

Hebrews

Adult Bible Class

February 28, 2010 thru May 23, 2010

Lake Norman church of Christ

1. Lesson 4: Christ's Promise

a. Outline of Hebrews

- i. Week One: Introduction
- ii. Week Two: Christ is superior to Angle's Chapter 1 and 2
- iii. Week Three: Christ is superior to Moses Chapter 3
- iv. Week Four: Christ's promised rest is superior to the rest offered thru Joshua to the Jews Chapter 4:1 – 13**
- v. Week Five: Christ is a superior High Priest Chapter 4:14 – 5:10
- vi. Week Six: a warning to the hearer Chapter 5:11 – Chapter 6
- vii. Week Seven: Christ of the order of Melchisedek: Priest and King Chapter 7
- viii. Week Eight: Christ's covenant is greater than Moses' Chapter 8
- ix. Week Nine: Mosaic worship was a shadow of the True worship Chapter 9:1 - 14
- x. Week Ten: Christ's sacrifice is greater than the Mosaic sacrifices Chapter 9:15 thru Chapter 10:20
- xi. Week Eleven:
 1. Second warning to the hearer Chapter 10:21 - 31
 2. Personal words of encouragement Chapter 10:32 - 39
- xii. Week Twelve: Faith Chapter 11

xiii. Week Thirteen:

1. Encouragement Chapter 12
2. Divers Instructions Chapter 13

b. Review:

1. Christ is superior to Angles Chapter 1 and 2
 2. Christ is superior to Moses Chapter 3
 3. Christ rest is superior to the rest promised by Joshua Chapter 4
2. Christ's promised rest is superior to Joshua's promised rest Chapter 4
- a. 1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.
 - i. Therefore = because of what was just said in Chapter 3
 1. Heb 3:13 – 19
 - a. 13 We need to encourage each other each and every day to avoid sin
 - i. 13 but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called To-day; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin:
 - b. 14 If we remain faithful, we share in Christ's glory
 - i. 14 for we are become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end:
 - c. 15 – 19 Example of the Israelites in the Wilderness
 - i. Who led the Israelites?
 1. God
 - ii. Whose voice did they hear thunder on Mt. Sinai?
 1. God's

iii. What was the final issue that prevented them from entering the Promised Land?

1. Numbers 13 – 14

- a. Sent 12 spies
- b. Nu 13:25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days
- c. Nu 13:27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.
- d. Nu 13:31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.
- e. Nu 13:33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.
- f. Nu 14:1 – 4
- g. 1 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.
- h. 2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

- i. 3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?
- j. 4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

2. Nu 14:7 – 9

- a. 7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.
- b. 8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.
- c. 9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

3. Nu 14:11 – 19

- a. 11 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

- b. 12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.
- c. 13 And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)
- d. 14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.
- e. 15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,
- f. 16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.
- g. 17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,
- h. 18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the

iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.

- i. 19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

4. Nu 14:22 – 23

- a. 22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;
- b. 23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

5. Nu 14:32 – 34

- a. 32 But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.
- b. 33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.
- c. 34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty

years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

- i. Why did they wander for forty years?
 - ii. The spies were in the Promised Land for 40 days
 - iii. Why did God spare them at all?
 - iv. The other nations will say God was not able to bring His people to the land He promised Num 14:16
- d. Heb 3:15 – 19 What lesson should we learn according to Hebrews?
- i. 15 while it is said, To-day if ye shall hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.
 1. Provocation literally means to irritate!
 2. Irritate whom?
 - a. His voice = God's voice
 3. From Psalms 95:8
 - ii. 16 For who, when they heard, did provoke? nay, did not all they that came out of Egypt by Moses?
 - iii. 17 And with whom was he displeased forty years? was it not with them that sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?
 - iv. 18 And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that were disobedient?

