

Hebrews: Lesson #73 – Let Us Go to Him Outside the Camp

Notes for Parents to Study With Their Children

For Sunday, Feb. 8th

Read Heb. 13:1–25 (a simplified explanation of the text will be supplied at the end of these notes).

Memory Verse: Heb. 13:13 “Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.”

Living for Jesus will make our lives different from people of the world. In the last chapter of Hebrews, the writer tells them about some very important things they need to remember about their different way to live.

- We should have a great love for our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- We should even love Christians that we don't know too well as well as Christians in other places.
- We should have great sympathy for any members of the church that are having difficulties.
- We should remember how important marriage is. It is honorable in God's sight. But we are sinning if we come together and aren't married. God will condemn us for that.
- It is not wrong to have money, but we don't ever need to love money or make it the most important thing to us.
- We should learn to be content, because we can always have the Lord. Having Him is so much more important than having money or things in life.
- We need to think about others who have tried to serve God. Our family members and other people who we've gone to church with. Learn from the lives they have lived.
- Once we become Christians and members of the church, we should not change. The Lord expects us to keep faithful and not give it up. Thankfully, Jesus Christ does not change. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. I'm glad Jesus hasn't decided to give up.
- We should always worship God and always be thankful for His blessings.
- We should always be doing good things and sharing what we have with others.
- We should follow our leaders. We need to do what they say because they are trying to help us go to heaven.
- We need to keep praying, for our leaders, for our preachers, for our teachers and for each other.
- These are the sacrifices Christians should offer to God. We don't offer animal sacrifices, but we do offer these kinds of sacrifices.

Be Willing to Be With Jesus Outside the Camp

- When Jesus was on the earth, some people really loved Him and followed Him. Some people didn't care anything about Jesus and ignored Him. Some people hated Jesus and worked to crucify Him.
- When we follow Jesus, some people will love us for it, some will just ignore us, and some will actually hate us because we follow Him.

- Make up your mind to follow Jesus no matter what other people think. We have to follow His ways no matter how others act toward us.
- After some animal sacrifices, the Jewish priests took the bodies of those animals to be burned outside the camp. When Jesus gave His life, they crucified Him outside the city of Jerusalem.
- When we follow Jesus it may take us “outside” and by that we mean it takes us outside of what everyone else thinks. We have to be willing to go with Jesus “outside”, away from how everyone else lives. They live for sin and earthly things. We have to live for righteousness and heavenly things.
- Are you willing to follow Jesus, even if other people treated you bad and said bad things about you?
- The Jews thought Jerusalem was so important, but just a few years after Hebrews was written, Jerusalem was destroyed. People think that this world is so important. But this world won’t last. Someday it will be destroyed. Heaven is far more important to live for. “We are looking for the city which is coming”, we are waiting for Jesus to give us heaven.

Simplified Explanation of the Text

Some Things to Remember

13:1 Love for our brothers and sisters must continue.

2 Don’t forget to show love for strangers, because some, through their love for strangers, had angels in their homes as guests, and did not even realize they had hosted angels.

3 Some are still being kept in prison. Remember them as if you were in chains with them. Others are being treated badly. Remember them as if you were being treated that way in your body.

4 Everyone should remember that marriage is worthy, valuable and honorable, and that being together as husband and wife is free from any stain of sin. But also recognize that those who come together without marriage (practicing fornication and adultery), God will judge them.

5 The direction your life takes should be free from the love of money. Be content with what you have, for God said, “I will never leave or forsake you.” (Deut. 31:6,8; Josh. 1:5)

6 Knowing that the Lord has said that can help us courageously say, “The Lord is my helper” (Ps. 54:4) and “I will not fear. What can man do to me?” (Ps. 56:4)

7 Always remember your leaders, those who spoke God’s Word to you. Think about the outcome of the life they have lived. Imitate their faith.

8 Jesus Christ – the same yesterday, today and forever. He is the greatest example of one who does not change.

Our Altar

9 Don’t let all kind of different doctrines that are foreign to the truth carry you here and there. For it is much more wonderful for the heart to be made sure by grace than by eating food. Those who ate meat from the sacrificial altar never got any benefit that helped their hearts become more certain.

10 Besides, we have an altar which those who serve the Tabernacle have no right to eat at.

Be Willing to Be With Jesus Outside the Camp

11 On the Day of Atonement the priests took the blood of the animals they sacrificed into the Tabernacle, but they did not eat of those sacrifices. The bodies of those animals were to be taken outside Israel's encampment to be burned (Lev. 16:27)

12 In a similar way, Jesus was willing to shed His blood to sanctify us. But remember He willingly let Himself be taken outside the gates of the city of Jerusalem to be crucified.

13 So let us be willing to go to Him out from where Israel is camped. As we go to Him let's be willing to bear the same type of insults and bad treatment He suffered.

14 For the city we have here will not remain, but we are looking for the City which is to come.

Our Sacrifices

15 Through Jesus, let us always offer our sacrifices of praise to God – the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.

16 Don't forget to do good and share, for those are the kind of sacrifices God is pleased with.

17 Listen to your leaders, trust them and put yourselves under their authority because they stay alert watching out for your souls since they must give an account. Obey them so they can do their work with joy, not grief; for that wouldn't result in what's best for you.

18-19 Keep praying for us, because we believe we have a good conscience and are willing to live an excellent way in everything. But I also ask you to keep praying even more that I may be restored to you more quickly

20-21 The God of peace set loose from the dead the Shepherd of the sheep who is great through the blood of the eternal covenant -- our Lord Jesus. May God also prepare and equip you in every good work for doing His will. May He work in you what is pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ.

To Him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion

22 Now I plead with you, brethren, to bear with this brief letter I have written as a word of encouragement.

23 Be aware that brother Timothy has been released. If he comes soon, I will come with him to see you.

24 Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those of Italy send their greetings to you.

25 Grace be with you all.