

“An Anchor Of The Soul”
Hebrews 6:13-20
2/8/26
Message 12

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “An Anchor Of The Soul”

- **Review**

- **Importance Of Hebrews**

- **1. Connecting the Testaments**

- Paul Quotes the OT –
- If you don’t understand the OT you will not be able to understand Hebrews

- **2. Jesus is Superior**

- Jesus is BETTER Than
 - The Prophets - Ch 1
 - The Angels - Ch 1-2
 - Moses - Ch 3
 - Joshua – Ch 4
 - The High Priest – Ch 5-9
 - The Tabernacle Ch 9
 - The Law & Sacrifices Ch 10

- **3. Encouragement - Don’t quit**

- The ultimate goal of the book

- To encourage those who are struggling with difficult times and help them to endure.

- **Last Time – “We Are Confident Of Better Things”**

- **1. The Reasons For The Confidence vv. 9-10**

- 1. Our Position In God’s Family v. 9
 - But Beloved
- 2. Our Possession Of Salvation v. 9b
 - We are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation
- 3. The Promise Of God v. 10
 - 1. Based On His Character v. 10a
 - God KNOWS what have done
 - It will not go unnoticed
 - 2. Based On Our Conduct v. 10b
 - SEEN Your work and labor of love...

- **2. The Resolve He Wants Them To Have vv. 11-12**

- 1. It Involves Diligence v. 11
- 2. It Involves Discipline v. 12a
 - That you do not become sluggish,
- 3. It Involves Discipleship v. 12b
 - But imitate those...

- **Now Paul is going onto give them an Example to Imitate**

- Abraham

- He will give Many More in Hebrews 11

- **Now This Morning 2 POWERFUL TRUTHS to An Anchor Of The Soul**

- Based On His GRACE v. 15
- Based On His GREATNESS vv. 13-20

Based On His GRACE v. 15

- **1. Seen In The Life Of Abraham v. 15**

Hebrews 6:15 (NKJV)

15 *And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

- **1. Question? Was Abraham Patient?**

- **How does this verse line up with account of Abraham's life in Genesis?**

- What do we See?

- Mr. Faith
- Mr. Endurance
- Mr. Trust in the Lord
- He just patiently endured...

- Wait a minute...

- That is not what we see

- We See a man who had GREAT moments

- BUT we also see a man who stumbled and fell
- This is WHY the first point to AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL is
 - BASED on God's GRACE
 - God MADE Abraham the PROMISE
 - Abraham – was not patient – he ran ahead of God
 - YET because of the PROMISE God made
 - It was up to God to keep it
 - This is where GRACE comes in
- **2. A Brief Account of what Happened**
 - **1. What Abraham's Name means**
 - Abram – Original name = Exalted Father
 - Abraham – Name given to him by God = Father of a Multitude
 - YET He did not have ANY Children...
 - **2. God appeared to Abraham while he was living in Ur of the Chaldees**
 - Told him to pack up and move west to Canaan
 - Told him JUST take your wife
 - He took his nephew Lot and Dad

Genesis 12:1–3 (NKJV)

1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family
And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in
you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

▪ 3. Stopped Half

- Abraham only moved about half the way there then stopped.

- He stayed there until his father died

- Then packed up and moved again—

- But he was now 75 years old!

▪ 4. God had made Abraham an Amazing Promise

- I will Give you A LAND (Israel)
- I will Give you So many DESCENDANTS he couldn't number them.
- From his descendants would come the Messiah
 - The Savior

▪ 5. Once Abraham was finally in the land

- God Repeatedly Renewed that Promise
 - Adding a bit more detail to it Each Time

▪ 6. Later on – Genesis 15

- Abraham was a bit discourage steps outside with God

Genesis 15:5–6 (NKJV)

5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

6 And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

- **A ONE SIDE Covenant Genesis 15:8-21**

- Please understand it was NOT BASED on Abraham's ability to keep it

- IT WAS BASED ON GOD'S PROMISE

- THIS is an EVERLASTING PROMISES (Genesis 17:7)

- **7. EVEN more time passed, and still Sarah remained barren.**

- It was then that a bit of doubt returned

- Abraham and Sarah, thinking God Needed some help

- Because AFTER ALL – God helps those who help themselves...

