

Commentary on Hebrews CH 12

Review

Hebrews Chapter 11

1. Jesus Inspires Faith
 - a. The Hall of Faith
 - b. The Testimony of Faith
2. Saving Faith Defined
 - a. The Demonstration of Faith
 - b. The Hope of Obedient Faith
 - c. Winning in Faith

Hebrews Chapter 12

- 1- Jesus Leads us in Triumphant Procession
 - a. The Fifth Exhortation
 - b. Three Part Strategy of Victorious Faith
 - c. Don't Grow Weary
 - i. Causes of Losing Heart
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- 2- God Disciplines His Children
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- 3- A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken
 - a. The Mountain of Fear
 - b. The Mountain of Joy

Continuation

Hebrews Chapter 12 – Jesus Gives Us Dignity – Endurance of Faith

- I. **Jesus Leads Us in Triumphant Procession (1-3)**
 - A. **The Fifth Exhortation (1-3)**
 - B. Three-Part Strategy of Victorious Faith (1-2)
 1. *Throw off everything that hinders... Let us run with perseverance... (1)*
 2. Three Part Strategy
 - a. *Throw off everything that hinders*
 - Make sure nothing is tying you down preventing you from finishing
 - b. *Throw off the sin that so easily entangles*
 - Make sure nothing is impeding your vision to finish the race
 - c. *Run the race with perseverance*
 - Make sure nothing else steals your stamina to finish the race

3. How the race is run

- a. *Fixing your eyes on Jesus...* (2)
- b. Jesus sets the attitude, pace, tone and bar for the race to be won.

C. Don't Grow Weary (3)

1. *Consider him so that you won't grow weary and lose heart.* (3)

2. Endure Hardship as Discipline

3. Causes of Losing Heart – Fainting in Your Soul

- a. The arrogance of the wicked (Ps. 73:1-3).
- b. Hunger and thirst, physically, can cause fainting; and the same is true spiritually (Ps. 107:5). People long separated from Bible study, prayer, and preaching tend to faint.
- c. Adversity can cause one to faint (Prov. 24:10).
- d. Sin causes fainting (Lam. 1:22).
- e. Fear sometimes results in fainting (Luke 21:26), especially fear of men and of what they may do.
- f. The chastening of the Lord can be an occasion of fainting, as the author of Hebrews pointed out a moment later (Heb. 12:5).
- g. In the physical world, some dreadful disease, such as cancer, can cause men to faint; and this has its counterpart spiritually; and, in a world where there are all kinds of pernicious doctrines of men denying every truth taught in God's word, once such evil teaching enters the heart, it can cause fainting and death.

II. **God Disciplines His Children (4-17)**

A. *In your struggle you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.* (4)

B. *You have forgotten the word of encouragement...* (5)

C. *The Lord disciplines those He loves...* (6)

1. Discipline From A Loving Parent

- a. Three designs are involved:
- b. (1) that of correcting our faults;
- c. (2) strengthening our faith; and
- d. (3) promoting our eternal welfare.

2. *Endure hardship as discipline...* (7)

3. *If you are not disciplined you are not true sons and daughters...* (8)

4. *We all had human fathers who disciplined us...* (9)

5. Five Parenting Styles Defined

- a. Balanced Style
- b. Permissive Style
- c. Overbearing Style
- d. Strict Style
- e. Uninvolved Style

6. Parenting Styles Chart

7. *They disciplined us for a little while... God disciplines us for our good...* (10)

8. *No discipline is pleasant... but it produces a harvest of righteousness...* (11)

- D. A Call to Rely on The Lord's Strength (12-17)
1. *Strengthen your feeble arms...* (12)
2. Seven Admonishments to Obtain from God's Discipline
a. Be strong, not weak
b. Walk straight and not crooked (verse 13)
c. Live in peace, not anger or vengeance (verse 14)
d. Be holy in all you do, or you won't see the Lord (verse 14)
e. Be abundant in God's kindness (grace) (verse 15)
f. Be sexually pure (verse 16)
g. Don't be concerned about earthly things (verse 16-17)
3. *Make level paths for your feet...* (13)
- E. The Sixth Exhortation (14-17)
1. *Make every effort to live in peace... and to be holy...* (14)
2. *See to it that no one falls short of God's grace...* (15)
3. Four Kinds of Troubles from Lack of Grace
a. Those who fall short
b. Bitterness springing up
c. Fornication (verse 16)
d. Profanity (verse 17)
4. The Root and The Star
5. *See that no one is sexually immoral or godless...* (16)
6. *Esau was rejected even though he sought the blessing with tears...* (17)
- III. **A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken (18-29)**
A. The Mountain of Fear (18-21)
1. *You have not come to a mountain that can be touched...* (18-20)
2. *Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."* (21)
- B. The Mountain of Joy (22-24)
1. *You have come to Mount Zion...* (22)
2. *To the church of the firstborn...* (23)
3. *To Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant...* (24)
- C. *See to it you do not refuse Him who speaks...* (25)
- D. *Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens...* (26-27)
- E. *Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken...* (28)
1. Table – The Church and the Kingdom
- F. *Our God is a consuming fire...* (29)

Sources

The Word of God, Sunset in-depth commentary on Hebrews, James Burton Coffman Commentary on Hebrews, Wayne Jackson's "Notes from the Margin of my Bible", World Video Bible School Commentary, Halley's Bible Handbook, and Pedro Gelabert's Commentary on Hebrews.