



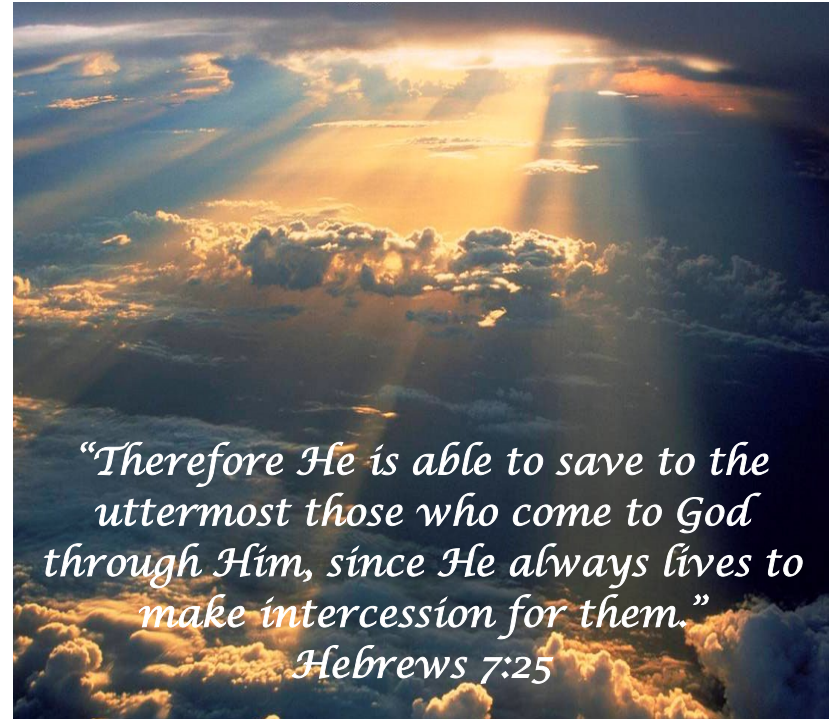
Notes

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com

For a digital form of this booklet, an mp3 version of the teaching and/or powerpoint slides from the teaching, visit our website at <http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/index.htm>



Thru the Scriptures 2006-08



Hebrews 1-7

April 24th-30th, 2008

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

Hebrews-

If you stop depending on yourself and your own effort, you have learned to enter into rest, because you start depending on God's work in you. That is the lost secret of humanity. That is the secret of Adam and Eve lost in the Garden of Eden and the one Jesus Christ came to restore to us. When we learn to live by the work of God in us instead of by our own work, we experience lives that are peaceful, calm, trusting, powerful, and undisturbed by circumstances, so we can accomplish great things for Christ's sake. The paradox of this principle is that nothing is more active, effective and powerful than a life that is lived in God's rest.

Adventuring Through the Bible, Ray C. Stedman

Helpful Study Links:

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)
<http://preceptaustin.org/hebrews.htm>

Sermon Links:

“The Final Word” by Ray C. Stedman
<http://www.pbc.org/files/messages/5459/0084.html>

“Dealing with Doubt” by Ray C. Stedman
<http://www.pbc.org/files/messages/5480/0089.html>

Commentary:

The commentary used throughout this booklet is
With the Word Bible Commentary
by Warren W. Wiersbe.
ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Hebrews



Author: ? Despite many suggestions, the author of Hebrews remains unknown. Paul stands as the favorite suggestion, other possibilities are Luke, Barnabas, Apollos, and Phillip the evangelist. But honestly, none of the suggestions are solid or widely held. Hebrews stands alone among the New Testament epistles in its style and approach, and it is the only New Testament book whose authorship remains a real mystery. But this we are sure of....ultimately the Holy Spirit is the author!



Time: The place of writing is unknown, but a reasonable estimate of the date can be made between AD 64 and 68.



Theme: The Perfection of Christ. The basic theme of Hebrews is found in the word “better,” describing the superiority of Christ in His Person and work (1:4; 6:9; 7:7, 19, 22; 8:6; 9:23; 10:34; 11:16, 35, 40; 12:24). The words “perfect” and “heavenly” are also prominent. This profound work builds a case for the superiority of Christ through a cumulative argument in which Christ is presented as “better” in every respect.