- WRONG!!!

- So devised a plan to get a son– they would use a surrogate.

- So Hagar, Sarah's Egyptian maid was brought in and conceived a son whom Abraham named Ishmael.

- But this was not what God intended.

- He meant for Sarah, Abraham's wife to bear a son

- And Ishmael is still a problem to this day -

▪ **8. The son who would fulfill the promise of God**

- Needed himself to be a miracle
 - So God was waiting
 - For both Abraham and Sarah to get to the age where it would be impossible for them to bear children in their own strength.
- Sarah was already there
 - But Abraham had a while to go, as was proven by the birth of Ishmael.
- Finally, when Abraham was 100 and well past the age of being able to father children
 - Sarah conceived and gave birth to Isaac.

▪ **9. The Trouble began –**

- Ishmael / Isaac
 - Isaac was the chosen one
 - The one in which the Messiah would come from
 - This Created problems
 - Abraham sent Blessed Ishmael and sent him away
- Ishmael,
 - Became the father of some of the tribes that came to populate the Saudi Arabians peninsula
 - Today we call them Arabs.
- Isaac

- Grew up to become the father of the Jews.
- And the age old contest between Ishmael and Isaac for the inheritance of Abraham continues to this day in the conflict between Islam and Judaism.
- **2. Not Abraham's Finest Moment for SURE**
 - I'm sure Abraham would love to get out a magic marker and erase, erase chapters 16–20
 - Abraham, yes even the great Abraham, faltered in his faith
 - **BUT GOD**
 - Brought him through...and taught him deep things
 - And Remember the Covenant was ONE SIDE
 - Just like our salvation
 - And when God looks back on Abrahams Life all He sees is

Hebrews 6:15 (NKJV)

15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

• **2. Application**

- **SO BE ENCOURAGED**
 - God has made us MANY Promises
 - YET - We Too STRUGGLE to live in them at times
 - Let this be an encouragement to us
 - God loves us
 - God is gracious

- He chooses to focus on what you have done right
 - Not beat you up for the mistakes we so often make
- But that said...
 - What are we going to do now???
 - Let keep moving forward

Based On His Greatness vv. 13-20

• The Next Point is

- **Based ON HIS GREATNESS**
 - The Anchor of our soul is based on HIS GREATNESS
 - His Character
 - His Promises
 - His Sacrifice
 - Let's look at 4 Aspects Of God's Greatness...

• 1. His Person vv. 13-14

- **1. He Swore by Himself v. 13-14**

Hebrews 6:13–14 (NKJV)

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,
14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you."

- **When making a vow**

- In Israel swear by a lot of things
 - I “Swear” on the Bible
 - I “Swear” on God
 - I Sear on the Temple
- All of this was to prove that you would keep you promises
 - The Greater the “Name” the greater the promises
- **There is No One Greater than God**
 - So when God makes a promise
 - He simply has to “swear” by Himself.
- **When did God “swear” an oath?**
 - What we just talked about – Abraham
 - **“Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.”**
 - Let’s look at one more Promise
 - Genesis 22
 - God tells Abraham to take that promised only son Isaac up to Mount Moriah and sacrifice him.
 - Abraham takes Isaac to Mount Moriah.
 - Abraham builds an altar, ties up his teenage son...
 - Abraham puts his son on the altar.
 - Abraham raises his knife ...

- And the Angel of the Lord stops Abraham and gives him a ram to offer as a sacrifice instead.

