

Hebrews 6:13-20 "The Anchor of our Soul"

***Note: Overheads will be in bold print.**

"For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and I will surely multiply you." And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." Hebrews 6:13-20

Review-Growing, and maturing, with a warning of not falling backward. Think, examine, value Christ Imitating others-expand

- **"But beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you and things that accompany salvation..." Hebrews 6:9**
- **"And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises." Hebrew 6:12**
- **"Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. Hebrew 13:7**

God's faithfulness to Abraham-promise and oath, swore by His Name, covenant-ancient practice, divine oath, Abraham took God at His Word,

- **"I will surely bless you and I will surely multiply you" Gen. 22:17**
- **"When the sun had gone down, and it was dark, a smoking pot and a flaming torch passed through the pieces. On that day the Lord make a covenant with Abram..." Gen. 15:17-18**
- **"By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD..." Gen. 22:16**
- **"Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness." Gen. 15:6**

Man's confirmation-greater than themselves, Usually God, swearing on Bible(danger) on Mother's grave, sworn before others. -Notary, buying property, Title insurance, (Hume transaction.)

"For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation." Hebrew 6:16 ESV

God's faithfulness to believers-God's heart, (even more)-ESV "desired to show more convincingly", "Unchangeable character," "of His purpose", "guaranteed it with an oath." God character, swore by His Name, no one higher, cannot/will not be changed, "Guaranteed", "impossible to Lie", Word and Oath

- **"So, when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He guaranteed it with an oath." Verse 17 ESV**
- **"So that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie..." Verse 18a**
- **"HE HAS SAID IT AND HE HAS SWORN IT" Spurgeon**

Cannot we trust God? Is He not faithful? Does He not keep His Word? Has He not convinced us of His Love through Christ? Devil's lie... doubt Is He not faithful? Knowing God's Character. God's wants us to take Him at His Word, we are going to learn in Hebrews 11 that it pleases Him when we do.

- **"Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments." Deut. 7:9**
- **"God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." I Cor. 1:9**
- **"Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass." I Thess 5:24**
- **"But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one" 2 Thess 3:3**
- **"If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself." 2 Tim. 2:13**
- **"If we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9**

Believer's Responsibility-Believe, take hold, hold on, "all our heart, mind and soul."

- **“We who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.” Verse 18b**

Taken refuge- Europe refugees-desperate need, nowhere else to turn. OT Cities of Refuge, John the Baptist. Great description of Christians. True Gospel- we are refugees, have only one place to turn-Christ. Not about easy belief. God’s mercy/kindness that produces repentance-thankful obedience- Proverb, Refugee Home

- **“But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “you brood of vipers, who warned you to flee the wrath to come.” Matt. 3:7**
- **“...for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.” John 8:24**
- **“The destruction of the unbeliever and the salvation of the believer are alike certain.” Matthew Henry**
- **“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” Proverbs 9:10**
- **“There is our first faith: that simple faith by which, having nothing, we became possessors of all things.” Spurgeon**
- **“Father, if Thy mercy had bounds where would be my refuge from just wrath? But Thy love in Christ is without measure.” Valley of Vision**

Strong encouragement- “take hold”, “BELIEVE GOD”, hope set before us- HOPE AHEAD!! One of the key verses when I was battling depression. (Turning off destructive thoughts.)

- **“Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you have been called.” I Timothy 6:12**

Anchor of our soul-Hope (does not disappoint)

- **“This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast...” verse19**
- **“And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance, and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy spirit who was given to us.” Romans 5:3-5**

Anchor, design, designed to keep the ship in safety, weather the storm, only thing from disaster, holding in place, not drifting away. (Santa Cruz) Making sure, double tying, Pt. Sal

“We realize the worth of the anchor when we feel the weight of the storm (?)”

Anchor holding Us- Picture not holding on to the anchor, but anchor is holding on to us. Digs in deeper the more the wind blows, the more secure it is. We are in God’s perfect hands during a perfect storm

- **“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.” John 10:28**
- **“But I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, not things present, not things to come, not powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:38.39**
- **“Your faith will not fail while God sustains it; you are not strong enough to fall away while God is resolved to hold you.” J.I. Packer**

Our Hope is in Heaven-Reference back to Chapter 5, our perfect high priest, passed through the heavens, entered the perfect tabernacle, perpetual priesthood, highest order, forerunner- has gone before us, More on Melchizedek next week. (Temporal-Eternal)

- **...”one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” Verse 19,20**
- **“But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all having obtained eternal redemption.” Hebrews 9:11,12**
- **“In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go to prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.” John 14**

•

Closing-Where is your anchor/hope today? God has given one that is sure and steadfast, never fails

- ***“I have cast my anchor in the Port of Peace, knowing that present and future are in nail pierced hands” (Valley of Vision)***
- **“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.” Eph. 1:18-19**

Closing Prayer-HOPE, call on worship team, men to serve

Communion-Served from communion table-2 songs

Concluding Praise Song

Benediction-Reminder-prayer team

**“Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” Hebrews 10:19-23
(underlining mine)**