



The Book of Hebrews 3:6_Members of God's Household!

March 24, 2024

Holy Text: Hebrews 3:6

Happy Palm Sunday!

- **John 12:12-13 (KJV)** *On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.*
- Today is traditionally known as the beginning of Passion Week, the culmination of Christ's earthy ministry and the manifestation of God's great love in Christ towards us.
- Let us take the time to prayerfully consider and passionately rejoice that:
 1. God so loved the world! (Jn 3:16)
 2. Christ gave Himself for us! (Titus 2:14)
 3. Christ bore and died for our sins! (1 Pet 2:24; 1 Cor 15:3)
 4. Our sins are washed away! (Rev 1:5)
 5. Christ is risen from the dead! (Matt 28:7)

Hallelujah!

Review and Thoughts on Hebrews 3:6

From last week:

1. There are many titles in Scripture for the church. In this section of Scripture, we are described as a *house*.
 - It is the word *oikos* in Greek, which metaphorically means "God's family or God's people."
 - The descriptor *house* has meaning.
 1. A house is where we live...where we dwell.
 2. A house is where we typically are refreshed and rest...it is home.
 3. A house often denotes family and lineage...were we find purpose and learn our name (who we are).
 4. A house is where we find shelter and protection.
 5. A house is a place of peace and rejoicing, fellowship and intimacy, memory and meaning!
 - The Father, through the Son and by the Spirit, provides all these things! Hallelujah!
2. In Hebrews 3:3, Jesus is referred to as the builder of the house. This is why He deserves more glory than Moses who was a part of the house. Christ is the builder! And verse 4 reminds us God uses people to build, but the ultimate builder is God Himself. Christ is God the Son, the true builder. Moses was an instrument of God's building.
 - Christ prepares the soil! Christ is the foundation! Christ is the Rock!
Matthew 7:24-27 (KJV) *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house*

upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

- Christ is the constructor. Christ puts the pieces together. Christ assembles us and sustains us!

Matthew 16:18-19 (KJV) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

- We are who Christ is building! Again, recall the intricacies of the construction of the physical house that Moses built. Nothing was left to human imagination. God gave instruction about dimensions, colors, materials, tools and furniture placement! He commanded the the specific people be used to build, how they were to be anointed and dressed, and what they were supposed to do and when!
 - This same God is building you! He knows the intricacies of your life and has designed the details. Nothing is left to chance. Yes, even where you are RIGHT NOW He sovereignly orders for His own glory!
 - What does it do to your soul to know that our LORD Himself is building you? Given this truth, is there any reason to fear?
3. As we said last week, Moses was faithful in delivering and leading God's house (His people). (v.5) But Moses' work "was an illustration of the truths God would reveal later." (NLT) The type (earthly deliverer) would give way to the Antitype (everlasting Deliverer); the lessor (Moses) points to the Greater: Christ!
- Moses was faithful to God's call: to deliver his people from Egypt, to sanctify them through God's Law, and glorify them in a land flowing with milk and honey. But **Christ would accomplish these things not just temporarily, but spiritually and eternally!**
 - Moses was faithful to lead God's people (God's house!) as directed, and his faithfulness resulted in bodily freedom from slavery. **Jesus is also faithful to lead His people, but His faithfulness results in spiritual freedom from sin!**

Breaking Down the Verse

1. Christ as a Son

- In the flow of thought in Hebrews so far:
 1. Angels are servants in God's house.
 2. We are servants in God's house.
 3. Abraham was a servant in God's house.
 4. Moses was a servant in God's house.
 5. "But Christ, as the Son, is in charge of God's entire house!" (v.6 NLT)
- Do you remember the Parable of the Wicked Tenants? (Matt 21:33-36; Luke 20:9-18) The "Householder" who planted the vineyard eventually sent his "Son." The Son has more authority than the previous servants; the Son is the heir!
- Point: The author does not want the Son put in the same category as the servants in the hearts and minds of the hearers. The Son deserves honor and reverence! (Matt 21:37)

- In a day where blasphemy is popular and heresy is all the rage, it is good to be reminded of the Person and Nature of Christ. He is:

1. God the Son, fully divine

John 1:1-3 (KJV) *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

John 8:58 (KJV) *Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.*

2. The Son of God, fully human

Jesus has two natures in one person (called the Hypostatic Union). He is not half God, half man. He is fully God and fully man at the same time. At the incarnation, He added a human nature to His divine nature for our sakes. His natures are not mixed together; they are separate, yet act as a unit. He was born of a woman (Isa 7:14; Lk 1:31; Rom 1:3; Gal 4:4), had a human genealogy (Mt 1:1; Lk 3:23-37) and body (Matt 26:12; Lk 24:39; Jn 1:14), and he had common experiences of humanity, including sorrow (Matt 26:37), natural growth (Lk 2:40), hunger (Lk 4:2), and sleep (Lk 8:23).

