

Saturday/Sunday: (Hebrews 12:15-29)

(Vs 15) One of the great dangers in life is “Bitterness.” Bitterness comes as a result of failing to experience God’s grace in a trial or some time of trouble (Read Vs 15)

Bitterness whither from discipline (*the setting here*) or just from life circumstances cannot be contained to the person or situation you are bitter against. It affects you at the deepest level and thereby affects EVERY relationship you have.

The solution is the “grace of God” (the divine working of God on the heart) God’s grace is a supernatural “band-aid” that heals when we go to Him in submission, in brokenness and in surrender. The hardest hurdle to cross is that bitterness is a sin and we need to confess it and forsake it to God.... Then His grace can heal.

(Vs 16-17) Here is the example of Esau who allowed bitterness to cause him to go so far he could not undo what he did. The application is dual. For believers = don’t fail of the grace of God. For non-believers = don’t miss the grace of God.

(Vs 18-29) The OT Jews had a terror filled view of God and they should have, as all unbelievers should today. God will annihilate all sin and every sinner.

However, He has extended grace through Jesus Christ, the clock is ticking, man is commanded to repent and believe the gospel. These Jews had not grasped that God had been satisfied with the sacrifice of Christ and they could approach God (Vs 18-24).

(Vs 25-29) We read the solemn warning of turning away from God. Paul was concerned for these Hebrews. May we be concerned for the lost!

Daily Devotions

Hebrews – Week 4

Monday: (Hebrews 11)

We come to the chapter that is often called the “Faith Hall of Fame” It lists all the great things God has done when God’s people had Faith in Him. Will you follow in their steps?

(V1-2) The “elders” listed in vs. 2 are the men that the Jewish folks looked up to... men like Moses and Aaron. Noticed they lived by faith, they were not “supermen” they simply believed God. The rest of the chapter is a challenge to you to believe God.

(Vs 3) This is a curious verse. How can we “understand” by Faith? Simple, we have faith in God.... His existence answers this question.

(Vs 4) By faith Abel obeyed God, Cain did not and we know that story, but the point is we obey in faith.

(Vs 5-6) We live by faith, Enoch lived by faith in a wicked society and he pleased God.

(Vs 7) We labour by faith. Noah laboured for 120 years and only had 8 converts, but they were his family. He showed his faith by building a boat. We should ask ourselves “Why don’t I have more faith”

Tuesday: (Hebrews 11)

(Vs 8-19) The life of Abraham (Father of the Jews) was one big life of faith. He believed God and showed it in his obedience. The point Paul is trying to make is that faith is how the “elders”(Vs2) were saved.

Let me make an important distinction here. There are two elements in this world. Truth and Fact. Fact and Truth are not the same. Facts are based on reality and may or may not call for my involvement.

Truth does not come from reality, but stems from God, His nature or what is known about God. Truth DEMANDS obedience.

Popular theology has treated God as “fact” and may or may not have bearing on man. Today multitudes have assented to the “facts” of God while ignoring the “Truth” about God. In this fashion they have released themselves from obeying the truth, in reality they are in unbelief, while clinging to the facts.

Man is not saved by accepting “facts” but by accepting “Truth” (Jesus) This is why faith spoken of in this chapter leads to visible action. Noah and Abraham (Vs 7-8) accepted as Truth the Word of God and saved their souls through faith.

Simply put, a Christian’s life is one of belief in the Truth; it will show up in our life, our dedication, our private life. We are people who have grasped the TRUTH and obeyed and are obeying! How can we say we believe the Truth and do otherwise?

Wednesday: (Hebrews 11)

(Vs 20-40) As you read these verses I want you to consider a few things.

1. Faith looks to all God can do. *What can He do? (Vs 30). What do you need Him to do?*
2. Faith looks to all God said He would do. *Think of the promises of God to you! (Vs 22). What promises are special to you?*
3. Faith obeys in all that God said to do. *Are you doing what He said to do? ---- This is either Faith or unbelief. (Vs 32-40). What does your life show?*

Faith is set on a never changing God. This calls us to believe and to show our belief in action. This is faith.

Thursday: (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Have you ever run a race? You are in a race right now! It is not a race to finish first but to become more like Christ. Consider it more like an obstacle course.... But the obstacles are coming at you.

(Vs 1) We are admonished to “lay aside” two different things.

1. Our weights. These “weights” are not bad things but things that stop us from becoming more like Christ..... What good thing is hindering you from becoming like Christ?

2 Sins, more specifically, besetting sins. These are sins that keep cropping up in our lives.... We must deal with them, or they will deal with us!

(Vs 2) We are to run this race “looking unto Jesus.” He authored faith in us and will preserve it till the end. Sometimes we look away from Christ to others in the race.... This will always cause us to find some fault, some reason to stop running.

How about you? How is the race going? Do you need to lay aside some weights or sins? Have you taken your eyes off Christ? When you believed He was all that mattered, what has changed?

Friday: (Hebrews 12: 3-14)

Part of this race is that we are corrected by our Heavenly Father.

(Vs 6-8) Every child of God is “scourged” at some point in their “race” Just as a earthly father is not loving when he lets his children run “rampant” so would our heavenly Father be if He allowed us to live in sin.

(Vs 9-14) As a boy I did not like punishment at all, but today I am thankful for the discipline. It produced the proper result in me. So is our Heavenly Father’s discipline, it is for our good and produces righteousness in our lives.

