

2027-2028 CMA Hebrews Peter Reference Materials

Hebrews 1

God's Final Word: His Son

- ¶ Hebrews 1:1 - In the **past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,**
Hebrews 1:2 - but in **these last days he has spoken to us** by his Son, **whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.**
- Hebrews 1:3 - The **Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins,** he **sat down** at the right hand of the **Majesty in heaven.**
- Hebrews 1:4 - **So he became as much superior** to the **angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.**

The Son Superior to Angels

- ¶ Hebrews 1:5 - **For to** which of the angels did God ever **say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:6 - And **again, when God brings his firstborn into the world,** he **says, "Let all God's angels worship him."**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:7 - **In speaking of** the angels he **says, "He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire."**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:8 - **But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.**
- Hebrews 1:9 - You **have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:10 - **He also says, "In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.**
- Hebrews 1:11 - They will **perish,** but you **remain; they will all wear out like** a garment.
- Hebrews 1:12 - You **will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:13 - To which of the angels did God ever **say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?**
- ¶ Hebrews 1:14 - Are **not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?**

Hebrews 2

Warning to Pay Attention

- ¶ Hebrews 2:1 - We **must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to** what we **have heard, so** that we do **not drift away.**
- Hebrews 2:2 - **For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,**
- Hebrews 2:3 - **how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us** by those who **heard him.**
- Hebrews 2:4 - **God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according** to his will.

Jesus Made Fully Human

- ¶ Hebrews 2:5 - It is not to **angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.**
- Hebrews 2:6 - But **there is a place where someone has testified: "What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?"**
- Hebrews 2:7 - **You made** them a **little lower** than the **angels; you crowned them** with glory and honor
- Hebrews 2:8 - **and put everything under their feet." In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject** to them.
- Hebrews 2:9 - But we **do see Jesus, who was made lower** than the **angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death,** so that by the **grace** of God he **might taste death for everyone.**

- ¶ Hebrews 2:10 - **In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.**
- Hebrews 2:11 - **Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.**
- Hebrews 2:12 - He says, "**I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.**"
- ¶ Hebrews 2:13 - And again, "I will put **my trust in him.**" And again he says, "**Here am I, and the children God has given me.**"
- ¶ Hebrews 2:14 - Since the **children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil--**
- Hebrews 2:15 - **and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.**
- Hebrews 2:16 - **For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.**
- Hebrews 2:17 - For this **reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.**
- Hebrews 2:18 - Because he **himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.**

Hebrews 3

Jesus Greater Than Moses

- ¶ Hebrews 3:1 - **Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest.**
- Hebrews 3:2 - He was faithful to the one **who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.**
- Hebrews 3:3 - Jesus has **been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself.**
- Hebrews 3:4 - **For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.**
- Hebrews 3:5 - "Moses was faithful as a **servant in all God's house,**" **bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future.**
- Hebrews 3:6 - **But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.**

Warning Against Unbelief

- ¶ Hebrews 3:7 - So, as the Holy **Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice,**
- Hebrews 3:8 - **do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness,**
- Hebrews 3:9 - **where your ancestors tested and tried me, though for forty years they saw what I did.**
- Hebrews 3:10 - That is **why I was angry with that generation; I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.'**
- Hebrews 3:11 - So I **declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'** "
- ¶ Hebrews 3:12 - See to **it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.**
- Hebrews 3:13 - **But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.**
- Hebrews 3:14 - We have **come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.**
- Hebrews 3:15 - **As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."**
- ¶ Hebrews 3:16 - Who were **they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt?**
- Hebrews 3:17 - And **with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness?**
- Hebrews 3:18 - And to **whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed?**
- Hebrews 3:19 - So **we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.**

Hebrews 4

A Sabbath-Rest for the People of God

- ¶ Hebrews 4:1 - Therefore, since the **promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be**

found to have fallen short of it.

