



Prairie Rose EMC, Feb. 14, 2021 Pastor Mike - Hebrews 12 & 13



A brief review of Hebrews

Beliefs:

Habits:

- Jesus is Greater
- See with our ears Sincere Worship
- Covenant
- God is faithful
- Confident Prayer
- Patient Discipline
- Commitment to community life

Hebrews 12 - Running a Race.

- Vs. 1 instructs us to run with Perseverance.
- Vs. 2 instructs us to "fix our eyes on Jesus" while we're running.
- Vs. 3 urges us to focus our thoughts on the race Jesus ran so we don't grow weary in ours.
- Vs. 4-11 gives us the training plan. "We are to endure hardship as discipline".
- Vs. 12-13 inspire us to get healthy and get back in the race.
- Vs. 14-17 there's something ahead that could throw us off track and that something is worldliness.
- Vs. 18-24 a comparison of two mountains.
- Vs. 25-29 warning against failing to run



¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Rom. 12:1



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, for our "God is a consuming fire."
Heb. 12:28

Hebrew 13

What Worship looks like:

1. Practice hospitality (vs. 1-3)

a. show love

b. love the stranger

"Let phila-delphia (brotherly love) continue;

do not neglect to philo-xenia (show love to strangers).

"Nothing has contributed to the progress of the superstition of the Christians as their charity to strangers... these godless Galileans provide for not only their own poor but ours as well."

Emperor Julian

Our hospitality is probably one of our most persuasive apologetics!

Our mission as a church is to turn strangers into friends and eventually family.

c. remember those in prison

2. Avoid immorality (vs. 4)

⁴ Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the <u>adulterer</u> and all the <u>sexually immoral</u>.

"People in the world are promiscuous with their beds and stingy with their money; Christians are stingy with their beds but promiscuous with their money." Augustine – "The City of God"

3. Flee materialism (vs. 5&6)

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." ⁶ So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

4. Honor the Church (vs. 7-19)

- a. Observe the life of your leaders and imitate their faith. (7)
- b. The message of the gospel does not change. (8-10
- c. Is the church going outside the camp? (11-14)

"Some people want to live in the sound of chapel bells;

I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell." C.T. Studd

"If you died tomorrow, and we did your funeral, and only church people showed up,

how could you call yourself the "friend of sinners,' like Jesus?"

d. Worship should be centered on God. (15)

e. Worship is seen through our generosity, both inside and outside the church. (16)

f. Obey your church leaders and submit to them. (17)

g. Pray for your leaders. (18)

²⁰ 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,

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.