

Hebrews 12:18-29 "From Trembling to Triumph"
7/12/2026 Calvary Chapel Titusville
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For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") (Hebrews 12:18-21 NKJV)

Two characteristics of the old covenant:

- 1) Sinful man cannot enter the presence of a Holy God
- 2) It was based on a holy, reverent fear of the Lord

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. 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. 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 4:14-16)

Fear brings a temporary holiness... Once that fear fades, so does the pursuit of holiness..

The Lord is slow to anger but great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished... (Nahum 1:3a)

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 3:9 NIV)
He is both; full of grace & mercy as well as divine in judgment & righteousness.

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:16-17)

Jesus is worthy of all of our praise and all of our worship.

.. being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; (Philippians 1:6)

God is going to continue to shape us into the image of Jesus.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, (Hebrews 12:22-23 NKJV)

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior... Your inheritance is that of the firstborn.

.. and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. (Romans 8:17)

.. to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:4)

The beautiful promises of God are everlasting! They will not fail, they will not fade away.

to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. (Hebrews 12:24 NKJV)

Abel's blood cries out and testifies against the sinner... Jesus' blood atones for the sinner.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

When we receive that radical love, it compels us to a place of worship and reverence...

See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, (Hebrews 12:25 NKJV)

Another warning from Hebrews: Do not refuse Him who speaks.

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him. (John 14:21)

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. (Matthew 7:21)

Obedience is not a choice, it is the very thing we are called to do

whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. (Hebrews 12:26-27 NKJV)

What are the shakeable things in this life?

- The temporary things, material things (governments, financial security, health)

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)

The danger is holding tightly to the fleeting pleasures of this world

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (Philippians 4:8)

Cling to the eternal things; the Word of God, the promises of God, our labor in the Lord...

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. (Hebrews 12:28 NKJV)

Everything we do should be an overflow of what the Lord has already given us.

For our God is a consuming fire. (Hebrews 12:29 NKJV)

Two choices; either burned in judgement or purified by the fire

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

