

Hebrews 12:1-29 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **v1-2**

For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." **v3-6**

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate & not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, & we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits & live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. **v7-11**

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed. Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears. **v12-17**

For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") **v18-21**

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just

men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. **v22-24**

See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.. **v25-27**

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire. **v28-29**

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RECAP Heb 12:18-24 For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it **begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God**, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.

1. God approached Israel with His Law (Mosaic Covenant): What did God desire?

Deut 6:1-8, 11:13-23 "Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which the Lord your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, **that you may fear the Lord your God**, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son & your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you,...' "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength**. "And **these words which I command you today shall be in your heart**. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates...' And it shall be that **if you earnestly obey My commandments** which I command you today, **to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul**, then I will give you the rain for

your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil... Therefore you shall lay up **these words of mine in your heart and in your soul**, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be **multiplied** in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, **like the days of the heavens** above the earth. For if you carefully keep all these commandments which I command you to do—**to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him— then the Lord will drive out** all these nations from before you, and you will dispossess greater and mightier nations than yourselves... **Deut 7:6-9** “For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; **the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure** above all the peoples on the face of the earth. **The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because** you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; **but because the Lord loves you**, and **because He would keep the oath which He swore** to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of [c]bondage,... “Therefore know that the Lord your God, **He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant** and mercy for a thousand generations **with those who love Him and keep His commandments**;

Mat 22:35-40 ...a lawyer, asked Jesus a question, testing Him, and saying, “Teacher, **which is the great commandment in the law?**” Jesus said to him, “‘You shall **love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.**’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ **On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.**”

2. What two main things is God asking of Israel?

3. What does God promise Israel in return?

4. God approached us with His Christ (New Covenant): What does God desire?

Heb 11:5-7 **By faith Enoch was taken away** so that he did not see death,...before he was taken **he had this testimony, that he pleased God**. But **without faith** it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God **must believe** that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who **diligently seek Him**.

John 3:14-18 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that **whoever believes in Him** should not perish but **have eternal life**.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him is **not condemned**;...

Eph 2:8-10 For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, & that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that **we should walk in them**. Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—that at that time you were without Christ, being **aliens from** the commonwealth of Israel and **strangers** from the **covenants of promise**, having **no hope and without God** in the world. But **now in Christ Jesus** you who once were far off have been **brought near by the blood of Christ**.

John 15:9-20 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love**, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love...**This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you**. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. **You are My friends if you do whatever I command you**. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but **I chose you** and appointed you that you should **go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain**,...

John 14:15,21 "If you love Me, keep My commandments...He who **has My commandments** and **keeps them**, **it is he who loves Me**. And **he who loves Me will be loved by My Father**, and **I will love him and manifest Myself to him**."

Mark 13:13 he who **endures to the end shall be saved**.

1 Peter 2:9-10 **you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light**; who once were not a people but are **now the people of God**, who had not obtained mercy but **now have obtained mercy**.

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who **endures temptation**; for when he has been approved, he will **receive the crown of life** which the Lord has **promised to those who love Him**.

5. What two main things is God asking us (children of God)?

6. What does God promise us in return?

7. Has God's main desire changed (what he wants from us)?

8. Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant, He brings us eternal life: Has God's righteous requirements changed? What are the main things He still requires?

Mic 6:8, Jas 4:7 He has shown you, O man, what is good; & what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?...Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

9. How has God made it not burdensome to do His righteous requirements?

Ezekiel 36:26-27 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

John 1:12-14 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

1John 3:9,5:18 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God...We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God guards himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

Hebrews 12:25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks.

10. The command: Do not refuse _____ who speaks?

11. What does it mean to refuse Him who speaks?

12. Who is Him who speaks (specifically)? How does He speak to us?

Hebrews 1:1-3 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

John 16:13-14 ...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Hebrews 12:25 See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if the they did not escape when they ignored the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we turn away from the One who is from heaven!

13. Who are the “they” that did not escape? Who was the man who warned them?

Heb 3:8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,
Exo 20:20 Then they said to Moses, “You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.”

14. Why did Moses have to be the one who warned the Israelites? Should we be afraid to hear from God (Word/Spirit)?

Heb 12:25 ...For if the they did not escape when they ignored the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we turn away from the One who is from heaven!

15. Who is the One from heaven?

16. If Israel did not escape when Moses warned them, what is the likelihood we will escape if we turn away (ignore/not submit) from the One from heaven (truth)?

Hebrews 12:25-26 ...For if the they did not escape when they ignored the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we turn away from the One who is from heaven! whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.”

17. Again God promises to shake the _____? What else is He going to shake?

18. What does “to shake” the earth mean (we call it a)?

EARTHQUAKE: A shaking or trembling of the earth.

19. What kind of damage can a Magnitude 7-8 earthquake do in NYC? Whole world?

20. Imagine what kind of damage God will do to the earth and heavens: thoughts?

Heb 12:27 Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.

21. The purpose of the shaking is to remove what? What are those things?

22. What things will remain after the shaking? Can God be shaken? His kingdom?

23. Can humans be shaken?

24. What keeps us from being shaken and removed?

John 15:9-10 As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

Romans 8:35-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

25. What humans will be shaken and removed?

Matthew 13:41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

Rev 22:14-15 "... Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters & everyone who loves & practices falsehood.

Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

26. What kind of kingdom are we receiving? Our attitude should be what?

27. What kind of worship should we give God? Two necessary items?

28. Do we define what is acceptable worship to God? Who does?

29. What does it mean that God is a consuming fire?

Deut 4:23-24, 6:15 So be careful yourselves, that you do not forget the covenant of the Lord your God which He made with you, and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of anything against which the Lord your God has commanded you. For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

...for the Lord your God who is in the midst of you is a jealous God; so follow Him, or else the anger of the Lord your God will be kindled against you, and He will wipe you off the face of the earth.