

Throughout Hebrews the author gives numerous arguments from comparison, all relating to Jesus being better than those things in the Old Covenant. In this section he goes on to compare the mountains of Sinai and Zion in order to demonstrate that Jesus and the New Covenant are, again, better than that of the Old. However, as we will see, there is still a recognition of His wrath and the reality that He is a consuming fire who will bring about judgement.

Hebrews 12:18-13:6

A Kingdom that Cannot be Shaken

I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

MY EXPERIENCE...

YOUR EXPERIENCE...

Grace can be an excellent motivator. Consequences can be too. In a healthy view of the Gospel we need both. Knowing we are *given that which we didn't deserve* can drive us to greater joy, gratitude, and service. However, sometimes we forget that we also did *not* receive what we *did* deserve and that too ought to compel us toward heart-felt worship and obedience.

II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

WHAT comes to mind when you think of God's wrath?

WHAT comes to mind when you consider God's grace?

DO you ever struggle to reconcile or understand God's judgement and wrath shown in the OT and His grace and patience in the NT?

IF God doesn't change, why does it sometimes appear otherwise when look at all of Scripture?

HOW important is our obedience to God today since we are under a covenant of grace?

Hebrews 12:18-13:6 Read Hebrews 12:18-13:6

A Kingdom that Cannot be Shaken

OBSERVATION

In vs. 18-21, what does the author say his audience has “not come to”? How is *it* described?

According to vs. 22, what *has* the audience “come to”?

In vs. 23-24 the author describes five other “things” the audience “has come” to. What are they?

What command is given in vs. 25?

What two things are compared in vs. 25-26?

According to vs. 26-27, what will the Lord do once more?

What’s true of us (vs. 28) and how should we live according to this truth (vs. 28-13:5)?

What are we reminded of in vs. 29?

INTERPRETATION

What experience is the author describing in vs. 18-21? Notice vs. 21 specifically, then consider Exodus 19:16-20; 20:18; Deuteronomy 4:11-12.

In vs. 22-24, how does the author contrast the experience at Mount Sinai with that at Zion? What are the differences highlighted?

What comparison is made in vs. 25-27? What warning is the author giving in light of this comparison?

How does the reminder that God is still a “consuming fire” draw us to obey the command given in vs. 28?

In 13:1-5, discuss the meaning and differences of the subjects identified, then consider what it would look like to follow the command given for each:

Let *brotherly love* continue-

Do not neglect to show *hospitality* to strangers-

Remember those in prison and who are mistreated-

Let the marriage bed be *undefiled*-

Keep your life free from the *love of money*-

Be *content* with what you have-

How does 12:29 effect your desire to honor the Lord with the commands given in 13:1-5?

APPLICATION

Of those things highlighted in 13:1-5, what’s one that you can offer to God (12:28)?