

Unchangeable God

By: Todd Hershberger on August 3rd

Today's Reading: Hebrews 6

Key Verse: Hebrews 6:18

So that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. '

Is there anything worse than someone breaking a promise, or lying? Parents break promises to their kids, Husbands break promises to wives, it's hurtful when someone you love breaks a promise. Many of us have felt that pain and discouragement.

Today, we read in Hebrews 6 that we have a God that never lies and is unchangeable. Here's what that means for you.

- God will never lie. Everything God has promised in the bible is true. The promise of comfort and peace, strength and provision, presence and hope. All these promises are true and will never be broken. God will never lie.
- God is unchangeable. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Because of whom God is, we can run to him for refuge. When life is hard, when people let us down, when we don't know how we're going to wake up and face the day, God is our refuge. God is unchangeable, His promises are always true. Because of Gods promises, we have hope. There is hope today in the unchangeable God.

Prayer: Thank you, Jesus, for being an unchangeable refuge for me. I run to you today for your promises and for hope. Help me to seek after you today and not live in my own power. Remind me today that when I am weak, you are strong. Thank you for the hope we have in you. Amen

Tomorrows Reading: Hebrews 7

Jesus is Greater

By Todd Hershberger on August 4th

Today's Reading: Hebrews 7

Key Verse: Hebrews 7:28

For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a son who has been made perfect forever.

All they knew was the law, the lineage of the High Priests. They came from the same bloodline and were chosen based off their lineage. Hebrews 7 shakes things up when discussing Jesus as the High Priest. The law versus the Lion of Judah.

Hebrews 7 gives us a reminder of who we place our trust in. Jesus is blameless, holy, sinless, the ultimate sacrifice, the perfect high priest. This is a reminder to us of who Jesus is in comparison to man. The son of God is everything we need in our lives. Jesus over everything. When we try to replace Jesus in our lives with people, careers, hobbies, and entertainment, there will be no fulfillment. Jesus is greater. Not only is He the High priest, but He is the High Priest that loves us. Jesus is greater than the law. Jesus is greater than traditions. Jesus is greater than man. Jesus is greater than everything. Jesus is the answer.

Prayer: Father, help me to realize in my life that you are everything I need. Forgive me for putting my trust in other things and people. May I realize in a fresh way today that you are all I need. Thank you for loving me enough to send Jesus as the ultimate sacrifice. Amen

Tomorrow's Reading: Hebrews 8

New Covenant – New Life

By Todd Hershberger on August 5th

Today's Reading: Hebrews 8

Jesus Changes Everything. Yes, we talked about this yesterday but today is a continuation of Jesus being the difference maker. Today, we see the old covenant versus the new covenant.

The Old Covenant was thundered with fear and dread at Mount Sinai. Jesus Christ, God the Son, declared the New Covenant with love and grace

Moses mediated the Old Covenant - Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant.

The Old Covenant *demand*ed a covenant of works · The New Covenant *fulfills* the covenant of works through the completed work of Jesus

The Old Covenant was dedicated with the blood of animals sprinkled on the people. The New Covenant was dedicated with Jesus' blood,

The Old Covenant demanded endless repetition of imperfect sacrifices. The New Covenant provides a once and for all, perfect sacrifice of the Son of God Himself.

The goal of the Old Covenant was to discover sin, to condemn it, and to set a "fence" around it. The goal of the New Covenant is to declare the love, grace, and mercy of God, and to give repentance, remission of sin, and eternal life.

The Old Covenant was designed to prepare the way for the New Covenant and then pass away as a principle of God's dealing with men. The New Covenant was designed to last forever

Thank you, Jesus, for the new covenant! We can live free under His grace, mercy, and forgiveness. You don't have to be held captive in sin, in traditions, or in rules. A relationship with Jesus under the new covenant allows us to live freely. Are you living free? God has made a way through Jesus for us to have freedom.

Prayer: God, thank you for the new covenant full of grace and mercy because of Jesus. May my life reflect the new covenant. Give me the ability to discern freedom from traditions and rules, and the strength to walk in it. God, thank you for just another reminder of how powerful Jesus is. Thank you for your love for me. Amen

Tomorrow's Reading: Hebrews 9

Eagerly Waiting

By Todd Hershberger on August 6th

Today's Reading: Hebrews 9

Key Verses: Hebrews 9:27,28

27And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, 28so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Death is coming! Sounds morbid, I know. As I have aged and dealt with the death of my parents, death has become more of a reality. These verses share some truths, and hope, for us.

We will all die. Reminds me of some Chuck Norris jokes, but even he died. It's inevitable, we all die.

We don't know the day or time.

Psalm. 90:10 The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Death is not the end. Following death will come the judgment. Paul reminds us that we must "all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10). And that "each of us will give an account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12)

We can face death eagerly when we belong to Christ.

"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7)

One writer stated, "Death is nothing to fear, but it is something to prepare for."

We must not fear death but prepare for it. In the previous chapters (Hebrews 7,8,9) we have seen how Jesus has changed everything. That includes death and eternity. We have the hope of heaven before us; we have nothing to fear as believers in Christ.

"The hope of heaven before me, the grave behind. Hallelujah, you brought me back to life."

Prayer: God, death can be so hard, but we have hope in you. Thank you for the hope of Christ even in the face of death. Father, may I live in preparation for eternity. Help me to be kingdom minded as I go about my days. Thank you, Father, for the hope we have in Christ Jesus. Amen

Tomorrow's Reading: Hebrews 10