- Hebrews 4:2 - For we also have had the good news proclaimed to **us, just** as they **did**; **but** the **message they heard was of no value to them, because** they did **not share the** faith of those who **obeyed**.
- Hebrews 4:3 - **Now we** who **have believed enter** that **rest, just** as God has **said, "So I declared** on **oath** in my **anger, "They shall never enter my rest."** **And yet his works have been finished since** the creation of the **world**.
- Hebrews 4:4 - **For somewhere he** has **spoken about** the **seventh day in these words: "On the seventh day God rested from all** his works."
- Hebrews 4:5 - And **again in** the **passage above he says, "They** shall never enter my rest."
- ¶ Hebrews 4:6 - Therefore **since it still remains for some to** enter that rest, and **since those who formerly had** the good news proclaimed to **them did not go in because** of **their disobedience,**
- Hebrews 4:7 - **God again set a certain day, calling it "Today." This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in** the **passage already quoted: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."**
- ¶ Hebrews 4:8 - For **if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.**
- Hebrews 4:9 - **There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for** the **people** of God;
- Hebrews 4:10 - **for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.**
- Hebrews 4:11 - Let **us, therefore, make every effort** to enter that rest, **so** that no one **will perish by following their example of disobedience.**
- ¶ Hebrews 4:12 - For the **word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**
- Hebrews 4:13 - **Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.**

Jesus the Great High Priest

- ¶ Hebrews 4:14 - Therefore, since we have a **great high** priest who **has ascended into heaven, Jesus** the **Son of God, let us hold firmly** to the faith we **profess**.
- Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who **is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one** who has **been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet he did not sin.**
- Hebrews 4:16 - Let us **then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Hebrews 5

- ¶ Hebrews 5:1 - **Every** high priest **is selected from among** the people and is **appointed to represent the people in matters related to** God, to **offer gifts** and sacrifices for sins.
- Hebrews 5:2 - He is **able to deal gently with those** who **are ignorant** and **are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.**
- Hebrews 5:3 - This is **why he has to** offer sacrifices for his **own sins, as well as for** the sins of the people.
- Hebrews 5:4 - And no **one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.**
- ¶ Hebrews 5:5 - In the **same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming** a high priest. **But God said** to him, "You are **my Son; today I have become your Father.**"
- ¶ Hebrews 5:6 - And he **says in another place, "You** are a priest **forever, in the order of Melchizedek."**
- ¶ Hebrews 5:7 - **During** the **days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to** the one **who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.**
- Hebrews 5:8 - **Son though** he was, **he learned obedience from what he suffered**
- Hebrews 5:9 - **and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him**
- Hebrews 5:10 - **and was designated by** God to **be high** priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Warning Against Falling Away

- ¶ Hebrews 5:11 - **We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand.**
- Hebrews 5:12 - In **fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!**
- Hebrews 5:13 - **Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness.**

Hebrews 5:14 - **But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.**

Hebrews 6

- ¶ Hebrews 6:1 - **Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God,**
- Hebrews 6:2 - **instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.**
- Hebrews 6:3 - **And God permitting, we will do so.**
- ¶ Hebrews 6:4 - **It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit,**
- Hebrews 6:5 - **who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age**
- Hebrews 6:6 - **and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.**
- Hebrews 6:7 - **Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God.**
- Hebrews 6:8 - **But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned.**
- ¶ Hebrews 6:9 - **Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case--the things that have to do with salvation.**
- Hebrews 6:10 - **God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.**
- Hebrews 6:11 - **We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized.**
- Hebrews 6:12 - **We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.**

The Certainty of God's Promise

- ¶ Hebrews 6:13 - **When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself,**
- Hebrews 6:14 - **saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants."**
- Hebrews 6:15 - **And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.**
- ¶ Hebrews 6:16 - **People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument.**
- Hebrews 6:17 - **Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath.**
- Hebrews 6:18 - **God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged.**
- Hebrews 6:19 - **We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,**
- Hebrews 6:20 - **where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.**
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Hebrews 7

