



Lesson 22a

Title: Christ is Superior to Joshua (Part 4)

Scripture: Hebrews 4:11-16

Goals for 2022

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★ Able to say to one another, “ _____ ”.

Five D's of Discipleship

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Catechism Question 1

- Question
- Answer

Catechism Question 2

- Question
- Answer

Catechism Question 3

- Question
- Answer

Memory Verses from Previous Weeks

- (1 Corinthians 6:20)
- (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- (2 Timothy 3:16-18)

This Week's Memory Verse

- (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

WARNINGS in the HEBREWS

- ❶ (Hebrews 2:1-3) The **DANGER of DRIFTING AWAY**. Failure to take God's Word seriously.
- ❷ (Hebrews 3:1-4:13) The **DANGER of UNBELIEF**. Failure to take God's Word seriously.
- ❸ (Hebrews 5:11-6:20) The **DANGER of NOT MATURING** in the faith. Failure to take God's Word seriously.
- ❹ (Hebrews 10:26-39) The **DANGER of NOT PERSEVERING**. Failure to take God's Word seriously.
- ❺ (Hebrews 12:25-30) The **DANGER of REFUSING GOD**. Failure to take God's Word seriously.

THEREFORE . . . (Hebrews 4:1)

Rest and Fear (Hebrews 4:1)

Let Us Fear (Hebrews 4:1)

The PROMISE (Hebrews 4:1) See Hebrews 11:13-16

Diligence! (Hebrews 4:11)

- The New Testament pictures the Christian life as:
 - ① A **lifetime** of **working out** one's salvation. (Philippians 2:12)
 - ② A constant **pressing forward** for the reward set before them. (Philippians 3:13-14)
 - ③ A life of **labouring** for things of eternal value. (John 6:26-27)
 - ④ **Running** the race set before **in order to win that race.** (1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 12:1)
 - ⑤ A **fight** to be fought and won. (2 Timothy 4:7; 1 Timothy 6:12)
 - ⑥ A narrow and difficult path to be **walked.** (Matthew 7:13-14)
- Christians are **commanded** to be **steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.** (1 Corinthians 15:58)
- The **DANGER** being warned about is that of **STARTING OUT GOOD** and **THEN FALLING AWAY** – just as Christ warned in His parable of soils in Matthew 13:20-22.
- This is a **REAL DANGER** that **happens** to MANY!

Why Should We Make Every Effort? (Hebrews 4:12-13)

- The Holy Spirit first gives us a **NEGATIVE** (vv. 12-13) reason and then a **POSITIVE** (vv. 14-15) reason.
- “For” connects us with verse 11.



- The WORD of GOD **divides!** The WORD of GOD divides the thoughts and intents of the heart (mind, emotions, will) from the words of our mouths. (See Genesis 6:5; 8:21)
- It divides the joints (external) from the marrow (internal).

- When God speaks, He is absolutely serious.
- God will separate those who “say” they are Christians from those who “are” Christians. True Christians do the will of God. (**Matthew 7:21-23; John 8:31; 10:27-29; 15:8, 10-14; Romans 2:6-11; 1 John 2:17**)
- The Word of God **JUDGES** us. The Word of GOD is **FINAL**.
 - This takes us back to the warning in Hebrews 2:1 and 3:7-19!
- We are not judged by what we do or what we say! We are judged by **who we are!**
- God does not look on the outside. He looks deep into the heart! (1 Samuel 16:7)
- (Hebrews 4:13) We must give an account to God. We are accountable to Him! **MEDITATE. DO WE BELIEVE THIS?**
 - NOTHING is hidden from God’s sight. (Proverbs 15:3; Job 34:21-22; Jeremiah 16:17; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)
 - NOTHING will escape His final judgment.
 - ALL must give an account! (See 2 Corinthians 5:9-10)
 - THEREFORE: We make it our AIM (labor, strive, eager to do) to be *well pleasing* in HIS sight.
 - BEING CHURCH: Pray for your brothers and sisters Colossians 1:9-11 - do your part for the growth of the whole Body. (Ephesians 4:16)

Why Should We Make Every Effort? (Hebrews 4:14-15)

- The work is hard. The race long. The battle tough. The walk is difficult.
- Despite the difficulties **we have a GREAT HIGH PRIEST**.
- Just as Aaron (the High Priest) had to walk through three doorways on the Day of Atonement, **our High Priest, JESUS, the Son of God** passed through the heavens! He entered the **third** heaven (to the presence of God Himself) to make atonement for us! (2 Cor 12:2)
- Jesus (His human name), the Son of God (His divine title)!
- Unlike Aaron, our GREAT HIGH PRIEST did not leave the heavenly Holy of Holies, **but SAT DOWN** because His work was **finished!**
- **THIS IS A GOOD REASON NOT TO GIVE UP BUT TO HOLD FAST TO OUR CONFESSION!**
- He is a **PERFECT PERSON**. He KNOWS our weakness, struggles, feelings, troubles, etc. because He was in all points tempted (tested) as we are – **YET HE WAS WITHOUT SIN.**

- Christ **KNOWS** our temptations and has promised to lead us **out** of them! (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - He **KNOWS** our limits!
 - He **KNOWS** our weaknesses!
 - He **WATCHES** over us!
 - He **INTERCEDES** for us!

THEREFORE . . . (Hebrews 4:16)

- “Let us . . .” The author is including himself!
- We “can” come (PRESENT TENSE) **boldly** (not proudly) to the **throne of God**. We have direct access because of **GRACE!** (Romans 5:1)
- Why do we come to the **throne of GOD** – for:
 - **MERCY**. We are great sinners against His love. (Lamentations 3:22-23)
 - **GRACE**. He gives more grace to the humble. (James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5)
 - **HELP**. He is my Helper! (Psalm 121; Hebrews 13:5; Psalm 46:1; 124:8; 146:5-6; Isaiah 41:13; Hosea 13:9)
- **WE ARE IN NEED EVERY DAY!**

