

Hebrews 3.1-6

God's Big House

HEBREWS is SERMON > Christians in 1st Century > Tempted to FORSAKE Jesus
Facing GREAT Pressures > Endured WAVE of Severe Persecution > Another Coming
IF -- Someone going to Steal your Possessions – Destroy Home – Hurt FAMILY
Threatens to TAKE your LIFE > Think SERIOUSLY about How to SURVIVE?

Writer takes Congregation down HALLWAY of Monotheistic RELIGIOUS OPTIONS
Looked into 1st Room – Ch 1 & 2 Maybe ANGELS are BETTER than Jesus? NOT!!
Walk Further down Hallway > Look into IMPRESSIVE Door of MOSES!

One of BLESSINGS of Reading HEBREWS --- REVIEW the OLD TESTAMENT
MOSES the Law-Giver was one of GREATEST Heroes of 1st C JEWS

Argument vs 1–6 Easy to Follow/ Servants of Household MUST be Faithful to Masters
Unfaithfulness can Lead to All Manner of Problems

Servant might be Faithful > does not Own House > Not Final Authority in the Home.

3.1-6 / Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

1. God's House

We have a BEAUTIFUL, HISTORIC Building on a Wonderful Parcel of LAND
MOST Churches around the WORLD have NO SUCH Location

Thank God for Building – 2 or More JESUS is HERE – NOT the HOUSE of GOD!

RECEIPIENTS of this Letter had NO CHURCH Building --- Homes, Open Spaces
 Last 25 yrs PASTORED Churches w/ NO Building > Hotel, Café, Print Shop, Night Club

Word HOUSE used 6 X's in 6 verses > refers to PEOPLE of GOD // NOT Building!
 NOT ref to Tabernacle, Not JUST People of OLD Covenant > ONE People of God
 CHURCH of Jesus Christ has become the ISRAEL of GOD > chosen people, holy nation
 Old Covenant ISRAEL is the BUD – NEW Covenant CHURCH of Jesus is FLOWER
 ONE Ohana of God – thru CENTURIES, CULTURES, CITIZENSHIPS --- IN CHRIST

2 Samuel 7 – David desires to build a HOUSE for GOD > TEMPLE

God's reply "NO, I will build a HOUSE for YOU!" > People under KING DAVID

The Old Covenant SHADOWS ended in Bright SUNSHINE of the NEW Covenant
 Fullness of TIME – DAVID's SON and David's LORD was born of the VIRGIN MARY

...the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.
 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name
 Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God
 will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob
 forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Luke 1.30-33

WHY does God BUILD a HOUSE? >> For His own GLORY

MAJESTIC ESTATE declares the RICHES, SKILL, ARTISTRY of the LORD of Manor

GOD built ALL Things – Jesus built the HOUSE of God > JESUS is GOD

MAIN Reason a Person builds a HOUSE is to LIVE IN IT!

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is
 with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be
 with them as their God." Revelation 21.3

LOVE of God UNCONDITIONAL – Some PROMISES of God are CONDITIONAL

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you... In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.””

John 14.15-17,20,21

NOTICE Temple is NOT just YOUR TINY HOUSE

ONE Sense YOU -- Your BODY -- are called in Scripture GOD’S TEMPLE

But Scripture’s EMPHASIS on CORPORATE TEMPLE – Body of X – God’s Ohana

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

2 Corinthians 6.16

2. Servants in God’s House

BOTH Moses AND Jesus were FAITHFUL in the Work God gave them to DO

Ch 3 CONTINUES the MAJOR Theme from Chs 1 & 2 > Jesus is BETTER

MOSES is Lifted HIGH but Jesus SOARS into HIGHER STRATOSPHERE

v. 3 For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.

Jesus was NOT Only Faithful, He was FLAWLESS > Committed NO SIN, Perfection

v. 1 consider Jesus, the apostle

UNUSUAL Title for Jesus – Just Used ONCE in Bible – Seen thru ALL New Testament

APOSTLE – Greek ‘sent, one who is sent’/ Biblical Gk ‘sent by God to speak for Him’

Jesus sent APOSTLES to Preach, Teach, WRITE the New TESTAMENT

But BEFORE Jesus sent Apostles – GOD SENT Jesus as CHIEF APOSTLE

JESUS – FINAL Apostle brings FULL Message of God

this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you
have sent

John 17.3

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the
world might be saved through him.

