

STUDY NOTES

HEBREWS: A PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE FAITH

A Series At New City Church

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message "Jesus Is Our Better Master" on 2/2/20 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this study guide effectively, you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 2:5-10

EVERYTHING SUBMITS TO JESUS

The writer of Hebrews makes it very clear that everything is in subjection to Jesus. Whether in this life, or in the future, everything and everyone will submit to Jesus. However, right now, we live in a tension. While Jesus is King over everything, sin is still here. Followers of Jesus experience hope for the future, but still live in the present where sin has its effects — leading to tension.

The world is groaning in tension because it is filled with sin even though it wasn't created for sin.

Christians are constantly faced with a choice: we can either submit to sin or we can submit to Jesus. The writer of Hebrews points to Jesus as the better master.

- *What are some different things that we constantly find ourselves submitting to other than Jesus?*

WE GET TO SEE THE BETTER MASTER

Jesus is a better master because he didn't stay far away. He chose to come near us. On one hand, He is the God of the universe who created all things. On the other hand, He humbled Himself to walk on the earth with us. The writer of Hebrews says that the world is not as it should be, but the comfort that we get in the present is

that we get to see Jesus. In Jesus, we have everything that we need to face the pain and tension.

Jesus chose to enter into our tension with us.

- *In what ways do we usually want Jesus to fix our problems, rather than seeing Him as enough for us regardless of the situation that we are in?*

SHARING IN THE PAIN

Read Hebrews 2:10-13. The writer of Hebrews highlights how Jesus enters into the tension of the world. But Jesus took it a step further. Jesus not only entered into the pain, He shared in the pain with us. He shared in our suffering so that we could belong with Him.

Jesus shared in our pain so that we could share in the benefits of His family.

- *On one hand, we need to see Jesus as Creator of the universe. But, on the other hand, we need to see Jesus as close as a family member. How do you need to see Jesus as the perfect brother?*

BONUS GIFTS THAT WE RECEIVE

While we were given the grace of God as a gift, there are secondary gifts that come with it as well. Hebrews expands on the benefits that we receive. **Read Hebrews 2:14-18.**

The first bonus gift that we receive is that we are delivered from the fear of death because Jesus overcame death. We constantly live in fear of death and we get angry because we feel threatened. We withhold our generosity because we are afraid of not having enough. We compare ourselves to others because we are afraid of being worthless. All of these are manifestations of fearing death. Jesus suffered on our behalf to liberate us from these fears.

Jesus sets us free.

The second bonus gift that we receive is confidence that Jesus will run to our aid in any trial. The words used by the writer of Hebrews invokes Jesus running to our aid like a first responder.

Jesus runs to our aid.

- *How do you need to hear that Jesus has set you free from unfulfilling masters?*
- *How do you need to hear that Jesus runs to your aid today?*
- *Pray with each other to see that Jesus is our better master.*