- That's when it happened

Genesis 22:16–18 (NKJV)

16 and said: *“By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—*
17 *blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.*
18 *In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”*

- THIS IS AMAZING Picture

Genesis 22:14 (NKJV)

14 *And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”*

- Of what God the Father would be doing one day with His Only Begotten Son, also at Mount Moriah.
- The World was Blessed

- **2. Application**

- God's Word is as GOOD as DONE
 - He says
 - God is truth – and His Word is Truth
 - Everything He says is Truth
- So when God makes a promise,
 - He has to keep it, because He is Truth

- Absolute, finished – because He said it!
- When God say let go to the other side...
 - It will happen

• **2. His Purpose v. 15**

○ **1. His Purpose v. 15**

Hebrews 6:15 (NKJV)

15 *And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

- Remember Abraham is our example of faith and patience...
- **2. Application**
 - Think through Abraham's story again carefully
 - It was God who has called Abraham out of UR
 - He didn't get up one day and think –
 - I need a change of scenery, let's move!
 - No, it was God...
 - It was because God had a purpose
 - God has done the same for you
 - He has called you out of the world and led you this far
 - Again, it's not a whim...You are His masterpiece
 - He wants to use you for His GLORY

• **3. His Pledge vv. 16-18**

○ **1. For Men Indeed Swear v. 16**

Hebrews 6:16 (NKJV)

16 *For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute.*

▪ **Men indeed swear by the greater**

- In human affairs, men swear by someone greater than themselves.
 - In courts of law, for example, they promise to tell the truth and then add, “so help me, God.”
 - They appeal to God for confirmation that what they are going to say is true.

▪ **An oath for confirmation is for them**

- That you will indeed tell the truth
 - This should settle ALL disputes

○ **2. Thus God v. 17**

Hebrews 6:17 (NKJV)

17 *Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath,*

▪ **Determining –**

- Greek: Boulomai –
- Means: to will deliberately, have a purpose, be minded; of willing as an affection, to desire

▪ **To show –**

- Greek: Epideiknumi –
- Means: to exhibit, show; to prove, demonstrate, set forth to be known and acknowledged

- More abundantly –
 - Greek: Perissoteron –
 - Means: exceeding some number or measure or rank or need
- The Immutability –
 - Greek: Ametathetos
 - Means: Not transposed, not to be transferred, fixed, unalterable
- Counsel –
 - Greek: Boule –
 - Means: counsel, purpose; a form of boulomai, “willing”.
- Confirmed –
 - Greek: Mesiteuo –
 - Means: to act as a mediator between litigating or covenanting parties; act as a sponsor or surety; to pledge one’s self, give surety
- Oath –
 - Greek: Horkos –
 - Means: that which has been pledged or promised with an oath
- God wants
 - His believing people to be absolutely assured that what He promised would come to pass.

- So He added an oath to the promise.
- When God made a promise of a seed to Abraham,
 - The promise found its full and ultimate fulfillment in Christ
- **3. That by two immutable things v. 18**
 - **By two Immutable things v. 18a**

Hebrews 6:18 (NKJV)

18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

- God Does not Change

Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV)

8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

- **It is Impossible for Him to LIE v. 18b**

Hebrews 6:18 (NKJV)

18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

- There are two unchangeable things that give us comfort.
 - 1. God's promise (of salvation)
 - 2. God doesn't lie

- **We might have strong consolation v. 18c**

Hebrews 6:18 (NKJV)

18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

- The “consolation” God wants for you has to do with your salvation.
- You are the “heirs” of His promise, the promise of His salvation. He wants you to know His will for you hasn’t changed.

▪ **Who have fled for refuge v. 18d**

Hebrews 6:18 (NKJV)

*18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, **who have fled for refuge** to lay hold of the hope set before us.*

- Have fled for refuge –
 - Greek: Katapheugo –
 - Means: To flee away, flee for refuge
- Cities of Refuge
 - When Israel conquered the Promised Land
 - God commanded them to set up six “Cities of Refuge” evenly spaced throughout the land. (Num. 35:11-13)
 - If you accidentally killed someone, you could flee to one of these cities, and you’d be protected from that person’s avenging relatives.
 - You would have to stay there until the death of the high priest.
 - As believers, we have fled to Jesus for refuge.
 - And since He will no longer die
 - Guess how long we get to stay?

