness too. Well, the answer lies in the understanding of the difference between joy and happiness. Stay with me.

Do you know what the word "happiness" comes from? It comes from the word "happenstance, circumstance." See that is what happiness is. I can only be happy when things are going well. I just thought of it. I'm so sorry. You're going to have to really forgive me on this one. That song 'Don't Worry Be Happy;' I hate that song. It's wrong on every level. Don't worry, be happy, really? That's it? Okay, I will start tomorrow.

It's not really don't worry, be happy. It's more like this: Don't worry because you have no reason to be. It's been said that one spent minute spent worrying is one minute wasted. Why? Because you

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don't know who's overall of everything that's happening in my life. You might see it as happenstance, but it's really God's providence. He's in control of everything. The problem with happiness is that you can only have it and taste from the cup of it when things are going good, right?

How's that working out for you? If the only time I'm happy is when everything is smooth in my life, at best on a good day, I'm happy about two minutes. That's it, and then it's gone. It's fleeting because it's based on my circumstances. Not so with joy. Our joy is not predicated upon what's going on in our lives. Joy is constant. Joy comes from the Holy Spirit, who indwells us and enables us. We can have joy even though everything around us is completely falling apart. We can be going through the trial of our life yet still have joy in our life. How is that possible?

I always struggle, just being candid, with James: I quote it. We haven't got to James yet. Guess what, by the way, comes after the book of Hebrews? James. That, of course, presupposes the rapture doesn't happen first, but if it doesn't, James. I don't like James! I'm just saying; I don't like James. James is not a book of the Bible that you read and go, oh, I am so blessed. James is one of those books in the Bible where after you read it, you're just kind of like, I don't even know if I'm still saved. I mean, he's in your face. Friends with the world? You're an adulterer! How about that? Have a nice afternoon—friendship with the world.

The most difficult one for me in James is, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters when you encounter trials of various kinds." Really? Consider it pure joy? Surely that has got to be a problem with the translation from the original. The way I would read that is to consider it pure hell when you are going through trials of various... Nobody says joy!

You've got to understand why he says that it's possible, doable, achievable to experience joy in the midst of those horrific trials, those fiery trials. It's the one word after he says that. That word is... Wait for it... knowing. Knowing where God's going with the trial that He's allowing. God, what are You doing here? By the way, take the "why" and replace it with "what."

Let me explain. God, why are You allowing this to happen? It's not why. It's this; the question is wrong—no right answer to a wrong question. Let's get the question right first. It is not: why are You allowing this to happen? It's more like this: Lord, what is it that You want me to know because of what's happening? Knowing, I can consider it pure joy in the midst of any trial because never imagine for a second that there would be any passage of Scripture in the pages of Holy Writ that would ever command or exhort us to do anything that God would not also enable us to do. That's inconsistent with God's character. He cannot do that.

If God is calling us, exhorting us, commanding us to do that, His callings are His enablings. He's going to call us, exhort us, command us to do something, and then He's also going to give us the Holy Spirit to enable us and empower us to do it.

And you can't blame James, by the way. You understand who James was, right? He was born to Joseph and Mary after Jesus. Could you imagine that? Your half-brother is God incarnate, and you are growing up with Him? He's perfect. Why can't you be more like your brother? So, I get it. I know why he is so brash and rough and in-your-face. Listen if I grew up in the house with the Savior of the world, God incarnate, I would be like that too. I'd probably be worse.

I can consider it pure joy knowing that God is allowing this trial into my life because He is going to give me the very thing that I'm lacking in order to get through the trial in my life. What are you lacking? Oh, patience. There I said it. Perseverance. Endurance. So that you are mature and lacking nothing. That's why He's allowing it, and if you know that, you can have joy in the midst of that.

Oh, so wait a minute. You're allowing this trial in my life so that I can develop patience? Yeah. Did you forget? What did I forget, Lord? Oh, go back to your prayer list. Do you remember what you prayed? Don't pray this! If you do pray for patience, you're going to get it. It won't be the way you

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think. You prayed; you asked Me. You prayed for patience, and I said, okay. That's what I mean by the angels. They are like in heaven going don't pray that! Oh, no! We're going to have to work overtime now.

But here's what happens on the tail end of that. You get through it, and you look back on it, and you say things like this: I can't believe I made it through that. Come on; let's give credit where credit is due. You didn't make it through that. God got you through that. He gave you the patience and the perseverance, and the endurance to get through that. Now you are on the other end of that.

Have you ever said this to yourself? Man, if I would have known that God was going to do that, I wouldn't have fought Him so hard to allow that trial into my life. Oh, come on; let's be honest. You are in church; you've to be honest with yourself. We're kicking, fighting, biting, scratching against what the Lord is doing. We actually unnecessarily and needlessly prolong the trial we're in. It's like God saying, I'm doing something. Would you just let Me do it? Let's get...

You know, when you take a test in school and fail that test, did you have to retake that test? I hated that! I had to retake a lot of tests. I don't want to retake this test so let's get it right the first time. Okay, good. Stay out of My way; I'm doing something in your life. This is a test. This is a trial, and I'm going to get you through it, and you're going to make it through.