- v. 19 And we see that they were not able to enter in because of unbelief.
- e. Are we promised a land?
 - i. Joh 14:1 – 3
 - 1. 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
 - 2. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
 - 3. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
 - ii. 1Th 4:16 – 17
 - 1. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
 - 2. 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
 - iii. So, if we do not believe ...
 - 1. Mt 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
 - 2. Mt 28:19 – 20
 - a. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name

of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

- b. 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

3. 2Th 1:7 – 9

- a. 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,
- b. 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:
- c. 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

iv. ...what can we expect?

- 1. Same as the Israelites
- 2. Will not receive the rest of Jesus.

- b. Heb 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

i. Because of Chapter 3:15 – 19 we should live in a respectful apprehension

- 1. Why?
- 2. Because God has shown what he will do to those who do not believe Num 13 and 14

3. We risk, if not careful, missing the promised rest of Jesus
- c. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.
- i. Who is “Them”?
 1. Israelites in Num 13 and 14
 2. What was fruit born from their hearing the “Good News”?
 - a. Disbelief
 3. What did God reward them with?
 - a. Being forever lost short of the promised land
 4. Remember the contrast made between Caleb and Joshua and other 10 spies?
 - a. The 10 spies
 - i. Nu 14:22 – 23
 1. 22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;
 2. 23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:
 - ii. Nu 14:29 – 30
 1. 29 Your carcases shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

2. 30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

iii. Nu 14:37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD.

b. Caleb and Joshua

i. Nu 14:24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

ii. Nu 14:38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

d. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

i. Ps 95:8 – 11

1. 8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

2. 9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.

3. 10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:

4. 11 Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

5. About Num 13 and 14

e. 4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

i. End of verse 3 and 4 are tied by the same thought – Creation

1. Ge 2:2 – 3

- a. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.
- b. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

2. Ex 31:13 – 17

- a. 13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.
- b. 14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.
- c. 15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.
- d. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.
- e. 17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

f. 5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.

i. The Hebrews writer is saying

1. From Creation God created a “rest”

2. The Sabbath was commanded as a reminder of this “rest”
 3. God forbade the Israelites from entering a “rest” in Num 14 because of unbelief
- g. 6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:
- h. 7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
- i. The point is that the invitation from God is not a one-time event (Num 13 and 14)
 - ii. This invitation was still being offered when David penned Psalms 95
- i. 8 For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.
- i. The point being, that the “rest” of the Israelites is not “The Rest” of God
 - ii. If it was, then why would David pen Psalms 95
 1. They were in the promised land at the time David penned Psalms
 2. They were experiencing great wealth and power under David
 - iii. So God, restates the promise of a “rest” while they were in a “rest” from wandering
 - iv. Were they still observing the Sabbath?
 1. Yes
 2. Why?
 3. To remind them of the “rest of God”
 4. Was to be kept by the Israelites as a sign
- j. 9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.
- k. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

- i. Notice that the “rest of God” was a cessation of a work
 - 1. In God’s case creation
 - 2. What about the works of the Israelites?
 - a. Eph 2:8 – 9
 - i. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
 - ii. 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.
 - b. Ro 11:6 – 7
 - i. 6 And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.
 - ii. 7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.
 - c. Tit 3:4 – 7
 - i. 3 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared,
 - ii. 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,
 - iii. 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
 - iv. 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
- l. 11 ¶ Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

i. Notice the play on words

1. Labour v rest

- m. 12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- n. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.
- o. 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.
- p. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

i. Isa 53:3 – 6

- 1. 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
- 2. 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.
- 3. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.
- 4. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

ii. 1Pe 2:21 – 24

- 1. 21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:
- 2. 22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

3. 23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;
 4. 24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed.
- iii. 1Jo 3:5 And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.
- q. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
- i. How do we approach the Throne of God?
 1. Boldly = with confidence
 2. Why?
 - a. Eph 2:18 – 22
 - i. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.
 - ii. 19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,
 - iii. 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,
 - iv. 21 in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,
 - v. 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.
 - b. Eph 3:12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.
 - c. Heb 10:21 – 23

- i. 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God,
 - ii. 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
 - iii. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.
- d. Ga 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.