- To lay hold of the hope set before us v. 18e

Hebrews 6:18 (NKJV)

18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

- Set Before –
 - Greek: Prokeimai
 - Means: To lie or be placed before (a person or a thing) or in front of; to set before; to be placed before the eyes, to lie in sight
- This is a word we'll see more of later

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- We have hope set before us
- We need to grab hold of the hope that is set before us.
- Our hope in God and His promises will take us right into His presence.

• **4. His Priest vv. 19-20**

- **1. An Anchor v. 19a**

Hebrews 6:19 (NKJV)

19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,

▪ **As an anchor of the soul**

- Anchor –
 - Greek: Agkura –
 - Means: An anchor; metaph. any stay or safeguard
- Soul –
 - Greek: Psuche –
 - Means: Breath; the soul

▪ **An anchor kept you from being blown off course in a storm.**

- During Paul's trip to Rome, his ship encountered a storm.
- At one point they became afraid they were going to be blown right onto the rocks.
- The hope we have in God's promises for us will keep us on track in a

○ **2. Both Sure and Steadfast v. 19b**

Hebrews 6:19 (NKJV)

19 *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, **both sure and steadfast**, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,*

▪ Our hope in God's promises

- Can count on as being the absolute truth.

○ **3. Which enters the Presence behind the veil v. 19c**

Hebrews 6:19 (NKJV)

19 *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,*

- In both the Tabernacle and the Temple,
 - There were two different curtains or “veils”.
 - The first veil was at the entrance, separating the outer court from the Holy Place.
 - The second veil was the “inner-er” (his word for “behind”), separating the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies.
 - This is the Vail that was torn from TOP to BOTTOM when Jesus Died
 - **Giving access to God for ALL People not just the HP**

○ **4. Where The Forerunner v. 20**

Hebrews 6:20 (NKJV)

20 *where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*

○ **Where the forerunner has entered for us**

▪ **Forerunner –**

- Greek: Prodromos –
- Means: A forerunner; esp. one who is sent before to take observations or act as a spy, a scout, a light armed soldier; one who comes in advance to a place where the rest are to follow
- A forerunner is the guy who scouts the way ahead for you.

- Jesus is the one who has made a way into the very presence of God for us
- Application
 - High priest in the OT
 - He went behind the veil as a representative
 - That high priest was representing you to God if you lived in that time
 - Paul says our high priest is different
 - He is not just representing us
 - He is a forerunner for us
 - Illustration
 - In Ancient Mediterranean ports they had a huge bedrock that served as anchors in the harbor
 - You would come in with your giant ship and you would tie up to the bedrock anchor and your ship was going no where
 - But sometimes because of contrary winds the ships couldn't get close to the rock, to the anchor
 - So these boats would send out a little boat, they called that little boat 'the forerunner'
 - And that Forerunner boat would row against the waves, and it would fasten a line to the rock, and then it would bring out a line to the people on the boat and they could pull themselves in

- As long as they held the line, no matter the waves and the wind - they would eventually be where the forerunner had gone as long as they held the line he had provided
- So the presence of God – that is the anchor of our soul
 - He has fasten a line to the rock that is higher than all of us
 - And as we cling to Jesus, as we hold that line that He has provided for us
- **2. BE Anchored in the presence of God**
 - He wants our faith and hope to carry us through the storms.
 - Full Assurance
 - There are WARNING PASSAGES
 - We MUST Never explain them away
 - **We must use them to make sure we are the right course**
 - When you've been backslidden, it's not a bad thing to let those passages shake you up.
 - BUT KNOW THIS
 - God wants us to move past the days of “shaky” assurance and move on to the maturity of full assurance.
 - God doesn't want you going through life kind of “wondering” if you are really saved or not.
 - **SO IN CHRIST**

John 10:28–29 (NKJV)

28 *And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

29 *My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.*

1 John 5:13 (NKJV)

13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

Closing

- Be Anchored to Jesus