He offers a better revelation, position, priesthood, covenant, sacrifice, and power. After demonstrating the superiority of Christ’s Person (1:1–4:13) and the superiority of Christ’s work (4:14–10:18), the writer applies these truths in a practical way to show the superiority of the Christian’s walk of faith (10:19–13:25).



Keys:

As the perfection of Jesus is held forth, the call is for His people to press after Him in that perfection. “Let us go on to perfection [spiritual maturity]” (6:1). The epistle was written to Jewish believers who were tempted to abandon the fullness of Christ and go back to the emptiness of a religious system soon to be destroyed.

Lost people are still “in Egypt” and need to be redeemed through

faith in Christ. Those who are redeemed are privileged to enter their spiritual inheritance (“Canaan”) and enjoy His “rest” (4:11; Matt. 11:28–30). Entering Canaan is not a type of going to heaven. It is a picture of conquering the enemy and claiming your spiritual inheritance by faith.

But to many believers, like Israel in the Old Testament, are wandering in the wilderness of unbelief and yearning to go back to the old life. The message of Hebrews is especially for them: “Let us go on to maturity!”

Outline

Hebrews 1 Jesus is the message – fullness of God

Exhortation: Danger of Drifting (2:14)

Hebrews 2 - Jesus humanity – what accomplished

Exhortation: Keep focus on Jesus (3:1)

Hebrews 3-4 Jesus is our Rest

Exhortation: Don’t doubt, be diligent (3:7–4:13)

Hebrews 4-5 Jesus our High Priest

Exhortation: Danger of Dullness (5:11-6:20)

Hebrews 7-10 Jesus our Superior High Priest

A superior order—7

A superior covenant—8

A superior sanctuary—9

A superior sacrifice—10

Exhortation: Beware of despising the Word (10:26–39)

Hebrews 11-13 – A Superior Principle – Faith

The great examples of faith—11

The endurance of faith—chastening—12

Exhortation: Don’t defy the Word (12:14–29)

Closing practical exhortations—13

Daily Bible Study

Thursday, April 24th 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 1

Questions to Ponder

1. Think about verses 1-4. What do they reveal to us about Christ? What does it mean that God has spoken to us by His Son?
2. What do the Old Testament passages quoted in this chapter reveal to us about Christ?
3. In relation to the angels, what is Christ's place? What are the angels sent forth to do?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 1

“God has spoken to us!” What a tremendous statement, and what a great responsibility it brings to you if you have heard His voice through His Word: “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks” (12:25). What you do with the Word of God determines what you will enjoy of God's will and claim of your inheritance.

Jesus Christ is the Father's last word. In Him, divine revelation is *seen* and *heard* in its fullness; and in Him, God's revelation is complete. When we see Him, we see the Father (John 14:1–11). Through Christ, we understand where everything came from, where it is going, what keeps it going, and why it is here.

We also understand what He has done for us. *He died for us!* Today He is enthroned in glory, ministering to us and for us (13:20–21). He wants to mature us and teach us how to walk by faith. One day He will defeat all His enemies and bring in His righteous kingdom.

With a Savior like that, why look for a substitute?

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 1:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Friday, April 25th, 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 2

Questions to Ponder

1. Think about the warning at the beginning of chapter 2. In what ways would it be possible for you to drift away?
2. How can you practically apply the exhortation to “give the more earnest heed”?
3. How did Christ make it possible for man to be brought into a glorious destiny? Why did He come in the flesh? How does that benefit us today?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 2

Hear Him (1–4). This is the first of five solemn admonitions to believers to pay attention to what God says in His Word. During Old Testament times, God dealt with those who disobeyed His Word. In these last days, we have a greater obligation to obey because we have the complete Scriptures and the full revelation of God in Jesus Christ. Are you serious about what God says to you?

See Him (5–9). There is a “world to come,” and how you live today will help to determine your place in the future kingdom of Christ (1:13; 10:13; 12:28). Today, we see man fallen in Adam; but by faith, we see Christ and His victory. Because He is glorified, we shall be glorified in Him!

