



Sunday School Lesson

September 25, 2022

Faith Inspires Gratitude

Hebrews 12:18-29

Instructor: Ralph Gordon

Questions for Us Today

2

How strong is your faith?

How has your faith been tested the most?

Sunday School Lesson Objectives

September 25, 2022

3

1. To understand how and why the Hebrews writer made a significant spiritual comparison.
2. To understand how and why we should be thankful for God's gifts.

Sunday School Lesson Segments

September 25, 2022

1. Bibliography
2. Points of Information: Hebrews
3. Lesson Context
4. Lesson Text

Points of Information – Hebrews

The authorship of the Book of Hebrews is unknown. Its writing has been variously attributed to Paul, Barnabas, Silas, Luke, Priscilla, Apollos or others.

5

Most Biblical scholars, however, are certain that the Apostle Paul is not the author.

Points of Information – Hebrews

The Hebrews writer was very knowledgeable regarding the Old Testament. Knowing that the audience for this Epistle also had similar familiarity, the writer quotes the Old Testament, over 60 times.

6

The Hebrews writer references Old Testament history, culture and practices even more – as evidenced by the text of this week's lesson.

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Context

The recipients of this letter, Jewish (Hebrew) Christians, faced increasing opposition and persecution – causing temptation to move back to Judaism.

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Context

The Hebrews writer compares and contrasts the Old Testament experiences of the Israelites with the certain superiority of the New Covenant – God’s loving promise (through His Son, Our Savior) for which we all should be very grateful.

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Text – UMI Outline #1

Hebrews 12:18-21

**The Two Mountains: Sinai and Zion
(The Heavenly City)**

Hebrews 12:18-19 (NLT)

10

You have not come to a physical mountain, to a place of flaming fire, darkness, gloom, and whirlwind, as the Israelites did at Mount Sinai.

For they heard an awesome trumpet blast and a voice so terrible that they begged God to stop speaking.

Hebrews 12:20-21

11

They staggered back under God's command: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death."

Moses himself was so frightened at the sight that he said, "I am terrified and trembling."

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Text – UMI Outline #2

12

Hebrews 12:22-23

The Heavenly City Zion (or Sion)

Hebrews 12:22-23

13

No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering.

You have come to the assembly of God's firstborn children, whose names are written in Heaven. You have come to God Himself, who is the Judge over all things. You have come to the spirits of the righteous ones in Heaven who have now been made perfect.

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Text – UMI Outline #3

14

Hebrews 12:24

The Heavenly City and Jesus, the Mediator

Hebrews 12:24

15

You have come to Jesus, the One Who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel.

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Text – UMI Outline #4

16

Hebrews 12:25-26

Criteria for Entering the Heavenly City

Hebrews 12:25-26

17

Be careful that you do not refuse to listen to the One Who is speaking. For if the people of Israel did not escape when they refused to listen to Moses, the earthly messenger, we will certainly not escape if we reject the One Who speaks to us from Heaven!

When God spoke from Mount Sinai His Voice shook the earth, but now He makes another promise: "Once again, I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also."

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Text – UMI Outline #5

18

Hebrews 12:27-29

Preparing for the Heavenly City

Hebrews 12:27-29

19

This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain.

Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshipping Him with holy fear and awe.

For our God is a devouring fire.

Remember these things:

We should remember that Our Heavenly Father keeps His promises.

We should remember that Jesus has made the ultimate sacrifice for US.

We should be very thankful for the gifts of Our Lord. Hallelujah!

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