

## The Book of Hebrews

Chapter 13: verses 12-25 - Pastor Charles A. Hall – February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

**Chapter 13** - This chapter began with the exhortation for brotherly love, and to encourage believers to reach out and welcome strangers, for in so doing they may unwittingly entertained angels. The readers are reminded to remember those that are in prison, especially those that are mistreated and of the household of faith. The author confirms the word of God that marriage is honorable among all, and the bed is undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. This chapter emphasize that our actions and conduct should be without covetousness. This chapter further states that we should remember and obey those that have rule over you, who have been chosen to speak the word of God, and follow their faith, considering the outcome of their conduct. The author encourages the readers to follow Jesus and not reject Him, we should continually offer sacrifice and praise to Him. The unknown author concludes this chapter with a request for prayer, that he and others might have a good conscience in all things and live honorably. Chapter 13 concludes with the author pronouncing a blessing upon the readers.

12. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

- This verse states the Jesus also suffered and die outside the gates of the city (Golgotha) also known as Calvary, so that He might sanctify His people through His own blood.

13. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

- So let us go therefore unto Christ outside of the camp, and let us leave the city, and the system to destruction and take refuge in Jesus Christ alone and His finished work on the cross.

14. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

- Being sanctified (or set apart) from the city and its destructive ways, we are now looking for another city not made by human hands.

15. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

- As we consider all that Jesus Christ did for us by going to the cross, it should motivate and encourage us to do what is necessary to give His holy name praise and honor at all times, the praises from our lips should serve as a reflection of our thanks, and appreciation for all that the Son of God has done for us.

16. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

- This verse encourages believers to do good, and share the goodness and praises of God with others, because such praises helps us to remember all that He has done for us. God is pleased when we give genuine praise and honor of His Holy Name.

17. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

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- The author encourages believers to obey and submit themselves to those whom God has placed in authority over them to watch out for their souls. Those in authority will be required to give an account to God of their actions. Believers should submit and obey those God has placed in authority, so that they may be able to lead with love and joy, rather than grief or sorrow, which would be of no benefit to the believer. **Philippians 2:29 & Isaiah 62:6**

18. Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

- The author as he is preparing to bring his letter to the believing Jews and also the Gentiles to a close, makes a request of the readers of this epistle to pray for them, which confirms that the author is not alone in the ministry of Jesus Christ. The author confirms that he believes they have a clear conscience and been honorable in all their dealings.

19. But I beseech you rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

- In this verse the author is requesting the readers who were considering returning to the old Levitical worship to pray so that the Lord might restore their spiritual relationship with him quickly.
  - Romans 5:1

20. Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

21. Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

- The author in verses 20 and 21 starts the formal benediction to his letter in the name of Jesus Christ, who is able to make them perfect in all their works, and the will to do that which is pleasing in His sight.

22. And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.

- In the closing verses the author pleads with the readers to feel the word of encouragement that are written in this short letter.

23. Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you.

- The author is informing the readers that their brother in Christ, Timothy is planning to visit them soon, and if so the author plans to come with him.

24. Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you.

- The author requests that the readers greet all the leaders of the church, and all the Christians. The author tells the readers that those in Italy send their greetings to them as well.

25. Grace be with you all. Amen.

- May the unmerited and undeserved favor of God be with you all. Amen