

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

**HEBREWS: THE “BETTER” LIFE:
More Choices - Jesus the Same
Heb 13:7-14**

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 - who knows?
 - Remember Prisoners, chains
 - Illtreated/tormented
 - Mariage cherished; Sex undefiled
 - Not “money-love”, greed, coveting

Amplified Bible

“Remember your leaders and superiors in authority, [for it was they] who brought to you the Word of God. Observe attentively and consider their manner of living—the outcome of their well-spent lives—and imitate their faith [that is, their conviction that God exists and is the Creator and Ruler of all things, the Provider and Bestower of eternal salvation through Christ; and their leaning of the entire human personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom and goodness].”

Remember those who lead (7)

- Make mention, 'be mindful', call/keep in mind
 - *hegeomai*, of a governor, lead, rule, go before
 - Spoken the word – note what leaders do
 - *mimeomai* – follow – 1Th 5:12
- 12 B
 - See how they finished their course... Heb 11, 12
 - Keep on following the example of their faith...
shown in conduct! 1Co 4:16; Ph 4:9; 1Th 1:6,7
- oh, and one more thing...

JESUS!!!

- Remember Jesus (8) yesterday, today forever
 - The final focus always...
 - Never changing in desire or passion for us
 - Past present and future plan for us, in all things
 - Would Life be better with these focal points?

12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Why the “Jesus focus”?

- Do not be carried away... 2:1 “drifters” warned
 - driven, carried along, misled
- “varied and strange teachings”
 - so much of this today... then too!
 - Judaizers, ‘ultra-faith’, prosperity, and the like...
 - heart focus - choice, will, passions...
 - strengthened by - established, made firm
 - grace not foods - ritual food laws!

NO benefit!

- Following rituals has no lasting value!
 - Confuse, create stress to our walk in Christ
 - 1Co 6:13; Gal 2:3-4 (Titus); 3:1-5; 5:3-6
 - Anything added to the Gospel is wasted!
 - And more important... Anathema! Gal 1:8,9
 - They will not make us pure and acceptable
 - Create conflict, arguments, posturing...(pride!)

Of Altars and Animals...

- Jewish Temple sacrifices still happening
 - identifies again the Jewish focus of the book
- Concerning Jewish sacrifices
 - Usually not available to all
 - Blood carried to the Holy Place
 - Bodies burned outside the “camp”
 - “unclean” status...
 - ...none of these worked!

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 1Ti 4:10