

# Hebrews: The “Better” Life

EXHORTATIONS TO LIFE IN CHRIST

Heb 13:1-25

# The Message so far...

- **JESUS BETTER IN REVELATION [1:1-4:13]**
- **JESUS BETTER IN MEDIATION [4:14-7:28]**
- **JESUS BETTER IN MINISTRY [8:1-12:3]**
- **JESUS BETTER IN EXAMPLE– [12:4-29]**
- **EXHORTATIONS TO LIFE IN CHRIST [13:1-25]**
  - **Controlling Character/Behavior– 13:1-8**
  - **Warnings against false doctrine 13:9-16**
  - **Leaders and good works 13:17-25**

# A Matter of Prayer (18,19)

- NOTE: writer states 2 important aspects:
  - We have a good conscience – ability to discern good/evil
  - To conduct our lives with honor – with excellence
  - These must be present in a servant of God's people!
- *proseuchomai* – pres. imperative
  - Paul asked also: Ro 15:30; Ep 6:18,19; Co 4:31Th 5:25; 2Th 3:1
  - On the basis of lifestyle, he asked for more prayer
- To be restored – to put back in the former state
  - Was the writer in prison or ill?
  - Vs 23 gives an indication here too – Timothy was released
  - In whatever way, do it “abundantly” ...

# The God of All

- God of Peace (Ep 2:14)
  - Not just the giver, but in His nature
  - Ro 15:33; 16; 20; 1Co 14:33; 2Co 13:11; Ph 4:9; 1Th 5:23; [2Ti 3:16]
  - Source, Perfecter, Keeper of peace in our lives and hearts
- Work of the resurrection – price of our peace!
- Great Shepherd of the Sheep (Is 63:11; 40:11)
  - Made this by His own shed blood of the eternal covenant
  - Makes Him also Jesus Lord
  - An\&d what will Jesus do with all this authority/power?
- Equip you! *katartizo* - to strengthen, perfect, complete, make one what he ought to be!
  - Mt 4:21 (nets); 1Co 1:10 (joined); Ga 6:1 (restore); 1Pt 5:10
  - Eph 4:11-16

# The God of Work (21)

- God will equip you:
  - Every good thing: grace, HS, Gifts, Fruits, faith, peace, etc...
  - That is well-pleasing to Him (Ro 12:2) *euarestos*
  - We strive so much in these areas... God equips... use it!
  - Je 31:33; 2Co 3:5; Ph 1:6; **2:13**;
  - Note: through Jesus Christ... it is impossible to do it otherwise
  - Jesus always did what pleased the Father Mt 12:8; 17:5
  - He is our ONLY way to please the Father
- Therefore, His is the glory forever and ever
  - All we do that pleases the Father is in Christ

# The Call

- I urge you *parakaleo* – up close and personal
- *anechomai* - hold up, sustain, endure
- Word of exhortation - *logos ho paraklesis*
  - This is of the whole epistle, all one word to us...
  - Do we read it this way?
- A few words, brief?
  - We just spent 40 weeks on it!
  - Imagine what a lengthy exhortation would have been!
  - Are we open to the exhortation?
  - He wrote, are we receiving it?
  - More than just reading it?

# Final Words

- Timothy has been released...
  - Probably from prison
  - We should try to be aware of others and their situations
  - How can we do this?
  - The writer would come with him... (18,19)
- Greet all the leaders (17)
  - To draw to one's self, embrace... typical of Eastern culture
  - And all the saints – each of them...
  - With all that this exhortation has given... easy!
  - Those of Italy did the same to them! Gentiles to Jews...
- Grace be with you all...