Trust Him (10–18). Persons who trust Christ are God’s children (v. 13) on their way to glory (v. 10). The Redeemer has defeated death and the devil, and He understands how His people feel as they face the temptations and trials of life. When you come to Him by faith, you come to a sympathetic High Priest who can meet your every need. Trust Him!

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 2:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Saturday, April 26th, 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 3

Questions to Ponder

1. Why is Christ worthy of more glory than Moses? How would you elaborate on the difference between Moses as a servant and Christ as a Son?
2. What does it mean that we are Christ's house? What is the evidence that we are true partakers of Christ? Why did the Israelites fail in the wilderness? How can we avoid the same failure?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 3

Consider Him (1–6). Hebrews focuses on Jesus Christ. The writer wants us to “see” Him (2:9), “consider” Him (3:1), and keep our eyes of faith fixed on Him (12:1–2). Whenever you are tempted to look at your circumstances or at yourself, look to Jesus by faith and rejoice in His faithfulness.

Obey Him (7–15). The writer uses the failure of Israel as a warning against a hard heart. How does a believer's heart become hard? By refusing His words, despising His works, and being ignorant of His ways. Sin is deceitful. You think you are getting away with it, but all the while it is hardening your heart and robbing you of blessing.

Believe Him (16–19). Here is another exhortation to faith. The fact that the Jews were delivered from Egypt was no guarantee they would claim their inheritance. Because of their unbelief, they failed to enter the land (Num. 13). An “evil heart of unbelief” (v. 12) will rob you of what God has planned for you in your Christian life, so pay attention to God's Word. As Paul wrote, “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 3:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Sunday, April 27th, 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 4

Questions to Ponder

1. What promise remains for the people of God? What is necessary for the believer to experience its fulfillment? How have you responded to the exhortation in verse 11?
2. What blessings are available to us through Christ our High Priest? In light of this, what should we do?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 4

His rest (1–10). Three different “rests” are in view: God’s Sabbath rest after creation (v. 4; Gen. 2:2); Israel’s rest of victory in Canaan (v. 3; Josh. 21:44); and the believer’s rest of faith today (vv. 1, 9–10). Israel was delivered from Egypt, but a whole generation failed to enter Canaan and claim their promised inheritance. Why? Because of their unbelief. “Let us fear!” (v. 1).

His sight (11–13). God sees the heart and uses His sword to help us see our true spiritual condition (Jer. 17:9). Spend time daily reading the Word and meditating on it, always applying its truths to your heart. One day you will give account to God of what you have done with His Word, so be faithful.

His throne (14–16). You cannot claim your inheritance in your own power or wisdom. But you have a great High Priest who can give you the mercy and the grace you need just when you

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 4:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Monday, April 28th 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 5

Questions to Ponder

1. What is the first qualification required for priesthood? Why can a priest be compassionate toward others? What role did suffering play in the life of Christ?
2. What could keep us from understanding the things pertaining to Christ? Consider verses 12-14. How would you describe your spiritual maturity?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 5

Selected (1–6). Just as the Jewish high priest was appointed by God, so our great High Priest was appointed by the Father (Ps. 110:4); and He alone is worthy to serve. Never allow anybody to come between you and God, for Christ is the only mediator (1 Tim. 2:5). “The order of Melchizedek” refers to Genesis 14:18–24. Being from the tribe of Judah, Jesus could not serve as priest on earth; but He can serve as priest in heaven. He is there ministering for you today.

Perfected (7–10). Jesus had to prepare for His priestly ministry by experiencing the trials His people experience as they walk by faith (4:15). Because of the life that He lived and the death that He died, He is able to identify with your needs and give you grace to see you through. He understands!

Neglected (11–14). The “milk” of the Word represents the “first principles” of the Christian life, that is, what Jesus Christ did for us when He was on earth. The “meat” of the Word is the teaching about what Jesus is now doing for us in heaven, His ministry as High Priest. How sad it is when Christians neglect God’s Word and stop growing in grace.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 5:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Tuesday, April 29th, 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 6

Questions to Ponder

1. In verses 1 and 2, what are we called to do? What warning is given to us in verses 1-6?
2. In light of the context of the previous chapters, what do you think this is referring to?
3. Why is the writer confident of better things for his readers? What assurance do we have that our hope in Christ is not in vain?

