



Message Series Guide

Nothing < Greater

Part 12 – An Unshakeable Kingdom

Hebrews 12:14-29

Many scholars agree that the book of Hebrews reads more like a sermon rather than a letter. If that's true, then chapter 12 would be the crescendo or the conclusion of that sermon. The author of Hebrews says, in a sense, we are all searching for a "city of peace". We all have a need for some kind of safety and security in our life. We all need a place of fulfillment and comfort. That's why we work so hard to earn a degree, or to secure a job, or to gain an opportunity. It's also the reason why we save our money so we can buy a ring, get married, have a family, and live our dream life. We are all looking for that "city of peace" – that place of security and comfort. However, if we build our life on any foundation other than Jesus, we are only building on sinking sand. For there is coming a day when the Lord will shake all of heaven and earth, and anything that is not built on the foundation of Jesus Christ, will crumble away.

READ:

Hebrews 12:14-29 | 1 Corinthians 3:12-13 | Exodus 20:22 | Haggai 2:2-9

- According to Hebrews 12:14, to what extent are Christians to resolve conflicts? Why? In what ways should believers pursue holiness? Why is holiness important to our faith?
- What is a "root of bitterness" and why is it dangerous to our faith? Why should a believer be the first to love our enemies and offer forgiveness?
- How did Esau trade the eternal for a sensual pleasure? What did Esau's godless behavior cost him? How is the message of the blood of Abel different from the message of the blood of Jesus?
- In what ways were God's thunderous voice from Mount Sinai only a foreshadowing of what was to come on Mount Calvary?
- Of what kind of Kingdom should Christians build their lives and eternity? When will the second "shaking" take place, and what does it refer to? How is God a consuming fire?

DISCUSS:

- How do you hear God speak to you today? What were the consequences for Israel rejecting God's word spoken through Moses? What consequences might we face if we ignore God's Word today?
- What will happen when God "shakes" the world again according to Haggai and Hebrews?
- What does it mean to have Jesus as our "city of peace" and why is this an unshakeable kind of Kingdom?
- The mark of a kingdom-citizen is that we worship God as our King. How does the author of Hebrews describe God at the end of this passage? What does this title mean in regard to the final judgement?
- If God is a "consuming fire", what will prevent Christians from being consumed when judgement comes?

PRAY:

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for our unshakeable kingdom. Pray a prayer of worship acknowledging God in reverence and awe.

RESPOND:

The greatest need in our world is for people be reconciled to God. What are different ways we can use the uncertain situations we are facing in our world today as a starting point for sharing the gospel with our friends, family, and neighbors?