LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 07 Sep .......... Hebrews 1:1-14 .......... Who Is Jesus?
2) 14 Sep .......... Hebrews 2:1-13 .......... Pay Attention
3) 21 Sep .......... Hebrews 2:14-18 .......... Why One of Us?
5) 05 Oct .......... Hebrews 4:1-5 .......... Secured with Confidence
9) 02 Nov .......... Hebrews 9:1-28 .......... The Perfect Offering
10) 09 Nov .......... Hebrews 10:11 .......... Faith Defined
11) 16 Nov .......... Hebrews 12:1-7 .......... The Discipline of Suffering
12) 23 Nov .......... Hebrews 12:18-29 .......... A New Kind of Community

INTRODUCTION

- We are challenged with a 2nd warning of falling away from the living God due to a hardened heart.

- Do we need warning signs? What would life be like if we did not have a Yellow warning indicators in traffic lights, where we just go from Green to Red; or no flashing indicator in the car telling us we are low on gas; or what about that one-eyed look from the wife that says don’t go there, bud?

PASSAGE

Hebrews 3:1-6

Consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our Faith

- v1. The author is addressing a group of “Holy brothers, partakers of a heavenly calling…” – BUT they may not all be true believers, just as not all Jews are believing Jews, but all Jews are considered God’s chosen people

- v1. “Therefore,” since Christ fully understands our pain...

- vv2-5. …and Christ is far superior to Moses since He is the builder of God’s house, which is comprised of true believers

- v6. This then gives us confidence we are included in the House of God – IF WE HOLD FAST UNTIL THE END

- This does not mean our salvation is dependent on our holding onto it by doing or thinking good stuff

- The context of this passage conveys our perseverance in trials demonstrates whether or not we are truly saved

What differentiates true believers from other good people in Church?

- Other good people in church seem to be Heaven-bound saints:

  - They don’t kill, steal, or speak mean things

  - They have good families and good work ethics

  - They might have said the sinners prayer and got baptized

  - They might even routinely read their bible, pray, and are faithful in their attendance, in serving, and in giving

  - They might be Sunday School teachers, deacons, elders, choir members, or even pastors

Remember: Judas duped the other 11 Apostles. Demas duped Paul, & “those who went out from us” in 1John duped the Apostle John, because “they were not of us” (1John 2:19)

Therefore, the only tangible, earthly evidence we have for undeniably demonstrating we are of the household of God is not our baptismal record, nor our statement of faith, or even our list of good works, but having persevered in severe trials

Hebrews 3:7-11

Know Your History

- The author takes the audience back to the OT to consider their ancestry, and not to repeat their mistakes…… Ps 95:7-11

- The author, in v7, states that the Holy Spirit is speaking here, giving clear confirmation who originates all Scripture

- Truth or Myth: “What God did back then, He can do now”?

- Consider this truth: What mighty works God did for a previous generation is for our learning, and may not be repeatable in our day – BUT His principles are timeless

- Example. The supernatural wonders of the Exodus abruptly ceased when the Jews crossed the Jordan, and we are to remember God’s “wonders of old”……Ps 77:11

- Principle to Live By: God may do different things for different generations, but character-wise, He is still the same immutable God – Yesterday, Today, and Forever

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / BENEFITS

- When we believers quake in fear rather than grow in faith, we are on the verge of slipping into despair and disobedience (which equates to losing or weakening our faith, not losing our salvation)

- We have a spiritual responsibility as believers to warn, encourage, and help others on a daily basis stay on the narrow road and remain focused on Christ – the author and finisher of our faith

- Galatians 6:9 “And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

- It is a tough balancing act between our willingness to persevere in trials and God’s power that enables us to persevere – But that’s another study

NEXT WEEK: Hebrews 4-5. We find that the word of God is living and active and sharper than any 2-edged sword – So how can we wield it effectively?