Melchizedek the Priest

- ¶ Hebrews 7:1 - **This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him,**
- Hebrews 7:2 - **and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, the name Melchizedek means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace."**
- Hebrews 7:3 - **Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.**
- ¶ Hebrews 7:4 - **Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder!**
- Hebrews 7:5 - **Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people--that is, from their fellow Israelites--even though they also are descended from Abraham.**

- Hebrews 7:6 - **This man, however, did not trace his descent from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.**
- Hebrews 7:7 - And **without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater.**
- Hebrews 7:8 - In the **one case**, the **tenth is collected by people who die**; but in the **other case**, by him who is **declared to be living.**
- Hebrews 7:9 - **One might even say that Levi, who collects the tenth, paid the tenth through Abraham,**
- Hebrews 7:10 - **because when Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was still in the body of his ancestor.**

Jesus Like Melchizedek

- ¶ Hebrews 7:11 - **If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood--and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood--why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron?**
- Hebrews 7:12 - **For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also.**
- Hebrews 7:13 - **He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar.**
- Hebrews 7:14 - For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.
- Hebrews 7:15 - And **what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears,**
- Hebrews 7:16 - one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the **power of an indestructible life.**
- Hebrews 7:17 - For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."
- ¶ Hebrews 7:18 - **The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless**
- Hebrews 7:19 - (for the **law made nothing perfect**), and a **better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.**
- ¶ Hebrews 7:20 - **And it was not without an oath! Others became priests without any oath,**
- Hebrews 7:21 - but he **became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.'"**
- ¶ Hebrews 7:22 - Because of **this oath, Jesus has become the guarantor of a better covenant.**
- ¶ Hebrews 7:23 - **Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office;**
- Hebrews 7:24 - but **because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood.**
- Hebrews 7:25 - **Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.**
- ¶ Hebrews 7:26 - **Such a high priest truly meets our need--one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.**
- Hebrews 7:27 - **Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.**
- Hebrews 7:28 - For the **law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness**; but the **oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.**

Hebrews 8

The High Priest of a New Covenant

- ¶ Hebrews 8:1 - **Now the main point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,**
- Hebrews 8:2 - and **who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by a mere human being.**
- ¶ Hebrews 8:3 - **Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer.**
- Hebrews 8:4 - If **he were on earth**, he would not be a priest, for there are **already priests who offer the gifts prescribed by the law.**
- Hebrews 8:5 - **They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."**
- Hebrews 8:6 - But in **fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.**
- ¶ Hebrews 8:7 - For **if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.**

- Hebrews 8:8 - But **God found fault with** the people **and said**: "**The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with** the people of **Israel and with the people of Judah.**"
- Hebrews 8:9 - It will not **be like** the covenant **I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt**, because they **did not remain faithful to my covenant**, and **I turned away from them, declares the Lord.**
- Hebrews 8:10 - This is the covenant I **will establish with** the people of **Israel after that time, declares the Lord.** I will **put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.** I will **be their God**, and they will be **my people.**
- Hebrews 8:11 - No **longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.**
- Hebrews 8:12 - **For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."**
- ¶ Hebrews 8:13 - **By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.**

Hebrews 9

Worship in the Earthly Tabernacle

- ¶ Hebrews 9:1 - Now the first **covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary.**
- Hebrews 9:2 - **A tabernacle was set up.** In its first room were the **lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called** the Holy Place.
- Hebrews 9:3 - **Behind the second curtain was a room called** the Most Holy Place,
- Hebrews 9:4 - **which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.**
- Hebrews 9:5 - **Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.**
- ¶ Hebrews 9:6 - **When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry.**
- Hebrews 9:7 - But only the high **priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.**
- Hebrews 9:8 - The Holy **Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning.**
- Hebrews 9:9 - This **is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper.**
- Hebrews 9:10 - They **are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings--external regulations applying until the time of the new order.**

