Unshakable Our Forever Future Hebrews 12:23

Three weeks ago we began a series I've titled, "UNSHAKEABLE"...

As believers, we have become entitled to several UNSHAKEABLE benefits that will keep our feet on a firm, unshakeable foundation no matter how many tremors are shaking around us...

Hebrews 12:22–24 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

We are given in these verses the SEVEN privileges of being citizens of heaven...

→ Pic - Unshakable



Our focus today is on this FIFTH part of our Unshakable Kingdom that we have come to in Jesus...

Hebrews 12:22–23 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect

1. <u>RECOGNIZE</u> – You are <u>PART</u> of God's eternal FAMILY

Hebrews 12:22–23 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and ... to the spirits of the righteous made perfect

We are being pointed back to Chapter 11 and the hall of faith!

We are part of the same family along with...

Abel and Enoch...

Noah and Abraham...

Isaac and Jacob...

Moses and Joshua...

We are part of the same family as...

Sarah and Rebecca...

Rachel and Leah...

Ruth and Naomi...

We are in the same family with...

Gideon and Samson...

David and Samuel...

Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego...

This speaks to ALL believers... past, present, and future...

This speaks to ALL who placed their faith in God's Salvation... Old and New Testament...

We are part of the same family with...

Peter and Andrew...

James and John...

Thomas and Philip...

Hebrews 12:1 (ESV) — Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

Think for a minute about the family you have joined...

Romans 8:15 (ESV) — For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Over 200 times in the NT believers refer to one another's relationships as brothers and sisters...

That's why Jesus said...

John 14:18a (ESV) — I will not leave you as orphans ...

1. RECOGNIZE - You are PART of God's eternal FAMILY.

2. <u>REALIZE</u> – You are <u>CO-EQUAL</u> with all God's PEOPLE

Hebrews 12:22–23 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect

God has no favorites, just children!

We each have been created and positioned by God to fulfill our divine calling...

He is not looking for you to do my part, nor me to do your part, be we are each called to do our own part!

I'm sure, like me, you may not feel on the same level with or co-equal to those amazing saints mentioned in Hebrews 11, but listen to this...

Hebrews 11:39–40 (ESV) — And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

The OT prophets knew that the Lord had something greater in store...

1 Peter 1:10–12 (ESV) — Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the

good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

Do not think of yourself as less than the OT leaders...

→ Story of John the Baptist...

In a difficult moment, John the Baptist, locked in prison, sent some of his disciples to ask Jesus if He was the one or should they be looking for someone else...

Jesus simply said to them...

"Look, the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk..."

He sent them to go tell that to John...

After they left, Jesus said this about John the Baptist

Matthew 11:11 (ESV) — Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist...

But He didn't stop there... Listen to how Jesus concluded...

Matthew 11:11 (ESV) — Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

But there is a THIRD TRUTH regarding our FOREVER FUTURE that we must embrace...

- 1. <u>RECOGNIZE</u> You are <u>PART</u> of God's eternal <u>FAMILY</u>.
- 2. <u>REALIZE</u> You are <u>CO-EQUAL</u> with all God's <u>PEOPLE</u>.

3. <u>REJOICE</u> – You are <u>SEALED</u> forever as God's <u>CHILD</u>

Hebrews 12:22–23 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect

When you gave your life to Jesus you were sealed by the Holy Spirit...

Ephesians 1:13 (ESV) — In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

I haven't spent any time focusing on the first part of this passage in verse 22...

But I want to point out something VERY important for us all...

Hebrews 12:22–23 (ESV) — But you have come to Mount Zion and ... to the spirits of the righteous made perfect

Both of these are in the PERFECT TENSE...

This means that when you came to Jesus at Mount Zion and gave Him your life you made a FOREVER decision!

You became...

- a new creation,
- were adopted into a new family,
- received a new inheritance,
- and became part of God's Kingdom! ...
- FOREVER!

Listen to what the Scripture says Jesus did on the Cross when He offered Himself as God's perfect sacrifice for sin...

Hebrews 10:14 (ESV) — For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

When you gave your life to Jesus your name was registered for all eternity in God's Book of Life!

I know we are living in troubling times...

It is so easy to simply give up and go with the flow...

But DON'T!

Keep standing!

Keep praying!

Keep fighting the devil!

Keep believing!

This is the greatest joy of all!

Luke 10:17–20 (ESV) — The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

For your name is written in the Book of Life!

There is coming a day when this life will end...

Revelation 3:5 (ESV) — The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

Let's continue to conquer!

Let's continue to rejoice!

Let's continue to stand on our firm foundation who is Jesus!

2 Timothy 2:19 (ESV) — But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

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7	– You are	or God's eternal
2	– You are	with all God's
3	– You are	forever as
God's		