Hebrews: Jesus is Better Study Notes

Lesson 5 - Hebrews 3:1-6

Main Idea

Consider Jesus, the high priest who has performed a superior sacrifice on your behalf, and hold on to your hope in Jesus, the One who is greater than Moses and architect of God's house.

Introduction

In Jewish thinking, almost everything of importance relating to God was somehow connected to Moses. He was the highest example of human faithfulness to God. He was the redeemer and leader of the nation. In fact, the Messiah was expected to be a prophet like Moses (see Deuteronomy 18:15), thus a comparison between Jesus and Moses is obligatory.

Study Questions

- 1. Notice that 3:1 begins with "Therefore". Briefly summarize the doctrinal truth in 2:5-18 that is the basis for the application in 3:1.
- 2. In 3:1-2 Jesus is confessed as the Apostle sent to bring deliverance and as the High Priest, making atonement for the sins of God's people. As holy members of God's family, what does it mean to "share in a heavenly calling" (v. 1)? How can Jesus' faithfulness embolden us to hold fast in confidence and in hope to our heavenly calling (v. 6)?
- 3. What does it mean for Jesus to be the high priest of our confession? What are some ways this applies to our lives?
- 4. How else was Jesus' faithfulness greater than Moses' (see 3:5-6)?
- 5. Moses and Jesus are alike in that both were "faithful" to the One who appointed them (3:2). God said Moses was faithful in all his house (see Numbers 12:7). How did each man demonstrate faithfulness?
 - Moses (Exodus 3:10; 40:16)
 - Jesus (John 17:5; Colossians 1:13-14)
 - · Why was Jesus' act of faithfulness greater?

6. What does holiness look like in the life of the New Testament believer? 7. The author of Hebrews urges us to consider Jesus. The world urges us to consider everything else. What are some of the most prominent things the world urges you to consider instead of Christ? What are some helpful ways you can learn to consider Jesus more frequently and rightly in your context? 8. What evidence does the text give that suggests Christ is superior to Moses? Can you find any other texts in the New Testament that point to this superiority? 9. When the author says "we are his house" (3:6), who do you think he is referring to, and what does he mean? (See also Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5) Whole-Bible Connections¹ Faithful Servant. Moses faithfully fulfilled God's appointed roles as deliverer from slavery in Egypt, exodus leader, and lawgiver (Exodus 3:10; Deuteronomy 18:15-19). Jesus is greater than Moses in that he delivers his people from the greater slavery of sin and death, and into the promised eternal rest of God. **Personal Reflection** What aspect of 3:1-6 would you like to concentrate on for application this week? • What difference would you like this truth to make in your life? How can you go about taking this insight to heart and putting it into practice?

¹ Capps pg. 31