The Blood of Christ

- ¶ Hebrews 9:11 - But when Christ **came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation.**
- Hebrews 9:12 - He did not **enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.**
- Hebrews 9:13 - The blood of goats **and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.**
- Hebrews 9:14 - **How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!**
- ¶ Hebrews 9:15 - For this **reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.**
- ¶ Hebrews 9:16 - In **the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it,**
- Hebrews 9:17 - **because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living.**
- Hebrews 9:18 - This is **why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood.**
- Hebrews 9:19 - **When Moses had proclaimed every command of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people.**
- Hebrews 9:20 - He **said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep."**

- Hebrews 9:21 - In the **same way**, he sprinkled with the **blood both** the **tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies**.
- Hebrews 9:22 - In **fact**, the law **requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness**.
- ¶ Hebrews 9:23 - It was **necessary, then**, for the **copies** of the heavenly **things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these**.
- Hebrews 9:24 - For Christ did not **enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one**; he **entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence**.
- Hebrews 9:25 - **Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again** and again, the way the high **priest enters** the Most Holy **Place every year with blood that is not his own**.
- Hebrews 9:26 - **Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world**. But he **has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself**.
- Hebrews 9:27 - **Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment**,
- Hebrews 9:28 - **so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him**.

Hebrews 10

Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

- ¶ Hebrews 10:1 - The **law is only a shadow** of the good **things** that are **coming--not the realities themselves**. For this **reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship**.
- Hebrews 10:2 - **Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins**.
- Hebrews 10:3 - **But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins**.
- Hebrews 10:4 - It is **impossible** for the **blood of bulls and goats** to take away sins.
- ¶ Hebrews 10:5 - **Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;**
- Hebrews 10:6 - **with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased**.
- Hebrews 10:7 - **Then I said, 'Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll-- I have come to do your will, my God.'**"
- ¶ Hebrews 10:8 - First he **said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"--though they were offered in accordance with the law**.
- Hebrews 10:9 - Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your **will**." **He sets aside the first to establish the second**.
- Hebrews 10:10 - And **by that will**, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus **Christ once** for all.
- ¶ Hebrews 10:11 - Day after **day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins**.
- Hebrews 10:12 - But **when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God**,
- Hebrews 10:13 - and **since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool**.
- Hebrews 10:14 - For **by one sacrifice** he has made perfect **forever those** who are being made holy.
- ¶ Hebrews 10:15 - The Holy **Spirit also testifies to us about this**. First he says:
- ¶ Hebrews 10:16 - "This is the covenant I will **make with them after that time, says the Lord**. I will **put my laws** in their **hearts, and I will write** them on their **minds**."
- ¶ Hebrews 10:17 - Then **he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more"**.
- ¶ Hebrews 10:18 - **And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary**.

A Call to Persevere in Faith

- ¶ Hebrews 10:19 - **Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus**,
- Hebrews 10:20 - by a **new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body**,
- Hebrews 10:21 - and since we have a **great priest over the house of God**,
- Hebrews 10:22 - let **us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water**.
- Hebrews 10:23 - Let us **hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful**.
- Hebrews 10:24 - And let **us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds**,

- Hebrews 10:25 - **not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.**
- ¶ Hebrews 10:26 - **If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left,**
- Hebrews 10:27 - **but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.**
- Hebrews 10:28 - **Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.**
- Hebrews 10:29 - **How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?**
- Hebrews 10:30 - **For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people."**
- Hebrews 10:31 - **It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**
- ¶ Hebrews 10:32 - **Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering.**
- Hebrews 10:33 - **Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated.**
- Hebrews 10:34 - **You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.**
- Hebrews 10:35 - **So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.**
- ¶ Hebrews 10:36 - **You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.**
- Hebrews 10:37 - **For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay."**
- ¶ Hebrews 10:38 - **And, "But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back."**
- ¶ Hebrews 10:39 - **But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.**

Hebrews 11

Faith in Action

- ¶ Hebrews 11:1 - **Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.**
- Hebrews 11:2 - **This is what the ancients were commended for.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:3 - **By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:4 - **By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:5 - **By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.**
- Hebrews 11:6 - **And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:7 - **By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:8 - **By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.**
- Hebrews 11:9 - **By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.**
- Hebrews 11:10 - **For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.**
- Hebrews 11:11 - **And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.**
- Hebrews 11:12 - **And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:13 - **All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.**
- Hebrews 11:14 - **People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.**

