

## THE BOOK OF HEBREWS: ENDURANCE

### HEBREWS 12

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Hebrews is designed to encourage those who were struggling with their faith. (Heb. 13.22).
2. This book encourages us in two ways.
  - a) It reminds us that Jesus is our High Priest. (Heb. 8.1)
  - b) It reminds us of all the blessing we enjoy because of Him.
3. We are people who need to learn how to endure. (Heb. 10.36)

#### I. THE THEME OF THE CHAPTER

- A. Hebrews 12 centers around the need to endure.
  1. Five times, the inspired writer employs some form of the word “endurance” (Heb. 12.1,3,7,20)
  2. Endurance (hupomone): Hupo – “under”; Meno – “to remain” Remaining faithful when under a lot of pressure.
- B. Christians understand how hard it can be to live faithfully.
  1. **2 TIMOTHY 3.12:** *“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”*
  2. There are some who will not remain under the pressure, but will stumble. (Matt. 13.20.21)
  3. Some will mock us, speak evil of us, and accuse us of being judgmental. (1 Pet. 4.3,4; Gen. 19.9)
  4. Some will not remain faithful because life is hard in general. (Job 14.1; Ps. 90.10)

#### II. THE SEVERITY OF THE PRESSURE

- A. **HEBREWS 12.3:** *“For consider Him...lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.”*
- B. **HEBREWS 12.4:** *“You have not yet resisted to bloodshed striving against sin.”*
- C. **HEBREWS 12.11:** *“Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful”*
- D. **HEBREWS 12.12:** *“Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down and the feeble knees”*
- E. **HEBREWS 12.13:** *“Make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather healed.”*

**CONCLUSION:** Life is hard. Living the life of godliness is a challenge. But we must endure!

## NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

**April 25, 2021**

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#### 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

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#### THE GREAT COMMISSION

You might find it surprising to learn that most of Christendom is not familiar with the Great Commission. Of those who do, most of them could not tell you where it is found in the Bible or what it means. Yet the Great Commission is a vital part of our responsibility as Christians and necessary for church growth. Souls will not be added to the body of Christ unless we *“go therefore and make disciples of all nations”* (Matt. 28.19).

In the Great Commission found in closing verses of Matthew, Jesus tells us to make disciples. He then tells us how disciples are made. Disciples are made by *“baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”* (Matt. 28.19). Before we can baptize someone into Christ (Gal. 3.27), we are to first go to them. There must be an effort on our part to reach out and bring the gospel to the attention of others.

There is a second component that is often overlooked. Jesus continues to say that disciples are made by *“teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you”* (Matt. 28.20). It is not enough just to convert them to Christ. Through continued study, regular Bible classes, calling to check up on them, we are to keep on teaching them all the things related to living as a Christian.

By going and baptizing, we can make disciples. But to keep those disciples faithful, we need to teach them all things. CLP

## WORSHIP FROM THE HEART

### EPHESIANS 5:19

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. **PSALM 147.1:** *“Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.”*
2. To faithful Christians, the apostle Paul wants us to know how to worship God from the heart. (Eph. 1.1)
3. Worshipping God from the heart comes from a heart that is filled with the teachings of the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 5.18-21)

#### I. SERVICE

- A. It helps me to worship God from the heart when I remember that I am here to serve others. (cf. John 4.23,24)
  1. **EPHESIANS 5.19:** *“speaking to one another”*
  2. **EPHESIANS 5.21:** *“submitting to one another”*
- B. Serving God from the heart involves my being a servant to you, and you being a servant to me.
  1. **1 PETER 5.5:** *“Yes, all of you be submissive to one another”* How? *“Be clothed with humility”*
  2. We are to *“consider one another”* (Heb. 10.24,25)

#### II. SPIRITUAL

- A. It helps me to worship God from the heart when I remember that my worship is spiritual.
  1. **EPHESIANS 5.19:** *“speaking to one another in psalms”* Inspired songs. (2 Tim. 2.12)
  2. **EPHESIANS 5.19:** *“hymns”* Literally, songs of praise to God. (1 Pet. 2.5; Heb. 13.15)
  3. **EPHESIANS 5.19:** *“spiritual songs”* A spiritual theme.
- B. Our singing is to be a spiritual act. (Col. 3.2).

#### III. SMILE

- A. It helps me to worship God from the heart when I remember all the blessings in my life. (Eph. 5.20)
- B. Why do we sing?
  1. We sing because of salvation. (Acts 16.25)
  2. We sing because of mercy and hope. (Rom. 15.9-13)
  3. We sing to share our joy. (1 Cor. 14.15-17).

**CONCLUSION:** What a joy and blessing to come and worship God from the heart.

## SUM OR SOME?

On His way to Gethsemane on the night that He would be betrayed, Jesus uttered these words to His Father in prayer: *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth”* (John 17.17). Have you ever wondered how much of His word is truth? Do you consider certain commandments important, but dismiss others while thinking that such things are not really important to God? I like the way the psalmist expressed it: *“The entirety of Your word is truth”* (Ps. 119.160). Everything down to the smallest letter and even the smallest stroke is to be recognized as His truth (cf. Matt. 5.18).

Writing to Timothy, Paul tells us that *“All scripture is given by the inspiration of God.”* Note the word “all.” In context, we are reading about the Old Testament scriptures. But did you know that the writings of apostle Paul are also referred to as scriptures? (2 Pet. 3.15,16). All scriptures include both the Old and New Testament.

In reference to the scriptures, we learn that they are easy to understand. Timothy learned them from his mother and grandmother *“from childhood”* (2 Tim. 3.14,15). The scriptures save us. Paul continues to write that these scriptures *“are able to make you wise for salvation”* (2 Tim. 3.15). The scriptures produce faith in Jesus (2 Tim. 3.15; cf. Rom. 10.17). They tell us what to believe as they are *“profitable for doctrine”* (2 Tim. 3.16). They tell us how to behave as they are *“profitable for...reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”* (2 Tim. 3.16). They teach us how to be, for by them, *“the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”* (2 Tim. 3.17).

Since every dot and every slash of the pen is inspired of God, we cannot take the buffet approach to scriptures. Have you ever gone to a buffet? Did you pass by the ham because you preferred roast? Have you skip the veggies? Did you go straight to the dessert? Do you sometimes treat the Bible that way? Do you pick and choose what you want to obey and ignore the rest? Do you focus on a particular doctrinal issue and ride a hobby horse while ignoring those passages which teach us about proper attitudes toward those who don't agree with you?

Jesus tells us that *“man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God”* (Luke 4.4). Notice that it is “every word” rather than some words. To recognize the word of God as truth is to recognize the entirety of God's word as truth. Do you follow the sum of His word or just some?  
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