

Hebrews 12:16-29

Topic: This is one of the most neglected books of the bible. We don't know who the author is, but we do know it was written for the instruction of the temple before 70 A.D. It is to the Jews what the book of Romans is to the Gentiles. Hebrews tells of sacrifices and rituals and exalts the sovereignty of Christ. It tells of Christ's relation to Moses and Abraham and all their people. This is why the Book of Hebrews is so great. The message of Hebrews is this: go on to spiritual maturity. Don't sit back on your laurels; get up and do something for the Lord, spread the word, help someone who doesn't ask but you see the need. Jesus Christ is our mediator to God. If you read only one book of the entire bible, this should be the one. The past is the past, Hebrews is telling us to move on. Don't go back to the old ways to add to the salvation of Christ.

Heb 12:16: If there is any profane person, for example like Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright, his blessing, means he sold his fortune and position for one piece of meat. Vs17: Esau went back crying later to get his birthright back, but it was too late. Don't give up your birthright with Christ for a piece of food or a piece of anything else here on earth. Don't be like Esau.

Vs18: Here is another scene with Moses and the people who just came out of the desert.

Vs19-21: Listen, you people have got it made. Christ came, died for your sins, and you don't have to go to a mountain of fire anymore and purify yourselves. Anyone who touches that mountain would be killed. The people told Moses not to talk to them anymore because they thought they were going to die. You, Moses, You go up there and talk to God and let you die, but we don't want to talk to God because we don't think we'll survive. The book of Hebrews is telling us we don't have to do stuff like that anymore.

Vs22: you will come to a living God, heavenly Jerusalem, and a universal gathering of spiritual messengers (angels).

Vs23: Your name is written in heaven, in the Book of Life, and this general assembly of the body of believers is where we're going. Jesus Christ is coming as judge next time, not a babe in a manger.

Vs24: Jesus Christ is the bearer of the New Testament, written in Christ's blood, under the new covenant named grace. Not blood sprinkled like that of Abel, the first murderer. Abel's blood causes vengeance, Christ's blood caused redemption.

Vs25: If you don't listen to those who speak the truth, what makes you think you'll listen to someone from heaven?

Vs26: God's voice shook the earth back at Mt. Zion, and next time His voice will shake the earth and the heavens.

Vs27: God's word is going to shake the things that are made: mountains, rivers, heavens, all the stuff made in Genesis, it will all be shaken in the tribulation. But the unshakable is His Word, and it will stand firm. Spend more time studying God's word, then you can compare the world and world events to His word and see for yourself. This is our reference, our standard of measure for what's true, what's happening, and what we should do.

Vs28: we're receiving a Kingdom that can't be removed; let us have grace, where we may serve God acceptable with reverence and godly fear.

Vs29: our God is a God of love, consuming fire, reverence, and we fear Him with reverence and just fear.

