

Hebrews Lesson 21

23 December 2024

4:12 Characteristics of the word of God:

- It is quick (alive)
- It is powerful
- It is sharper than any two-edged sword. It affects you physically and spiritually.
- It discerns your thoughts and the intents of your heart. It will show you why you do what you do.

4:13 “Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight...”

- The bible is applicable to everybody. Whatever your particular situation, whatever your specific traits, the bible speaks to you.

“...but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

- The bible uncovers things we’d like to hide. It brings things out into the light (Jn 3:21, 1 Cor 4:5, Eph 5:13).

Ecc 8:4 The word of God is the word of a king.

Prov 15:11 The Lord knows our heart and speaks of it in the bible.

Psa 33:13-15 The Lord sees the hearts of all men from heaven and considers all their works.

Psa 94:9 The Lord made your eyes and ears. He can see and hear whatever you see and hear.

Job 31:4 “Doth not he see my ways, and count all my steps?”

Jer 32:19 The Lord sees all the ways of the sons of men and rewards accordingly.

- Knowing that God sees all things, that knowledge ought to contribute to our rest, knowing that God sees who is treating us badly and He will take care of it in a righteous manner.
 - Remember that God sees the heart-intent of the person giving you trouble. Their motives may not be as evil as you think. God knows. Rest easy.
- Two-edged swords in the bible: (Prov 5:4, Psalm 149:6, Rev 1:16, 2:12, 19:15, Eph 6:17).

Isa 59:1 God’s ear hears all.

Psalms 90:8 God sees all our iniquities and secret sins.

Job 26:6 There is no hiding from God.

4:14 The subject of our Great High Priest begins here and continues through chapter 5. The context begins with chapter 3, verse 1, speaking of “**the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.**”

“**Seeing then that we have a great high priest...**” the Hebrews ought to compare Jesus Christ to anything they might turn back to because of persecution. Nothing is better than Christ. Their instruction is to “**hold fast our profession.**”

- If they go back to Judaism, the temple, and the earthly priesthood, they’ll find out it is all inferior to Jesus Christ.
- The Aaronic priesthood was very limited. No priest could meet the needs of every individual.
- Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, is unlimited in His ability to meet the needs of everyone.

“...that is passed into the heavens...” Jesus has a superior vantage point than any earthly priest. He is alive. All the earthly priests passed away and can do nothing further.

“...Jesus the Son of God...” Jesus is the man that God became to save His people from their sins (Matt 1:21). He was “God manifest in the flesh” (1 Tim 3:16).

- The same Jesus who walked the earth is passed into the heavens and is the mediator between God and men (1 Tim 2:5).
 - High priest: represents man to God.
 - Apostle: represents God to man.

Eph 4:8-10 Jesus Christ is not dead and buried. He is alive and ascended into heaven.

Lk 24:50-52 When Jesus departed from the earth, He ascended up to heaven.

Acts 1:9-11 Jesus Christ was taken up to heaven in a cloud and will return in like manner.

“...let us hold fast *our* profession.” Seeing that Jesus Christ is superior in every way, don’t turn back.