What you're going to find in this process, in the midst of the trial, because see, if I took you out of it, I'm robbing you of the very thing that I'm wanting to do because of it. So, in and through it, you will, how do I say this? I will just say it from my own personal experience, through some of the roughest, toughest, hardest times in my life over the years of walking with the Lord. Times where you're just literally, not hyperbole, you're in the fetal position. You can't even pray. You can barely even make a sound. You're just moaning and groaning and pleading with the Lord.

I tell you, the Lord meets you there, and He reveals himself to you there in that place in ways that He could not otherwise reveal himself. You taste of the Lord, and you see that He is good. You come through that on the tail end of that, and I mean, it's like, wow, Lord! Had I not gone through that, I would have never seen You do that. Not that I want to go through it again, right? But I would never trade anything for what You did in my life in and through that trial. Unless and until we rest and trust that the Lord is in control of our lives, we'll never taste from the cup of true joy in our lives.

Third, Jesus, and this is a biggie, has given us an inheritance of salvation. Here again, first read, what the writer of Hebrews says in verses 10-14, you can just read over it: Yeah, okay, praise the Lord, but you'll miss it. You will miss what's here; this is the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Not just here and now but for all eternity. And check this out: He left me an inheritance. He left you an inheritance too.

While the writer of Hebrews is still speaking about Jesus' superiority over angels, we're told that these angels are merely ministering spirits sent to us and for us. Why? Because Jesus has given us the inheritance of salvation to us, which means angels are never to be worshiped by us. What if I said it like this? Part of our inheritance are these angels.

Do you remember when the Apostle Paul rebuked the Corinthian church because they were suing each other as brothers? You are not to sue another Christian. They had lawsuits against each other. He said, why would you do that? Don't you know that in heaven, you're going to be judging over angels? We're over the angels.

I know I've got to say this, and I'm sorry that I've got to say this. I mean, I want to be as sensitive and loving as I can. It's okay that people grieve in different ways, but they don't become an angel when somebody dies. That would be a demotion. No, we're over the angels. They're part of our inheritance. I wonder how many angels I am inheriting. Again, I feel very sorry for them. I'll apologize to them when I get there. They are part of our inheritance not just now but for all eternity.

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Here's a question; you see it on the screen. Hang in there with me. I think we would all do well to consider this as it relates to our inheritance of eternal life. Here's the question: If we have the inheritance of salvation and are trusting the Lord for eternity, wouldn't it stand to reason that we can trust Him now?

In other words, if we're trusting the Lord to give us the inheritance of eternal life, shouldn't we even more so be trusting the Lord to give us what we need in this life? The late Larry Burkett was the founder of Christian Financial Concepts. He had many sayings that stuck with me over the years. One of his quotes when he would be answering questions related to inheritance: what do you leave behind for your children, what happens when you leave an inheritance after you die, then your kids destroy each other, and kill each other, fight and never talk again for the rest of their lives because they are fighting over the inheritance?

He had a very interesting and, I think, wise saying. He said it like this: Do your giving while you are living, so you are knowing where it's going. I like that. I think that's what Jesus did. He did His giving while He was living so He would be knowing, and we would be knowing where we're going. This is our inheritance. Do you realize that we are heirs? The word alone sounds like wow! Do you know who that is? No, who is that? They're an heir to a fortune. Wow! That's nothing!

It's like the question that was asked; I want to say it was Rockefeller or one of these rich guys that died. The guy says, how much did he leave? To which the response was all of it. Yeah, he left all of it. But let's just say that he left all of it to his son, and you see his son, and you go, ho! He's an heir to a massive fortune.

Do you know what I can say? That ain't nothing! I am an heir, too. In fact, I'm an heir to a fortune that will last forever. Do you know how long forever is? I know again deeply profound. It's forever and ever! And I am an heir. Now shouldn't that be a game-changer? Shouldn't that change how we view our lives in this world, knowing, keyword, that we are heirs? We are heirs.

It's derogatory, and you will forgive me, but it was a time not so long ago when there was much made about the trust funders. Is that what they would call them? Oh, they are a trust funder! Rich, spoiled kids, silver spoon in their mouth. I remember one guy saying one time when pointing somebody out, this was on the mainland a long time ago, not in the ministry, in the business world. This guy had a lot of money, and my friend said, yeah, he made it the old-fashioned way. And I'm like, how's that? He said he inherited it. You know, like they're like, well, a spoiled brat. What we're really saying is we wish it was us. That's what we're saying.

But here's the thing: It is; infinitely more so! Just knowing that this is how it ends. I mean, you would think that would change everything. Everything that happens, when life happens, it's all right. Calm down, simmer down, lookup. I'm an heir. I have an inheritance, paid for, for all eternity.

1 Peter Chapter 1, I want to read verses 3-6. I shared in the update this morning how last week the Lord had me in 1st and 2nd Peter. I'd really encourage you to spend some time in these two letters. I tell you, I was so greatly blessed and ministered to and encouraged. 1st and 2 Peter, maybe in your own time in the Word, just revisit these two letters. They are so apropos for what we're going through today in this insane world.

