

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS: LOVE

HEBREWS 13:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Hebrews was written to encourage those who were struggling to remain faithful. (Heb. 13.22)
2. To encourage them, the writer sets Jesus before them as their High Priest with the associated blessings. (Heb. 8.1)
3. Hebrews 13 centers around the idea of love.

I. THE BIBLE CONCEPT OF LOVE

- A. The description of love.
 1. Badge: It shows we are Christians. (John 13.34,35)
 2. Barrier: It prevents us from causing harm. (Rom. 13.10)
 3. Boundary: It keeps us on the right path. (Eph. 5.1,2)
 4. Buffer: It makes us stop and think. (1 Cor. 16.13,14)
 5. Bond: It ties everything together. (Col. 3.14)
 6. Breastplate: It protects us from harm. (1 Thess. 5.8)
- B. The definition of love.
 1. Eroa: A sensual and carnal love.
 2. Storge: The love for family. (Rom. 12.10)
 3. Phileo: The love of a friend. (Rom. 12.10)
 4. Agape: Acting in the best interest of others. (Matt. 5.44)

II. LOVE ONE ANOTHER

- A. **HEBREWS 13.1:** *“Let brotherly love continue.”*
 1. Brotherly love (philadelphia): Friendship as brethren.
 2. In context, loving one another creates a strong connection that helps us to remain faithful.
- B. **HEBREWS 13.2:** *“Do not forget to entertain strangers”*
 1. Entertain stranger (philxenias): Treat strangers as friends. Often translated as “hospitality.”
 2. Are we welcoming to our visitors?
- C. **HEBREWS 13.3:** *“Remember the prisoners.”*
 1. Those imprisoned because of their faith. (Heb. 10.34)
 2. **HEBREWS 13.3:** We are all part of the body of Christ.
- D. **HEBREWS 13.4:** *“Marriage is honorable among all”*
 1. Marriage as defined by God. (Gen. 2.24)
 2. **HEBREWS 13.4:** *“But fornicators and adulterers...”*
- E. **HEBREWS 13.5,6:** *“conduct be without covetousness”*

CONCLUSION: Loving one another will help us to remain faithful.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. ☐ North Las Vegas, NV ☐ 89030
Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: info@nlvchurchofchrist.com
Be sure to watch us live at www.nlvchurchofchrist.com

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

May 16, 2021

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

DO YOU HAVE A MINDSET OF ENTITLEMENT?

“It is my right.” “I deserve it.” “It is owed to me.” Has anyone you know ever said that? Have you ever said that? There is a word for this kind of thinking. It is called having sense of entitlement. If you believe that you are owed anything or deserving of anything, you have a mindset of entitlement.

In Luke 17, Jesus poses a rhetorical question. Suppose that a servant finishes plowing the field or tending to the flock for his master. Jesus rhetorically asks if the master *“will say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and sit down to eat’*” (Luke 17.7). Jesus then answers His own question by suggesting that the master will not be thankful, but give him more things to do (Luke 17.8,9). He then comes to this conclusion: *“So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do’”* (Luke 17.10).

If we do the things God commands us to do, will He be thankful to us? Will He feel a sense of obligation to give us salvation? Are we entitled? Obeying the commands of God does not entitle anyone to enter into heaven. Salvation is a gift that God offers to those on the condition that they keep His commandments (Eph. 2.8-10; Heb. 5.9). If I want to change the mindset of entitlement, I need to be thankful for the undeserved blessings God has given me. CLP

DENYING THE LORD

MATTHEW 26:34

INTRODUCTION:

1. Confessing your faith in Christ is an essential part of obeying the gospel, but confession is ongoing. (Rom. 10.10)
2. We are not to be like so many who denied the Lord.
 - a) Some denied the Lord in works. (Titus 1.16)
 - b) The Jews denied the Lord before Pilate. (Acts 3.14,15)
 - c) The ungodly denied the Lord. (Jude 4)
3. **MATTHEW 10.33**: *“But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”*

