

greatest leader

greater than | week two

post falls campus | august 13th & 16th | sam meredith



REVIEW

- A letter to a persecuted church – Christians facing hardship, trial and the temptation to go back to what they knew (Judaism)
- This letter is an encouragement, an exhortation, to keep our eyes on Jesus. He is the Greatest!
 - o Last week – Jesus is the Greatest Message and Messenger
 - o Warning: Don't passively drift away – stay anchored, tied up to Jesus – stay intentional

PREVIEW

- Today – Jesus is the Greatest Leader – greater than Moses, a faithful leader of the Old Testament
- Warning – don't harden your heart like the Israelites did in unbelief – they didn't experience the promised land – the rest God had planned for them because they resisted God's word
- Practical steps to keeping our heart soft before the Lord – rhythms of genuine Christian relationship, consistent time in God's Word and bold, desperate prayer

1. Jesus is the Greatest Leader (Hebrews 3:1-6)

Hebrews 3:1-3 (NLT) And so, dear brothers and sisters who belong to God and^[a] are partners with those called to heaven, think carefully about this Jesus whom we declare to be God's messenger^[b] and High Priest.² For he was faithful to God, who appointed him, just as Moses served faithfully when he was entrusted with God's entire^[c] house.³ But Jesus deserves far more glory than Moses, just as a person who builds a house deserves more praise than the house itself.

- Consider attentively – focus on this Jesus – eyes on Him (Heb 12:2-3)
- Jesus is Greater Than Moses – deserves more glory – He is the Son, over God's household
- We are God's house, "if"... we keep our courage and confident hope to the end

2. Don't harden your heart (Heb 3:7-19)

Hebrews 3:12-14 (NLT) ¹² Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters.^[f] Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³ You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. ¹⁴ For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

- Personally and collectively, we need to help each other not be deceived by sin and hardened against God and His ways
- Proximity now doesn't guarantee finishing well then
- Unbelief is the basis of all sin (v19) and keeps us from entering God's rest – His plans, His peace

3. Practices that keep our hearts soft

Hebrews 3:13 (NLT) “You must warn each other every day...”

- Real relationship. Being honest, transparent, humble, and receptive. Not defensive.
- Jesus is the Greatest example of real relationship. (mercy, truth, gentle, confronts, weeps, etc)

Hebrews 4:12-13 (NLT) For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

- In the Word, personally, collectively, daily. Inviting His inner work of exposing our true motives.
- Jesus is the Greatest example of submitting to God’s Word – “not My will but Yours be done”

Hebrews 4:14-16 (NLT) So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. ¹⁵ This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

- Draw near to God in confident prayer, to receive grace and mercy.
- Jesus is the Greatest person to turn to in our time of need. He understands. He cares. He will help!

Practical Application

1. What helps you focus intently on Jesus? (worship music, nature, silence, service, journaling, etc) What helps you be consistent? Any changes needed here?
2. Do you believe you can be deceived by sin and resist God and His ways? Are there areas you’re currently compromising and justifying sin? (sexual purity, greed, arrogance, white lies, etc)
3. Of the 3 heart-softening practices mentioned (fellowship, bible, prayer), which helps you the most? Which do you need to increase the frequency of?
4. Who is someone that needs some encouragement from you to not give up, to stay the course, and to stay faithful to the Lord to the end? How and when can you reach out to them? Pray for them.