John 3.17

Jesus: “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent” John 6.29

After teaching that JESUS is God’s APOSTLE he begins to Teach about MOSES,

BECAUSE Moses is the Greatest Apostle of the Old Covenant

First 5 Books of Hebrew Scripture were WRITTEN by Moses

The Lord said (to Moses)... “Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my
people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt”... Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the
people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’... Say this
to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” Exodus 3.7-14

MOSES is a HERO who is Rightly COMMENDED for FAITHFULNESS to God

v. 2 just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house.

v. 5 Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later

Wrote TORAH – 1st 5 Books of Scripture > Led OUT of Egypt / TO Promised Land

v. 4 (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)

v. 6 Christ is faithful over God's house as a son.

WHAT a PITY to MISS Jesus – To FALL Backwards to OLD Covenant

Is it better to follow the servant in a house or to follow the builder and owner of a house?

No CONFLICT btwn MOSES and JESUS >

Jesus: “For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me” John 5.46

Moses: “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen” Deuteronomy 18.15

Perhaps NOT Tempted to TRUST in MOSES rather than JESUS

Many 21st C Xtians – Captivated by Ministries, Seminaries, Theologies, Teachers

Gotta join YWAM or BETHEL or IHOP – Graduate from this SCHOOL or THAT!

NONE Places would CLAIM to be JESUS but in Some Hearts Taken PLACE of Jesus

b. Confidence

v. 6 And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

We are God's house if we hold fast our confidence

HEBREWS written to EXHORT Christians in TROUBLE to STAND STRONG in X
TEXT – 1st 6 Verses in Chapter 3 – BEGINS/ENDS with Exhortation to CONFIDENCE

v. 1 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling

“holy brothers” > Set apart by the Grace of GOD

TRUE Believers in X >> “share in the heavenly calling”

Many Christians FOCUS on Looking to PAST to PROVE their POSITION in House
BORN in God's House /FAITH of Mama/Papa – All MY KUPUNA – Church MEMBER
BAPTIZED – Baby? Believer? – RAISED Hand! – Said PRAYER Mtg – Walked Front
v. 6 And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

We are God's House TODAY if Something happens TOMORROW > FUTURE Looking
We are God's House IF we PESEVERE / We ARE God's House IF We Hold Fast

Who will persevere in faith? Those who are a part of God's house.

ONCE Saved --- Always Saved? YES! IF YOU WERE ONCE SAVED!

QUESTION? ARE YOU NOW SAVED? WILL you STAY Saved!?

Something is TRUE NOW --- ONLY if Something WILL Happen in the FUTURE

v. 6 And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

January 1991 – KAHU of OLD Hawaiian Church > 500+ ACTIVE Members on List

1st Sunday MAYBE 40 People PRESENT!

Decided NEEDED to VISIT Some of My Active Members --- Never Came to SEE Me!

One Hawaiian Man WELCOMED Me Warmly into his HALE

“I asked if he knew he was an Active Member of the Church?” Of course!

And he made it CLEAR that his MEMBERSHIP was IMPORTANT to him

So, when was LAST TIME you Attended?? Could NOT Remember, sometime in 1950’s

WAS SURE of the GOOD REASON --- Why he was NOT COMING Back!

Church had BIG LUAU in 1950’s – New Friend DONATED 8 PIGS for IMU

Next Day – Brought PIGS Out of IMU – ONLY 5 Pigs!!

Somebody at THAT CHURCH STOLE 3 of My Pigs! NEVER GOING BACK THERE!

I AM SORRY THAT HAPPENED! IT WAS WRONG!

“But, Uncle, Are you really going to stand before the Living God and say I have not worshipped you for 40 years because of THREE PIGS!?”

ONCE Saved --- Always Saved? YES! IF YOU WERE ONCE SAVED!

...the Jews gathered around (Jesus) him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand” John 10.24-29

JESUS: My sheep HEAR MY VOICE & FOLLOW ME

God HELP US to Keep Following!
