

The Supremacy of Christ:
Exhortations Heb 13:1-25

**HEBREWS: THE “BETTER” LIFE:
More Choices - Pray!
Heb 13:12-25**

Message so far...

- JESUS: BETTER IN REVELATION [1:1-4:13]
- JESUS: BETTER IN MEDIATION [4:14-7:28]
- JESUS: BETTER IN MINISTRY [8:1-12:3]
- JESUS: BETTER IN EXAMPLE [12:4-29]
- EXHORTATIONS IN CHRIST [13:1-25]

Great Changes...

- The Unshakable things!
- Marks of the Faith-focused
 - Brotherly Love continues; Hospitality; Remember Prisoners; Ill-treated/tormented; Marriage cherished; Sex undefiled; Not “money-love”, greed, coveting; Remember/imitate those leading; Jesus is the SAME!; No ‘drifting’ in teachings - benefit not rituals!

Follow Jesus (12,13)

- Jesus died outside the “camp”
 - Sanctify the people – goal/focus of Christ
 - Through His own Blood
 - Suffered outside the camp/city of Jerusalem
 - Perfectly fulfilled the ‘type’ of OT sacrifices
 - He did this all for us...

Why the “Jesus focus”?

- “Let us keep on going out there to him.” (13)
 - Choice: leave ritual/ceremony and go to Jesus
 - Bearing the reproach of Jesus
 - If we choose Him, reproach will come 2Ti 4:10
 - At the side of Christ is power / shame.. Lk 9:23
- Seek the new, coming City (14)
 - Earthy “Jerusalem” is not our hope, destination

Sacrifices of Praise

- Thru Jesus offer (15)
 - continually sacrifices of praise to God
 - Jn 14:6; 1Ti 2:5 He 7:25; 1Pe 2:5
- Do not neglect doing good & share (*koinonia*)
 - Mt 5:16; 1Ti 6:17-20
 - God is pleased...(16)

Joh 8:29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

More on 'leaders' - Obey?

- This is another way to stay on track...
 - How should pastors be honored/followed?
 - *peitho* – trust, have confidence
 - *hupeiko* - resist no longer, to give way, yield
- Hard to follow in today's churches...
 - Failures from "televangelists"
 - Failures of pastors – moral/ethical/financial
 - Independence issues... American culture...

The “why” of obedience...

- Watch over your souls (*agrupneo*), be watchful (see 1Pt 5:8)
 - wariness which results from self-control, a condition of moral, not mental alertness.
 - Lit. to seek after sleep, due to constant watching...

Holy Fear

- They will give account - Mt 12:36
 - This is what keeps pastor's focused – they will answer to God
 - Your responsibility – I Jn 4:1-3 – test the spirit (human)
 - See a weakness, PRAY for him!! 13:20; 1Pt 2:25
 - Paints a target on their lives and family