- Hebrews 11:15 - If they had **been thinking of the country they had left, they** would have **had opportunity to return.**
- Hebrews 11:16 - **Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore** God is not **ashamed to be called their** God, for he **has prepared a city for** them.
- ¶ Hebrews 11:17 - By faith Abraham, when **God tested him, offered Isaac as** a sacrifice. He who **had embraced the promises was** about to **sacrifice his one and only son,**
- Hebrews 11:18 - even **though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."**
- Hebrews 11:19 - **Abraham reasoned that God could even raise** the dead, and **so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back** from death.
- ¶ Hebrews 11:20 - By faith **Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:21 - By faith **Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:22 - By faith **Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:23 - By faith **Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:24 - By faith **Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as** the son of **Pharaoh's daughter.**
- Hebrews 11:25 - **He chose to be mistreated along** with the people of **God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.**
- Hebrews 11:26 - **He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of** Egypt, because he was **looking ahead to his reward.**
- Hebrews 11:27 - By faith **he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.**
- Hebrews 11:28 - By faith **he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:29 - By faith the **people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:30 - By faith **the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:31 - By faith **the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:32 - And **what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets,**
- Hebrews 11:33 - who through **faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions,**
- Hebrews 11:34 - **quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.**
- Hebrews 11:35 - **Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection.**
- Hebrews 11:36 - **Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.**
- Hebrews 11:37 - They were **put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated--**
- Hebrews 11:38 - **the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.**
- ¶ Hebrews 11:39 - **These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised,**
- Hebrews 11:40 - **since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.**

Hebrews 12

- ¶ Hebrews 12:1 - Therefore, since we **are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,**
- Hebrews 12:2 - **fixing our eyes on** Jesus, the **pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**
- Hebrews 12:3 - **Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

God Disciplines His Children

- ¶ Hebrews 12:4 - In **your struggle against sin, you** have not **yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.**

- Hebrews 12:5 - **And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,**
- Hebrews 12:6 - **because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."**
- ¶ Hebrews 12:7 - **Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?**
- Hebrews 12:8 - **If you are not disciplined--and everyone undergoes discipline--then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.**
- Hebrews 12:9 - **Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live!**
- Hebrews 12:10 - **They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness.**
- Hebrews 12:11 - **No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.**
- ¶ Hebrews 12:12 - **Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees.**
- Hebrews 12:13 - **"Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.**

Warning and Encouragement

- ¶ Hebrews 12:14 - **Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.**
- Hebrews 12:15 - **See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.**
- Hebrews 12:16 - **See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.**
- Hebrews 12:17 - **Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.**

The Mountain of Fear and the Mountain of Joy

- ¶ Hebrews 12:18 - **You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm;**
- Hebrews 12:19 - **to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them,**
- Hebrews 12:20 - **because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death."**
- Hebrews 12:21 - **The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."**
- ¶ Hebrews 12:22 - **But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly,**
- Hebrews 12:23 - **to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,**
- Hebrews 12:24 - **to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.**
- ¶ Hebrews 12:25 - **See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven?**
- Hebrews 12:26 - **At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens."**
- Hebrews 12:27 - **The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken--that is, created things--so that what cannot be shaken may remain.**
- ¶ Hebrews 12:28 - **Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,**
- Hebrews 12:29 - **for our "God is a consuming fire."**

Hebrews 13

Concluding Exhortations

- ¶ Hebrews 13:1 - **Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.**

- Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to **show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.**
- Hebrews 13:3 - **Continue** to remember those in **prison as if you were together with them** in prison, and those who **are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:4 - **Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.**
- Hebrews 13:5 - **Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:6 - So **we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:7 - **Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.**
- Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the **same yesterday and today and forever.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:9 - Do not be **carried away** by all **kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so.**
- Hebrews 13:10 - We have **an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:11 - The **high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.**
- Hebrews 13:12 - And so **Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.**
- Hebrews 13:13 - Let us, **then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.**
- Hebrews 13:14 - **For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:15 - Through **Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.**
- Hebrews 13:16 - And do not forget to do good and to **share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:17 - Have confidence in your leaders **and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:18 - **Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.**
- Hebrews 13:19 - **I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.**

