

Beginning June 28th 2020

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Hebrews Chapter 10

1-18 So as the old "law plan" wasn't complete in itself, it could never be a complete solution to sin. Animal blood wouldn't do, so God sent Jesus as a once-for-all perfect sacrifice. Once the slate is wiped clean no more sacrifices are needed. We can't do anything to be saved! There's only one way to holiness and heaven – God's way. Jesus. Check 1 John 1:9.

19ff **"Therefore"** don't give up. Keep pressing on and encourage others to even if it's tough going. i) We have direct access to God Himself ii) We have a high priest who'll be back anytime now. If we quit now... 10:26ff see also 1 John 3:6 – 'deliberate' is key to understand this. Why?

Chapter 11

1-3 10:38 'The righteous shall live by faith' But what is faith (don't confuse it with 'The Faith')? It's our handle on the things we can't see, the eternal unseen (2 Cor 4:18), as against the temporary things we can see. Let that soak in. Living by faith and worldly pragmatism don't go together. God, who created everything out of nothing (our Astrophysicists are slowly getting there!) is the heart of reality. See Acts 17:28.

4-38 This is what walking faithfully is about. Not many doctrinal statements nor pragmatism here! How's your walk? Are our eyes set on these ultimate invisible realities and destinations? Or what?

Chapter 12

"Therefore" don't give up. Keep your eyes on Jesus - He's just finished the race and is waiting at the finishing line for you! And look at the crowds cheering you on.

How? 12-17

God's way has been shown to the world. They have rejected it and the world will be shaken to its foundations. BUT our kingdom is unshakeable, a house built on the rock of obedience to Christ.

Chapter 13

How do we obey? i) Keep on loving one another – that's more than a false smile on a Sunday morning ii) be hospitable (when did we last invite someone round?) iii) empathise with those who are suffering and/or in need (check out Matthew 25). And that's just the first 3 verses!

Let's all live godly lives.

9-16 our faith must raise above ritual to Jesus himself and offer not sacrifices but sacrifices of praise. Let's thank God for the grace we have in Jesus and live a life that He enjoys.

James - Not writing theology, ecclesiology, history or even about his brother but wisdom -the practical application of what you know, "I know you know this, now do it" – houses on rock and all that. He was pastor of the Jerusalem church, and this little book could be some sermon notes, hence it's strange structure! Key Verse James 1:5

Chapter 1 I've put them all together on next week's notes. Hope you get them soon enough!

Read the New Testament in a Year

Supporting Notes & Questions