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 6

The impossible (1–8). The ABC’s of the Christian life are important, but they must be a launching pad and not a parking lot, for the challenge is, “Let us go on to maturity.” If we get sluggish (v. 1–8) and dull (5:11) toward the Word, we may fall by the wayside (v. 6; Gal. 6:1) and stop being fruitful. As long as disobedient believers are bringing shame to Christ, it is impossible to bring them to repentance, and God must deal with them.

The improbable (9–12). But the writer did not believe that his readers were in that condition. Although they had a long way to go in their Christian experience, the fruit was there. Diligence, faith, and patience are required to live the Christian life. Maturity is not automatic.

The immutable (13–20). The chapter ends with one of the greatest statements on security found anywhere in Scripture. God’s promise and God’s oath assure us that we are His, and God’s character backs up His words. Instead of drifting (2:1), we are anchored heavenward where Jesus ministers in the very presence of God, and that anchor will not fail. We are anchored so we can make progress!

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 6:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Wednesday, April 30th, 2008

Passage for today: Hebrews 7

Questions to Ponder

1. In what ways was Melchizedek like the Son of God? Why was it not possible for Jesus to be a Levitical priest?
2. In what ways is Jesus far superior as a High Priest over the Levitical priesthood? What does it mean that Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant

With the word Bible Commentary

Hebrews 7

With this chapter, the writer begins to explain the better priesthood of Christ; and he begins with the *better order*, the order of Melchizedek (Gen. 14).

Jesus Christ is both King and Priest, and His throne is a throne of grace (4:16). As King, He can control circumstances around you; as Priest, He can change attitudes within you. You will experience righteousness and peace as you yield to Him (v. 2; Pss. 72:7; 85:9–10; Isa. 32:17).

Because He is a Priest forever, He saves forever (vv. 23–25). “To the uttermost” means “completely,” “perfectly.” You are secure as long as He lives, and He lives eternally. You can live by the power of His endless life!

A perfect salvation should lead to a life of growing maturity. An earthly priesthood can make nothing perfect (v. 11), nor can the law of God (v. 19) or the sacrifices (10:1–2); but Jesus can lead you into spiritual maturity as you walk by faith (13:20–21). He invites you to come to His throne, and He understands you better than you understand yourself.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Heb 7:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson

"For it became Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sorts unto glory, to make the author (or Captain) of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Hebrews 2:10-11

Devotional From *Our Daily Walk*

By F B Meyer

The Word translated in this passage "Author" or "Captain" might be rendered File-leader. It was thus used by Peter when he said, "Ye killed the Prince, i.e. the File-leader of life." Our Lord is beheld stepping up from the grave in Joseph's garden, to which, apparently, the hatred of His foes had brought Him; and as He passes forth, He is discovered to be the First, or Leader, of an endless procession, which, in single file, is ever ascending from the grave to stand with Him, and to follow Him through all the subsequent ages.

In the earlier part of that great procession, we can see the glorious company of the Apostles, behind them the goodly fellowship of prophets and the noble army of martyrs. Polycarp and Ignatius are there, Chrysostom and Augustine, Luther and Calvin, Wesley and Spurgeon. Our ancestors follow, and our parents. We are there, and our children will follow. We follow Christ our Captain through Gethsemane to Calvary, through death to life, through the grave to the Ascension mount.

When Isaiah anticipated Christ's advent, he said that God had given Him to be a Leader and Commander to the people (Isa 55:4). He has the pre-eminence, not only because of His original glory, as Son of God, but since He has won it in His obedience as Man. Never has the will of God been wrought out so perfectly as by our Lord; and in this we are called upon to obey and follow Him. He was made perfect through sufferings, so shall we be; and as He is now crowned with glory and honour, so shall we be.

The only way in which Christ could bring us to share in His glory was to submit to suffering and death. In no other way could He act as the Mediator of the Divine life to us who are His brethren. Similarly, if we would become the mediators of help and blessing to others, we also must be prepared to suffer. We must learn to do despite to our own will and way. The way of the Cross is the only path to the Throne. We can only reach our highest by the constant saying No to

self-life. This will involve suffering and pain; but only so can we follow our Captain.