3. The only Savior from sin

Acts 4:10-12 (KJV) *Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. 11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

2. Over His own House!

- Three truths to rejoice over: 1) The House belongs to God. 2) Christ has been given all things. 3) Christ, therefore, is Head of the house!

1 Timothy 3:15 (KJV) *But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

Matthew 11:27 (KJV) *All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.*

John 3:35 (KJV) *The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.*

Ephesians 1:20-22 (KJV) *Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not*

only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **22** And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Philippians 2:5-11 (KJV) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Colossians 1:15-19 (KJV) Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

3. We are His House!

- Although we don't deserve God's mercy and grace in Christ, we have been made sons and daughters! We are His children! We are joint-heirs with Christ! (Rom 8:17) We are members of the Household of God!

1 Corinthians 3:9-11 (KJV) For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (KJV) Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

2 Corinthians 6:16-18 (KJV) And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Ephesians 2:19-22 (KJV) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:2-5 (KJV) *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*

- Christian, you are not a fatherless child! You have a Father. You have a family! You have a home! You have an important history and a spiritual lineage! You have brother and sisters, aunts and uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers in the faith!
- Point: Humbly, let us not “act out” as if these things aren’t true. Know who you are and live accordingly!

4. **If...a Conjunction that Separates the True from the False**

- Whomever the author of Hebrews was, he was not a proponent of easy-believism!¹² The “if” here is a conjunction that links faith to obedience. It is an culturally uneasy qualifier because it calls us beyond *confession* to *consecration*. This is common in Hebrews:

Hebrews 2:1 (KJV) *Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.*

Hebrews 4:1 (KJV) *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.*

Hebrews 10:26-27 (KJV) *For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.*

Hebrews 12:15 (KJV) *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;*

Hebrews 12:25 (KJV) *See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:*

- Like James, the LORD’s brother, true faith had to be proved by perseverance and works.

James 2:19-22 (KJV) *Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?*

- Point: True members of God’s Household will hold on. Are you holding on?

5. **Holding Fast!**

¹ <https://www.gotquestions.org/easy-believism.html>

² <https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/onsite/qna/easybelieve.html>

- Hold on to what? Our faith! Our confidence in Christ! This is the the focus of this particular “if.”
- True members of God’s House *prove* themselves by their *perseverance*. Of course, we can only *persevere* by God’s *power*, but our lives, however *mistake-prone*, will show faith!

Hebrews 4:14 (KJV) *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.*

Hebrews 10:23-25 (KJV) *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)* **24** *And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:* **25** *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

- And beloved, we have come to believe that this is “a” motive of God for allowing trials. Not His only one of course, but “a” reason: to prove and test our faith. Why?

James 1:2-4 (KJV) *My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; **3** Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. **4** But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

James 1:2-4 (NLT) *Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. **3** For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. **4** So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.*

- Point: Some of what you are going through is a “hold fast” test. What grade are you getting?

6. Rejoicing in Hope

- I love the word “rejoicing” in the KJV, which is missing in most versions. It is the word *kauchēma* in Greek, which can mean “to boast” or “to glory in or rejoice.” (Strong’s)
- Most versions translate it as “confidence.” Our confidence or boasting isn’t prideful or based in human strength; it is based in Christ and what He has done!
- Therefore, the persevering saint lives a life filled with faith accompanied by rejoicing! Why? They have hope! They confidently celebrate and “count it all joy” regardless of what comes!
- Paul, from prison, exemplifies the right, confident, and joyful attitude. Are you rejoicing?

Philippians 1:18-21 (KJV) *What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. **19** For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **20** According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. **21** For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

Philippians 2:14-18 (KJV) *Do all things without murmurings and disputings: **15** That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; **16** Holding*

forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain. **17** Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all. **18** For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

Philippians 4:4 (KJV) Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

7. Firm until the End!

- Again, as members of God's Household, we are protected and held secure by Christ:

John 10:27-30 (KJV) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: **28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. **29** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. **30** I and my Father are one.

1 Peter 1:3-5 (KJV) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Jude 1:24 (KJV) Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

- He is keeping us! Praise God!
- But the connotation in our verse is that the believer must *desire* to be steadfast and endeavor to do so. The transformed saint will hunger after righteousness and attempt to be faithful, to hold fast to God and His Word, and will strive to obey!

1 Corinthians 15:58 (KJV) Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Hebrews 3:14 (KJV) For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

1 Corinthians 9:25-27 (KJV) And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. **26** I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: **27** But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

- Point: all this is by the Holy Spirit's power and flows from God's grace. But as our LORD sanctifies us, He changes our desires. Have your desires to be faithful increased?

Closing Prayer

Thank you LORD for keeping us unto faithfulness and helping us unto holiness. May we, as members of God's household, when our faith is tried, come forth as pure gold. (Job 23:10) Amen!