

Hebrews 3:5–6

Faithful as a Son

The argument from the author is designed to compel the reader to hold fast. This priority is evident in the superior nature of Christ over Moses... but pressure mounts and men (converted Jews) will be tempted to regress into Judaism. Just as we gentiles are tempted to drift into pagan ideas and practice...

The switch is between Moses' faithfulness as a servant and the faithfulness of Jesus as the son and heir. And it applies to us as well... the faithfulness of a servant will not aid us in the final analysis. The faithfulness of a son is what is needed. A servant can be trusted, but not as a son can, especially when the son is the heir. A servant's loyalty and labor can be purchased, is, in fact, always purchased. He may love his master, but the transaction always begins financially. When the master can no longer pay, the servant departs to find one who can... And it is at this point that we must distinguish some things carefully

I. GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

God can, will and does always make good on His promises.

1Kings 8.54-61
2Corinthians 1.18-22

a. Note that God does not enter into payment agreements with His people

Galatians 2.16 - 21

b. But too many times His people see His promises as such.

II. GOD BLESSES HIS OWN PEOPLE

God does bless His people for faithfulness, because walking in truth SHOULD produce good things.

Ultimately the blessings are because of the relationship to truth... to the bare issue of what is right and good vs. what is wrong and wicked.

III. GOD'S BLESSINGS ARE MORE THAN THIS LIFE

These blessings are not always delivered in this life, sometimes they are only delivered in the next life. And here is where some fall afoul of their erroneous assumptions.

- a. They think that they are on a payment plan - hence, if they are not getting what they think they want, they will go elsewhere to get it.
 - i. If they truly believe such and depart - then they were not really of God to begin with.

1 John 2.19

- ii. They will not find another who will deliver on their promises, only one who will lie to trick

them, and what is more, they will not ever find another who can deliver on eternal life.

John 8.42-27

b. The gap between what we expect and what we see is often large.

- i. It is understandable
- ii. It is natural
- iii. It can be quite disheartening
- iv. It is based on a wrong understanding of the world in which we live and its purpose.

c. The reality of that gap can tempt true believers to consider (and even attempt) walking away.

- i. If they go they will not stay away forever
- ii. God will pursue them and bring them back

Ezekiel 34.11-12

Matthew 18.12-14

- iii. He purposes the trials to teach and refine His own children.

Romans 8.28-30

Genesis 50.20

IV. JESUS IS THE REAL BLESSING

Our real blessings come from the fact that Jesus is a true Son of the Father and did the Father's will for all that is needful to save a people.

- a. He became a man, fully and completely, laying aside His glory and divesting Himself of all the praise and honor, worship and power that was His own by right.
- b. He lived a fully obedient and perfect life of righteousness, completely fulfilling the demands of the Law
- c. He never violated the Law's prohibitions
- d. He died in our place for all the failures and

disobediences which WE committed.

e. He paid the full penalty for our sin

f. He was raised to live by the power of God and is now seated at the right hand of the Father in testimony to the truth of all this.

g. Hence, what is promised to US is the reward that HE earned.

2Corinthians 5.21

V. THE REWARDS OF CHRIST

Moses taught that we would be rewarded for our own faithfulness. A simple payment structure. But we cannot fulfill the requirements, and so we lose heart, blaming God for our faithlessness. But Christ is the Son who is rewarded, and He willingly and gladly shares His own reward with us.

a. Adoption is our gift

Romans 8.14-17

b. Forgiveness is our promise

Colossians 2.11-15

c. Heaven is our home

2 Corinthians 5.1-8

d. Eternity is our hope

1Thess 4.17

John 14.1-4