"He himself hath suffered being tempted."

Hebrews 2:18

Devotional From *Morning and Evening*

By C H Spurgeon

It is a common-place thought, and yet it tastes like nectar to the weary heart-Jesus was tempted as I am. You have heard that truth many times: have you grasped it? He was tempted to the very same sins into which we fall. Do not dissociate Jesus from our common manhood. It is a dark room which you are going through, but Jesus went through it before. It is a sharp fight which you are waging, but Jesus has stood foot to foot with the same enemy. Let us be of good cheer, Christ has borne the load before us, and the blood-stained footsteps of the King of glory may be seen along the road which we traverse at this hour. There is something sweeter yet-Jesus was tempted, but Jesus never sinned. Then, my soul, it is not needful for thee to sin, for Jesus was a man, and if one man endured these temptations and sinned not, then in his power his members may also cease from sin. Some beginners in the divine life think that they cannot be tempted without sinning, but they mistake; there is no sin in being tempted, but there is sin in yielding to temptation. Herein is comfort for the sorely tempted ones. There is still more to encourage them if they reflect that the Lord Jesus, though tempted, gloriously triumphed, and as he overcame, so surely shall his followers also, for Jesus is the representative man for his people; the Head has triumphed, and the members share in the victory. Fears are needless, for Christ is with us, armed for our defence. Our place of safety is the bosom of the Saviour. Perhaps we are tempted just now, in order to drive us nearer to him. Blessed be any wind that blows us into the port of our Saviour's love! Happy wounds, which make us seek the beloved Physician. Ye tempted ones, come to your tempted Saviour, for he can be touched with a feeling of your infirmities, and will succour every tried and tempted one.

“Consider ... Jesus.”

Hebrews 3:1

Devotional From *Our Daily Homily*

By F B Meyer

Who are to consider Him? — “Holy brethren.” Because we are the brethren of Jesus, we must consider our Brother. Because we are brethren with all, whom He brothers, we should emulate the saints of all ages in their eager gaze at Christ. We must possess the holiness without which none can see the Lord, and we must live in holy love with all who bear the name of Christ. Do you lack either of these? This is the reason why your eyes are blinded. Step out of the mist into the clear prospect:—

“A step, A single step, shall free you from the skirts Of the blind vapour, and open to your view Glory beyond all glory ever seen By waking sense or by the dreaming soul.”

What right have they to consider Him? — Because they are “partakers of a heavenly calling.” They have turned from the world, from the fascinations of the sin and the flesh; they are seeking the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem. Surely such have a right, given them of grace, to live in daily personal vision of their King!

In what aspects should they consider Him? — As Apostle, whom God has sent out of his bosom to man, and whom man sends back to God. As Priest, who was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin, who bears our needs and sins and sorrows on his heart. As the Son, compared with whom Moses was but a servant. As Creator, by whom all things were made, and without whom was not anything made. As the Head of the household of those who believe. As the All-faithfull One, who will never resign his charge. Consider Jesus in each of these aspects, and rejoice in Him.

“Be Diligent”

Hebrews 4:11

Here we find a strong exhortation from the Lord for all who believe upon Him to be diligent to enter into the rest that He calls us to. His rest, as we know it, is a life where we cease from striving in our fleshly attempts to do eternal works. It is a life of walking by faith step in step with our Lord through loving Him, communing with Him, receiving direction from Him and willingly and obediently walking in all He calls us to do. It is His rest! But how do we get there? How do we enter in?

In this passage we are called to be diligent to enter into God’s rest. Diligence here gives the idea of giving maximum effort, hurrying on, and being eager. But what actions are we to be giving maximum, hurried and eager effort to? As we read on in this verse, we see that there is a warning with this exhortation. We read that we are to be diligent, “lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.” From the previous passages, we see that Israel failed to walk into everything God had for them because they were disobedient. They fell to unbelief. With this warning, we see that if they would have believed upon God, they would have entered into God’s place of promised rest for them.

