

## **Heb 12:18-29**

### The Supremacy of Jesus' Covenant

- I. **Introduction:** The author of Hebrews urged his audience to pay attention to Jesus' offer of salvation because it is a new and superior covenant to the one they were given at Sinai.
  
- II. The Supremacy of Jesus' Covenant (**Heb 12:18-29**).
  - A. The Terror of Sinai (**vv. 18-21**).
    1. The author of Hebrews described the giving of the old covenant at Sinai as a frightening ordeal that made the Jewish people tremble before God.
  
  - B. The Forgiveness of Zion (**vv. 22-24**).
    1. The writer of Hebrews explained that the establishment of the new covenant at mount Zion was superior because it provided forgiveness of sins through Jesus.
  
  - C. The Unshakableness of Heaven (**vv. 25-29**).
    1. The author urged his readers not to refuse Jesus, who warned sinners of the coming judgment so that they would receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken.
  
- III. **Conclusion:** The author implored his audience to trust in the new covenant that Jesus accomplished at Zion so that they would inherit an unshakable kingdom.

## **Study Questions: The Supremacy of Jesus' Covenant**

1. Why was the old covenant a burden to the Jews? What makes the new covenant a better promise? What symbols does the writer use to compare these two covenants?
2. What does the writer use as a picture of the old covenant? (**Heb 12:18-21**) What was Israel's experience at Sinai? (**Ex 19:10-25; Deut 4:10-24**) How had the Jews romanticized it?
3. What did the experience at Sinai teach them about God? (**Ex 19:10-25**) Why did God tell them to stay away from Mount Sinai? (**Heb 12:18-21**) Why was Moses also scared? (**v. 21**)
4. How does the author contrast Zion with Sinai? (**Heb 12:22-24**) Who inhabits the city of God? (**vv. 22-23**) How was this the city that the Jews were looking for all along? (**Heb 11:10; 14-17**)
5. How is Jesus the mediator of a new covenant? (**Heb 12:22-24; 8:6; 7:22**) What has He done to broker a new deal with God? (**Heb 9:15-28; Col 1:20**) Why is His sacrifice better than Abel's?
6. What is the warning that the author issues to his readers? (**Heb 12:25-29**) Why is refusing to listen to Jesus so catastrophic? (**Matt 7:24-27**) Do you pay attention to the voice of Jesus?
7. What does he say God will do to the heavens? (**Heb 12:26-29**) How would the Jews have understood this reference? (**Hag 2:6**) What has God promised? (**Ps 102:25-26; Isa 65:17-19**)
8. What two responses are Christians to give to God? (**Heb 12:28-29**) Are you laying up for yourselves treasures in heaven? (**Matt 6:19-21**) Are you winning souls for Jesus?

### **Prayer**

1. Pray that God would help you to determine whether you belong to the new covenant in Jesus.
2. Seek the Lord and discover how you might lay up treasures in heaven by serving Him.