



Lesson 22

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 Questions 1

- Question
- Answer

Catechism Questions 2

- Question
- Answer

Memory Verses from Last Week

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This Week’s Memory Verse

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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

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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 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 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)
- (Genesis 6:5; 8:21) Man's heart:
 - ① Man's wickedness is **GREAT**.
 - ② **EVERY intent** of the thoughts . . . (Proverbs 16:2; 1 Samuel 16:7; Jeremiah 17:5-10; **Luke 16:15**; Revelation 2:23; James 4:3)
 - ③ **ONLY** . . .
 - ④ **EVIL** . . .
 - ⑤ **CONTINUOUSLY**.
- When God speaks, He is absolutely **serious**.

- Using the Word of God to grow in 2022.
 - (2 Timothy 3:16-17) God's Word is **PROFITABLE** for:
 - ① **Doctrine**: Teaching us what is **RIGHT**.
 - ② **Reproof**: Teaching us what is **NOT RIGHT**.
 - ③ **Correction**: Teaching us how to **GET RIGHT**.
 - ④ **Instruction in righteousness**: Teaching us how to **STAY RIGHT**.
 - ⑤ **Completing us**: Equipping us for every good work.
 - (2 Corinthians 13:5) Using the Word to examine ourselves as we are commanded to do.
 - ▶ **HANDOUT**: Pursuing and Perfecting Holiness. Resolutions for 2022 as we pursue **PIETY**.
 - ★ Read 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 John 3:1-3; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:13-16; Psalm 119:9; Proverbs 30:12; Isaiah 1:16; Matthew 5:8; 23:25-26; Titus 2:11-14; James 4:8; 1 Peter 2:9-11; 1 John 1:6-9.
- 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)
 - **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)

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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 **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)