I. PETER DENIED JESUS THREE TIMES

- A. The Prediction of Peter’s denial. (Matt. 26.31,34)
 1. Peter’s denial was prophesied. (Matt. 26.31; Zech. 13.7)
 2. The time would come when Peter would return to the Lord. (Matt. 26.32; Luke 22.31,32; John 17.12)
- B. The Passion of Peter’s dialogue. (Matt. 26.33,35)
 1. **MARK 14.31**: *“But he spoke more vehemently”*
 2. Our words will be tested by circumstances. (Matt. 13.20)
- C. The Proving of Peter’s devotion. (Matt. 26.69-74)
 1. First denial. He denied it before them all. (vs. 69,70)
 2. Second denial. He denied Him with an oath. (vs. 71,72)
 3. Third denial. He denied Him with cursing. (vs. 73,74)
- D. The Pain of Peter’s downfall. (Matt. 36.75)
 1. The Lord looked at Peter. (Luke 22.61)
 2. Peter went out and wept bitterly. (v. 75; 2 Cor. 7.9,10)

II. HAVE YOU DENIED THE LORD?

- A. How do we deny the Lord?
 1. We deny the Lord when we are overcome with the fear of persecution. (Matt. 10.21-33; John 18.18)
 2. We deny the Lord when we fail to love. (John 13.34,35)
 3. We deny the Lord when we live a life of worldliness and sin. (Matt. 26.73,74; Titus 1.16; Phil. 2.15,16)
- B. How do we confess the Lord?
 1. By eye witness accounts. (Matt. 5.16; 1 John 2.6; 3.3,7)
 2. By our speech. (Mark 14.70; Titus 2.8; Eph. 5.4)

CONCLUSION: Peter repented, and so can you.

WEARING A VEIL

In our current environment, wearing masks have become a way of life. You cannot leave the house without donning some kind of face covering. Stores used to have signs that read, “No shirt, no shoes, no service.” But they have now been modified to include, “No masks, no service.” If you wear glasses as I do, you have probably discovered that wearing a mask steams up your glasses making it hard to see.

Did you know that many wear a different kind of mask? In the Bible, it was called a veil. And it was used as a metaphor to describe your inability to grasp the truth. In 2 Corinthians 3, the Holy Spirit reflects back on the time when Moses was in the presence of God on Mount Sinai. Being in the presence of God’s glory, Moses came down from the mountain with his face illuminated. It was so disturbing to the children of Israel that Moses had to wear a veil over his face (2 Cor. 3.7,13; Ex. 34.29-33).

With that historical event in mind, we then have this statement: *“But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted, because the veil is taken away in Christ. But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart”* (2 Cor. 3.14,15). Though the Jews would read the Old Testament, they did not understand that the Old Testament scriptures spoke of Jesus (John 5.39). It was as if there was a veil covering their hearts preventing them from seeing what was so clearly revealed.

Even today, there are some who wear a veil over their hearts. They read the Bible, and they just cannot see (more accurately, they cannot accept), what the Bible says. The veil may be in the form of preconceived ideas. It may be in the form of justifying sinful behaviors. It may be the result of false ideas ingrained in our minds since childhood.

Whatever the reason, these veils prevent them from seeing the truth. Though the Bible clearly teaches that *“baptism now saves”* (1 Pet. 3.21), they insist that you can be saved by faith alone. Though the Bible is clear that God does not care about skin color or ethnic backgrounds (1 Sam. 16.7; Gal. 3.28), they insist on making race an issue. Though the Bible clearly teaches that same-sex relationships are unnatural and condemned (Rom. 1.26,27; 1 Cor. 6.9,10), they insist in engaging in such relationships.

Do you have a veil over your heart? By listening and accepting Jesus as our divine authority, the veil is lifted (2 Cor. 3.16).