

Fix Your Thoughts on Jesus *Hebrews 3:1 -6*

This section is written to partakers of a heavenly calling, who desired a heavenly country (11:6), and who had come to the heavenly Jerusalem (12:22). All of these blessings show the superiority of Christianity over Judaism. Judaism was an earthly calling with an earthly inheritance. Christianity is a spiritual and heavenly calling with a spiritual and heavenly inheritance. It is, therefore, far superior.

Paul said, 'I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ... For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Phil. 3:14, 20). Our true home is in heaven and we live spiritually right now in heavenly places (Eph. 1:3; 2:6). As true believer we are brothers of Jesus by position and are thereby holy. We are only strangers and pilgrims on earth. Our bodies are in this world but we do not really belong here. The writer of Hebrews is saying to his Christian Jewish readers, 'You are citizens of the heavenlies, so why don't you let go of the earthly things?' MacArthur

- I. A sure way to think like Jesus thinks is to fix our thoughts on him. If we have been given the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16), then why think like the world does. Its thinking is subjective with an everchanging godless standard that demands we live by it or else. We must fix our thoughts on Jesus to keep ourselves from being sucked into its philosophy. The Lord gives us an objective standard to live by that never changes. Its direction gives us a clear understanding of how to live our lives apart from the evil, godless, sick mindset of the world and its wicked ways.

Heb. 3:1

Heb. 1:3,9

Heb. 2:14

Prov. 14:12

Heb. 2:17-18

Lk. 12:24

Heb. 7:25

Col. 3:1-4

κατανοέω katanoéō, to perceive, remark, observe, understand, to consider attentively, fix one's eyes or mind upon

Isaiah 50:7 Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

- II. Upon salvation, Jesus began to conform us more and more into his likeness. He put a lot of thought, planning, pricing, ordering, coordinating, site work and the putting together of our lives to make us holy brothers and sisters who share in the heavenly calling. His faithfulness to us as the chief builder of our lives assures that our lowly bodies will be transformed to be like his glorious body. This truth alone should put in us strong desire to fix our thoughts on him. It is far better to be transformed by Jesus than to be transformed by the world.

Heb. 3:2-5

Ex. 34:29-30

Philippians 3:20-21 *20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the LORD Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.*

Rom. 8:28-29 *28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

- III. Courage and hope are two very important parts of living well in God's spiritual house while here on earth. We are permanent residents of the house he built for us. His house gives us a place for our heart, mind, and soul to find refuge, safety, and rest from the ever-shifting subjective standard of the world. We live there now, and nothing this world says and does can tear it down or take it away from us. To minimize its existence and our part in it, puts us in danger of losing the courage and hope needed to stand firm in the faith. What the Lord wants is for us to stay confident in knowing that he is the builder of our lives, a builder who takes care of and values us very much.

Heb. 3:6

1 Peter 2:4-5 *As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*