

Sermon Notes

There Is No Reason to Turn Back! ***An Exposition of the Book of Hebrews***

#21 – “Hope As the Anchor” – Hebrews 6:13-20

I. Introduction

A. Anchors help in preventing drifting.

1. Hebrews 6:19
2. Boat illustration

B. Today’s text: Hebrews 6:13-20

II. Exposition

A. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. Abraham

- a. Some pivotal parts of his life.
- b. God’s covenant with him, Genesis 12
 1. Romans 4:11, Galatians 3:29
- c. At 75 years old, he sets out for the Promised Land with no child.
- d. Wife beyond childbearing.
- e. His struggle to believe contrary to the reality of his life.
 1. Genesis 15:2-3; 4-7
- f. Key thought: Abraham’s life displayed perseverance which led to increasing faith.
 1. He was a doubter.
 2. He was encouraged again as noted in Genesis 17.

2. These verses hark back to a specific episode in his life.

- a. A great test of faith was over his son Isaac (Gen. 22).
 1. Called to kill the boy
 2. Left with the question: What about the promise?
 3. He displayed stalwart faith.
 - a. Heb. 11:19; Gen. 22:11-14
 - b. God’s response – Gen. 22:16-17
 4. Verse 14 of Hebrews 6 is a direct quote of Genesis 22:16-17.
 5. The Hebrews writer adds verse 15.
 - a. Here is encouragement for us each day.

- b. Later, the writer makes the point that Abraham did not receive all of the promise in this life. Instead he looked beyond – Heb. 11:9-13

B. Hebrews 6:16-18

1. God stands beneath no one.
 - a. God condescended to make an oath and swears by Himself as no one could be higher.
2. Swearing
 - a. Jesus called the practice into question – Matt. 5:33-37.
3. Two unchangeable things – His promise and oath.
4. Perseverance despite hardship
 - a. He chastised them – 5:11-6:3
 - b. Warned of the danger of falling away – 6:4-8
 - c. He encouraged them – 6:9-12
 - d. Now we have Abraham’s example.
5. Abraham was far from perfect.
 - a. We all have doubts.
6. “Obtained” the promise.
 - a. Not the typical verb for “receive” or “obtain.”
 - b. Means “arriving at” or “reaching”.

C. Hebrews 6:17-19

1. God’s promise to him was for us, too.
 - a. Abraham was the recipient but we are the objects.
 - b. Remember the sky filled with stars (Gen. 15)
 1. Paul explains – Gal. 3:16,26,29

D. Hebrews 6:20

1. A “forerunner” – only occurrence in all of New Testament.
 - a. Nautical term as it was used in the first century.

III. Points for Reflection

- A. We have many doubts, as did Abraham, but his life is cause for calming our insecurity.
 1. Heb. 11:12-13; II Cor. 1:20; John 8:56; I Cor. 2:9
- B. Pressing on in faith is the main point.
 1. Heb. 6:15
- C. We have cause for hope while the world has none.
 1. Philippians 4:6-8