Could it be that our maximum, hurried and eager effort is to be all towards simply staying in the place of believing God? If so, is this not the weighty battle that we are to be giving our diligence to? As Christians, we are called to put all our effort into walking by faith. Everything thing in our world battles against it. Therefore, the call here to be diligent is to be putting our maximum, hurried and eager effort toward hearing God (for faith comes by hearing...) and then doing what He calls us to. Our diligence in living according to faith and not sight will land us in the place of rest. The wonderful thing about this is that it’s not up to us to drum up a step of faith. It’s up to God. He gives the gift of faith and by that, we enter into the life of powerful and effective Spirit-filled living that is termed here “that rest.”

Today, you might find a war going on within you. Like all others who’ve been born anew by the Spirit, you might sense that there is an enemy who would love to steal your faith with his tactics of temptation, deception and fear. You might be bombarded by Your flesh as it

(Continued)

seeks for you turn from faith so that it might once again be provided for by you. And you might sense a heavy push of the world telling you to give up on God and to turn to its systems and concepts. Don't give in! Be diligent to enter into God's rest. Put all your weight and hope and eager effort into entering into God's rest. Seek to enter His rest today by resisting the devil, making no provision for the flesh, and being conformed not to the world. Seek diligently to set all your heart on entering into everything the Lord has for you, lest you fall to disbelief. The REST is plentiful (Matt 11:28-30). It is a place full of overflowing love and power and abundant joy in doing the will of the Father. Won't you be diligent to enter in to His rest for you today!

***"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience
by the things which he suffered."***

Hebrews 5:8

Devotional From *Morning and Evening*

By C H Spurgeon

We are told that the Captain of our salvation was made perfect through suffering, therefore we who are sinful, and who are far from being perfect, must not wonder if we are called to pass through suffering too. Shall the head be crowned with thorns, and shall the other members of the body be rocked upon the dainty lap of ease? Must Christ pass through seas of his own blood to win the crown, and are we to walk to heaven dryshod in silver slippers? No, our Master's experience teaches us that suffering is necessary, and the true-born child of God must not, would not, escape it if he might. But there is one very comforting thought in the fact of Christ's "being made perfect through suffering"- it is, that he can have complete sympathy with us. "He is not an high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities." In this sympathy of Christ we find a sustaining power. One of the early martyrs said, "I can bear it all, for Jesus suffered, and he suffers in me now; he sympathizes with me, and this makes me strong." Believer, lay hold of this thought in all times of agony. Let the thought of Jesus strengthen you as you follow in his steps. Find a sweet support in his sympathy; and remember that, to suffer is an honourable thing-to suf-

fer for Christ is glory. The apostles rejoiced that they were counted worthy to do this. Just so far as the Lord shall give us grace to suffer for Christ, to suffer with Christ, just so far does he honour us. The jewels of a Christian are his afflictions. The regalia of the kings whom God hath anointed are their troubles, their sorrows, and their griefs. Let us not, therefore, shun being honoured. Let us not turn aside from being exalted. Griefs exalt us, and troubles lift us up. "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him."

"He is able to save to the uttermost them that draw near unto God through Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

Hebrews 7:25

Devotional From *Our Daily Walk*

By F B Meyer

The attraction of the Divine Nature. We draw near because we are drawn. As the sun is ever exerting a drawing power on each planet and each particle of stardust in the solar system, so God is ever attracting us to Himself. To all eternity we shall be ever drawing nearer to Him, though there will be ever an infinite distance to traverse. When Jesus was lifted up on the Cross He began to draw all men unto Himself, and that magnetic attraction has continued through the centuries.

There is no reason for us to be afraid of God. He is Love! He is a consuming fire to our sin, but His Nature is essentially lovely. Moses exceedingly feared when he ascended Sinai, amid the trembling of the mountain and the heavy clouds that enclosed the Divine Light. But, as we learn from the 12th chapter of this Epistle, when we approximate to God, we encounter three circles. The innumerable Hosts of Angels, including the Cherubim and Seraphim, with their burning love and purity! The Church of the First-born, the purest and noblest of elect spirits! The Spirits of the Just made perfect, inclusive of our own beloved ones that have passed over. Surely where these are, we may venture without fear. The God in whom they live and move and have their being cannot be other than infinitely beautiful to know and love. Lord, Thou hast been the dwelling-place of all generations, and Thy secret