Benediction and Final Greetings

- ¶ Hebrews 13:20 - **Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep,**
- Hebrews 13:21 - **equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:22 - Brothers and **sisters, I urge you to bear with my word of exhortation, for in fact I have written to you quite briefly.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:23 - I **want you to know that our brother Timothy has been released. If he arrives soon, I will come with him to see you.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:24 - **Greet all your leaders and all the Lord's people. Those from Italy send you their greetings.**
- ¶ Hebrews 13:25 - **Grace be with you all.**

1 Peter 1

- ¶ 1 Peter 1:1 - **Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia,**
- 1 Peter 1:2 - who have **been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.**

Praise to God for a Living Hope

- ¶ 1 Peter 1:3 - **Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**
- 1 Peter 1:4 - **and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,**
- 1 Peter 1:5 - who through **faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.**

- 1 Peter 1:6 - In **all this you greatly rejoice**, though now for a **little while you may have** had to **suffer grief** in all **kinds of trials**.
- 1 Peter 1:7 - These have **come so** that **the proven genuineness** of your faith--of **greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire**--may result in **praise, glory** and **honor** when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- 1 Peter 1:8 - Though you have **not seen him, you love him**; and even though you do not **see him now**, you believe in him and **are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy**,
- 1 Peter 1:9 - for you are **receiving the end result** of your faith, the **salvation** of your **souls**.
- ¶ 1 Peter 1:10 - **Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care,**
- 1 Peter 1:11 - **trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow.**
- 1 Peter 1:12 - It was **revealed to them** that they were **not serving themselves** but you, when **they spoke** of the things that **have now been told** you by **those** who **have preached the gospel** to you by the Holy **Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.**

Be Holy

- ¶ 1 Peter 1:13 - **Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on** the grace to be **brought to** you when Jesus Christ is **revealed at his coming**.
- 1 Peter 1:14 - **As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.**
- 1 Peter 1:15 - **But just** as he who **called you** is **holy**, so be **holy** in all you do;
- 1 Peter 1:16 - for it is **written: "Be holy, because I am holy."**
- ¶ 1 Peter 1:17 - **Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.**
- 1 Peter 1:18 - For you **know that it** was not **with perishable things such as silver or gold** that you **were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you** from your **ancestors**,
- 1 Peter 1:19 - **but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.**
- 1 Peter 1:20 - He **was chosen before** the **creation** of the **world, but was** revealed in these **last times for your sake**.
- 1 Peter 1:21 - Through him you believe in **God, who raised him** from the dead **and glorified him**, and **so your faith and hope are** in God.
- ¶ 1 Peter 1:22 - Now that you **have purified yourselves by obeying the truth** so that you **have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart**.
- 1 Peter 1:23 - For you have **been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word** of God.
- 1 Peter 1:24 - For, **"All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall,**
- 1 Peter 1:25 - but the word of the **Lord endures forever."** And this is the **word that was preached to you**.

1 Peter 2

- ¶ 1 Peter 2:1 - **Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.**
- 1 Peter 2:2 - **Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,**
- 1 Peter 2:3 - now that you have **tasted that the Lord** is good.

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

- ¶ 1 Peter 2:4 - As **you come** to him, the **living Stone**--**rejected by humans but chosen by God** and **precious to him**--
- 1 Peter 2:5 - you **also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house** to be a **holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ**.
- 1 Peter 2:6 - For **in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:7 - Now to you **who believe, this stone is precious. But** to those who do not believe, **"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:8 - and, **"A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."** They **stumble because they disobey the message**--which is also **what they were destined for**.
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a **chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises** of him who called you **out of darkness into his wonderful light**.
- 1 Peter 2:10 - Once you were not **a people**, but now you are the people of **God; once you had not received mercy, but** now you have received mercy.