But listen to what the apostle Peter says in verse 3, chapter 1 of his first epistle. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and (It gets better, verse 4) into an inheritance that can never perish..." That the IRS can't tax... That's in the JDV.

"...spoil, or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this, you

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greatly rejoice, (Listen now) though now (for a little) while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials."

Did you catch that? I think he and James had lunch and talked about this right there. Bear with me. So okay, Peter... and you've got to love Peter, right? I have a lot of respect for Peter. He has earned the right to speak by the Holy Spirit into my life because it's Peter we're talking about here, right?

Now he is telling me that I can greatly rejoice even though right now, in the year 2021, I'm having to suffer grief in all kinds of trials and restrictions and orders and mandates, and I will stop there. How? Because of your inheritance. It is waiting for you. It is waiting for you.

Jesus, in Matthew 6... by the way, Matthew 6 is the greatest investment advice ever recorded in the history of mankind from the Savior himself. Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where moth and rust cannot destroy, and the thief cannot break in and steal. Don't lay up for yourself treasures here on earth where it can all be gone in an instant.

So, I've got an inheritance. There are no attorneys involved. No need. There is no probate. By the way, you are my siblings. We are not going to fight over this either. So that's the inheritance, okay, and that kind of changes the equation here. So that kind of settles me a little bit, actually a lot. It really calms me down, settles my heart because I have this inheritance.

Yes, it is getting pretty rough, and the trial is getting pretty difficult, and life is getting pretty hard, persecution is getting worse. But I can still greatly rejoice. I like this word, "little," in this context a little while. The implication being that it's only a little while. Again, I know deeply profound, but in the light of eternity, this is nothing. This is nothing compared to all eternity. I am good now. See, here's the thing: When we have eternal life as our inheritance to look forward to, it makes whatever we're going through so much easier to get through. Because I am an heir.

Do you know who my Father is? Do you know who my God is? Let me tell you who my God is. Actually, I'm going to the Apostle Paul tell you in chapter 8:31-32. This is a rhetorical question, actually two. Paul asks by the Spirit, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us (And he is), who can be against us?" Then verse 32, I would encourage you to reacquire yourself with verse 32 in Romans 8. "He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"

That's who my Father is. He loves me so much that He sent His only begotten son to die for me instead of me. That is how much He loves me. And if I would but believe in Him, I would not perish in hell for all eternity, but I would have everlasting life as my inheritance.

That's not all. Do you know what else? If my Father in heaven, my loving heavenly Father, was willing to do this for me, is there anything that He would be unwilling to do? No, think about it. He was unwilling to withhold His only begotten son because He loved us so much. Now, if He is willing to give you His son? I'm not willing to give you my son; I'm just saying. I love you; I don't love you that much. I love my son. I love you too, but, you know, not that much.

But God loved us so much that He gave us his only begotten son. We have two sons. I mean, theoretically, I could give you one and have a son. I know that's... forgive me. His only begotten son. If He's willing to give you His only begotten son, is there anything that He would not be willing to do for you?

I mean, come on, you're trusting God when that trumpet sounds and the dead in Christ rise first that we who are alive and remain are going to be caught up, raptured. We're trusting God for that, and we cannot trust God for this month's rent? Does that make sense? I don't mean to sound snarky when I say it. I'm saying it to myself. I find myself doing this all the time. I'm like, Lord! Calm down.

Hebrews 1:1-14 - May 23, 2021

Calm Down & Look Up

JD Farag

You are trusting Me to rapture... You preach it every week, pastor. I hate that. You guys get the... and you guys call yourself a Christian. It's worse for me... and you call yourself a pastor? Again, enough of my problems. You preach it every week. You're trusting Me to do this, and you can't trust me for this? Really? How does that make any sense at all? You're an heir. I love you so much. I gave you everything, and it cost Me everything for you.

Why would I... can you imagine? I will end with this, and I probably should not end with this. I should probably end on a different note. Can you imagine God saying, okay, I did My part. I gave you My only begotten Son, who died for you, paid in full for your sins, buried, rose again, coming back again one day. Now you are on your own, kid. I am? No, Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. I know you do, and here is the thing, son, daughter, I have a lot invested in you.

Now think about that; I have a lot invested in you. I paid a lot for you. You are not your own. You are purchased. I have interest in this investment. I've got this. No problem. Don't worry. Calm down and look up because your redemption draws nigh.

Why don't you stand, and we'll have the worship team come up? Man, this is just chapter 1! I'm loving Hebrews! Thank you, Lord, so much for Your Word! Wow, thank You for Hebrews. Thank You for this Word, and thank you for this chapter. I pray, Lord, that You would take this that we have seen here today and especially for those who are downcast and struggling and hurting and going through just such difficult trials in their lives,

Lord, I pray that You'll encourage and strengthen their hearts and just settle their hearts. Lord, settle their hearts in You and just that much-needed reminder as only You can, Lord, just how much You love us, have invested in us, have given to us, and have waiting for us.

Lord, thank you in Jesus' name. Amen.