

Hebrews 6.20

Closed parenthesis

The writer of Hebrews opened a parenthetical discussion in chapter 5.10. He spent the last third of chapter 5 and all of chapter 6 inside of the parenthesis, laying the foundation which he is now about to build on. He rebuked, exhorted and instructed and he did this with an eye to what he wants to lead us to understand. He has carefully prepared the ground to bring us back to this topic and to bring out the eternal priesthood of Jesus. He now closes the parenthesis and returns to his original target. We can see the wisdom in this path because it is useless to heap new and deeper truth on a heart that is not obeying the truth it already possesses.

This is always the case for us as we grow in Christ, as we grow in grace. We must be faithful and careful to apply what we already know. The basics of the faith are usually not the most glamorous or trendy, but they are the essence of God's will for us... His essence distilled into clarity. So I want to step back for a moment and consider this reality before we

step out in to the truth of Christ and Melchizedek. I want to think about the core and heart of what makes us children of God. The most basic and fundamental truth of the whole of the Christian life is found here in Hebrews 6.20. Jesus, our forerunner has gone ahead and entered the veil - He has made a way for us, and He has given us everything that we need in Himself and no other. We are who we are because of this truth, because of Jesus Christ:

- All of our hope depends upon Christ and upon Christ alone.
- More than fundamental, it is all encompassing
- Any attempt to remove Christ from the centrality of our faith robs it of all its power, all its truth and all its hope.
- When we try to rest our hope and our lives on anything but Christ, we end up adrift and alone.

I. OUR HOPE IS SECURE

Our hope beyond the veil is secure because Christ is there, having gone on before us

A. He gives us new life that He purchased by His own death

Romans 6.4-11

B. Death has been defeated by His life

Colossians 2.11-12

C. The article that prescribed death as punishment for us has been satisfied in HIS death in our place

Colossians 2.13-15

D. We now have peace with God because Jesus has established a new relationship with God on our behalf.

Romans 5.1-2

II. OUR PROMISE IS TRUE

The hope of our promise is true because Christ is the guarantor of it

- A. He is the answer of God to every promise

2Corinthians 1.18-22

- B. We have the Spirit

- 1. God has given us the Spirit in the name of Christ

John 14:26

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

- 2. Jesus has sent the Spirit from the Father

John 15:26

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

3. Testifies of Christ

- a) He is the truth
- b) He is our helper

C. He is the means of access to the Father

John 16.23-24

D. God loves us for Jesus' sake - our love for Him is bedrock that shows we are loved of God.

1. Those who do not know Christ hate God

John 15.21-25

2. We have evidence that God loves us in our love for Christ

John 16.27-28

E. He is our only source of peace in the midst of the chaos

John 16:33

³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

John 14:27

²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

III. OUR LIVES ARE SECURE

Our lives are secure and safe because they are grounded in the finished work of Jesus Christ and sustained by His resurrection

A. We live because He lives

John 14:19

¹⁹ “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.

B. We have evidence of our justification because He lives

Romans 4.23-25

C. We live our lives in the power of Christ's resurrection

Galatians 2.20-21

D. Real life is ours because Jesus has been raised

Romans 8:11

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

E. There is a difference between existence and life

1. The world exists, those in the world exist, those who live by the principles of the world exist... but NONE of them live. They are

the walking dead which is why they celebrate a culture of death, it is why they demand that you affirm their delusions... for they do not have life in them and they need every source of propping up that they can secure...

IV. OUR POWER IS UNSTOPPABLE

Our power in this life is unstoppable because its source is the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

- A. Life without condemnation is ours because Christ is risen

Romans 8.1-11

- B. We have been adopted into the family God
IN CHRIST

Ephesians 1.3-6

- C. He has purchased us with His own blood

Acts 20.28
1 Peter 1.17-21