

THE UNSHAKABLE
KINGDOM

18For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,

19and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound was such that those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them.

20For they could not bear the command, "IF EVEN A BEAST TOUCHES THE MOUNTAIN, IT WILL BE STONED."

21And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, "I AM FULL OF FEAR and trembling."

22But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,

23to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

24and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

25See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven.

26And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN."

27This expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

28Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

29for our God is a consuming fire.

DIGGING IN

Read Hebrews 12:18-29

DISCUSS

- What event is described in verses 18-21?
- What was the people's reaction when God descended onto Mount Sinai? Why were they so afraid?
- What does Mount Zion refer to?
- Have we already "come" to all of the things listed in verses 22-24?
- What is the author's main point in this section of Scripture?
- Compare and contrast the two covenants.
- What can we learn from the Israelites in the wilderness according to verse 25?
- What application is there for us in this?
- When will this "second shaking" take place and what does it refer to?
- What are the things which cannot be shaken (27-28)?
- What acceptable service can you offer to God? What attitude should we have towards Him?
- How is God a "consuming fire?"
- Verses 28-29 – We have so much to be grateful for. All believers are part of an enduring kingdom that will never be shaken or defeated. Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, but the kingdom of God endures forever. Instead of presuming upon God's grace, His grace should fill our hearts with thankfulness. This thankfulness should be like a well springing up in our hearts all the time. His grace should motivate us to serve Him with all of our hearts. We should not forget what kind of God we serve. He is a big God, awesome in power, holiness, and splendor. Remember from the first part of Hebrews 12 that we are in a race.
- **We must give every last ounce of strength that we have for Him. We should serve Him with our whole heart, soul, and strength. He deserves it.**
- **Application: What does God want you to apply in the coming week?**