Living Godly Lives in a Pagan Society

- ¶ 1 Peter 2:11 - **Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.**
- 1 Peter 2:12 - **Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:13 - Submit yourselves for the **Lord's sake** to every **human authority**: **whether** to the emperor, as the **supreme authority**,
- 1 Peter 2:14 - **or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.**
- 1 Peter 2:15 - For it is God's **will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.**
- 1 Peter 2:16 - Live **as free people**, but do **not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil**; live as God's slaves.
- 1 Peter 2:17 - **Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:18 - **Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.**
- 1 Peter 2:19 - For it is **commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.**
- 1 Peter 2:20 - **But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.**
- 1 Peter 2:21 - To this you were **called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:22 - **"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."**
- ¶ 1 Peter 2:23 - When **they hurled their insults at him**, he **did not retaliate**; when he **suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.**
- 1 Peter 2:24 - **"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."**
- 1 Peter 2:25 - For "you **were like sheep going astray**," but now you **have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

1 Peter 3

- ¶ 1 Peter 3:1 - **Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives,**
- 1 Peter 3:2 - when **they see the purity and reverence of your lives.**
- 1 Peter 3:3 - **Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes.**
- 1 Peter 3:4 - **Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.**
- 1 Peter 3:5 - For this is the way the **holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves. They submitted themselves to their own husbands,**
- 1 Peter 3:6 - **like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 3:7 - **Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.**

Suffering for Doing Good

- ¶ 1 Peter 3:8 - **Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.**
- 1 Peter 3:9 - **Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.**
- 1 Peter 3:10 - **For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech.**
- 1 Peter 3:11 - They **must turn from evil** and do **good**; they must **seek peace and pursue it.**
- 1 Peter 3:12 - For the **eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."**
- ¶ 1 Peter 3:13 - Who is **going to harm you if you are eager to do good?**
- 1 Peter 3:14 - **But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened."**

- 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,
- 1 Peter 3:16 - keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.
- 1 Peter 3:17 - For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.
- 1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.
- 1 Peter 3:19 - After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits--
- 1 Peter 3:20 - to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,
- 1 Peter 3:21 - and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
- 1 Peter 3:22 - who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

1 Peter 4

Living for God

- ¶ 1 Peter 4:1 - Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin.
- 1 Peter 4:2 - As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.
- 1 Peter 4:3 - For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.
- 1 Peter 4:4 - They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you.
- 1 Peter 4:5 - But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.
- 1 Peter 4:6 - For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.
- ¶ 1 Peter 4:7 - The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.
- 1 Peter 4:8 - Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.
- 1 Peter 4:9 - Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.
- 1 Peter 4:10 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
- 1 Peter 4:11 - If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffering for Being a Christian

- ¶ 1 Peter 4:12 - Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
- 1 Peter 4:13 - But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.
- 1 Peter 4:14 - If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.
- 1 Peter 4:15 - If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler.
- 1 Peter 4:16 - However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.
- 1 Peter 4:17 - For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?
- 1 Peter 4:18 - And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"
- ¶ 1 Peter 4:19 - So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 5

To the Elders and the Flock

- ¶ 1 Peter 5:1 - To **the elders among** you, I **appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share** in the **glory to be revealed**:
- 1 Peter 5:2 - **Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over** them--**not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve**;
- 1 Peter 5:3 - **not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.**
- 1 Peter 5:4 - **And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 5:5 - In the same **way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."**
- ¶ 1 Peter 5:6 - **Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.**
- 1 Peter 5:7 - **Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 5:8 - Be **alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.**
- 1 Peter 5:9 - **Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 5:10 - **And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.**
- 1 Peter 5:11 - To him be the **power** for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Final Greetings

- ¶ 1 Peter 5:12 - With **the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.**
- ¶ 1 Peter 5:13 - **She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.**
- 1 Peter 5:14 - **Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.**

