

The Book of Hebrews

Chapter 13: verses 1 - 11 - Pastor Charles A. Hall – January 26th, 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.

1. Let brotherly love continue.

- The author encourages the readers of this letter to continue to demonstrate true love to their brothers and sisters, regardless of the circumstances. Even though we are required to love all of God's creation, this verse focuses on the brotherly love of the body of Christ. There are five points covered in this chapter in later verses concerning brotherly love:
 - Show hospitality toward strangers,
 - Visit prisoners,
 - Minister to the mistreated,
 - Honor marriage,
 - Free yourself from the love of money

2. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

- This verse states that we should not neglect to receive strangers into our presence and to show kindness, in so doing some have actually fellowshiped with angels.

3. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

- We should remember those of the body of Christ who are incarcerated, as if we were imprisoned with them, suffering the same type of affliction, as one body in Christ.

4. Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

- This verse further confirms God plan for marriage, that it is right in the sight of God, and not contaminated with sin, like adultery and fornication which God will judge.
 - **Proverb 5:18-19**

5. Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

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- As followers of Jesus Christ our conversation should never be based on greed or jealousy, but rather let us have a mind of contentment for the things that God have given us, knowing that he will never forsake us or leave us, especially doing our time of need.
 - **Deuteronomy 31:6**
- 6. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.
 - When we depend on God, rather than the riches of this world, we can boldly proclaim that the Lord is my helper and my provider, therefore I do not fear whatever man shall do to me. The Lord is my provider, my protector, and my keeper, so why would I fear anyone else!
 - **Psalm 27:1**
- 7. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.
 - As believers of Jesus Christ we should respect and obey those whom the Lord has placed over us, to teach us the word of God, whom faith is aligned with their call, and their walk or life reflects their faith. Then imitate them as they follow Christ!
- 8. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.
 - As believers we should always depend on and trust God, because He is not only good, compassionate, gracious and merciful, He is also the same yesterday, today and every day!
- 9. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.
 - The author encourages the readers not to be drawn away from sound doctrine and teaching, for strange and none biblical doctrine and traditions. For this reason, it is good that the heart be established on the grace of God, not on world riches and things which have no eternal rewards.
- 10. We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.
 - This verse appears to refer to the old testament priest and their ritual of animal sacrifice prior to the perfect blood sacrifice of Christ, those who continue to practice the law for the redemption of sin and served in the tabernacle, had no right to partake of the alter or sacrifice of Christ.
- 11. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.

This verse appears to refer to the killing of the animals doing the time of atonement outside the camp and the blood was brought into the tabernacle and sprinkled on the mercy seat, the horn of the alter of incense, and atonement was made for the priest, his house, and all of Israel, which was symbolic of the death of Christ.