2 Peter 1

- ¶ 2 Peter 1:1 - **Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:**
- ¶ 2 Peter 1:2 - **Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.**

Confirming One's Calling and Election

- ¶ 2 Peter 1:3 - **His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.**
- 2 Peter 1:4 - **Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 1:5 - **For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;**
- 2 Peter 1:6 - **and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;**
- 2 Peter 1:7 - **and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.**
- 2 Peter 1:8 - **For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- 2 Peter 1:9 - **But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 1:10 - **Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,**
- 2 Peter 1:11 - **and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Prophecy of Scripture

- ¶ 2 Peter 1:12 - **So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have.**
- 2 Peter 1:13 - **I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body,**
- 2 Peter 1:14 - **because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.**
- 2 Peter 1:15 - **And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.**

- ¶ 2 Peter 1:16 - For **we did not follow cleverly devised stories** when we told you about the **coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ **in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.**
- 2 Peter 1:17 - **He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."**
- 2 Peter 1:18 - **We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 1:19 - We **also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.**
- 2 Peter 1:20 - **Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things.**
- 2 Peter 1:21 - **For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

2 Peter 2

False Teachers and Their Destruction

- ¶ 2 Peter 2:1 - But there **were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them--bringing swift destruction on themselves.**
- 2 Peter 2:2 - **Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute.**
- 2 Peter 2:3 - **In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 2:4 - For **if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment;**
- 2 Peter 2:5 - **if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others;**
- 2 Peter 2:6 - **if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly;**
- 2 Peter 2:7 - **and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless**
- 2 Peter 2:8 - **(for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)--**
- 2 Peter 2:9 - **if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment.**
- 2 Peter 2:10 - **This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh and despise authority. Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings;**
- 2 Peter 2:11 - **yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not heap abuse on such beings when bringing judgment on them from the Lord.**
- 2 Peter 2:12 - **But these people blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like unreasoning animals, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 2:13 - They will **be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you.**
- 2 Peter 2:14 - **With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed--an accursed brood!**
- 2 Peter 2:15 - They **have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Bezer, who loved the wages of wickedness.**
- 2 Peter 2:16 - But he **was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey--an animal without speech--who spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.**
- ¶ 2 Peter 2:17 - These people **are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them.**
- 2 Peter 2:18 - **For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error.**
- 2 Peter 2:19 - **They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity--for "people are slaves to whatever has mastered them."**
- 2 Peter 2:20 - **If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.**

- 2 Peter 2:21 - **It would** have **been better** for them not to have **known the way of righteousness**, **than** to have **known it** and **then to turn their backs on** the **sacred command that was passed on to** them.
- 2 Peter 2:22 - **Of them the proverbs are true**: "**A dog returns to its vomit**," and, "**A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud**."
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2 Peter 3

The Day of the Lord

- ¶ 2 Peter 3:1 - Dear **friends**, **this is now my second letter** to you. I have **written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking**.
- 2 Peter 3:2 - I **want** you to **recall the words spoken in the past** by the **holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:3 - **Above** all, you **must** understand that in the **last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires**.
- 2 Peter 3:4 - They **will say**, "**Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation**."
- 2 Peter 3:5 - But **they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water**.
- 2 Peter 3:6 - **By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed**.
- 2 Peter 3:7 - By the **same word** the **present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:8 - But do not **forget this one thing, dear friends**: With the **Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day**.
- 2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is **not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:10 - But the day of the Lord will **come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:11 - **Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives**
- 2 Peter 3:12 - as **you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat**.
- 2 Peter 3:13 - But in keeping with his **promise we** are looking forward to a **new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:14 - So **then, dear friends**, since you are looking forward to **this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace** with him.
- 2 Peter 3:15 - **Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him**.
- 2 Peter 3:16 - **He writes** the same way in all his **letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction**.
- ¶ 2 Peter 3:17 - **Therefore, dear friends**, since you have **been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position**.
- 2 Peter 3:18 - **But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen**.