

Remember

If I were to illustrate my own forgetfulness, I would not have enough room here to mention all the things I forget. I forget names, I forget phone numbers, I forget appointments, etc. I forget more and more the older I get.

God, however, has placed a lot of emphasis on memory. He wants us to remember a number of things in life. Let's take a look at some things we need to remember.

We need to remember our Creator (Judges 8:33-35; Psalm 63:6; 119:55; Ecclesiastes 12:1; Jonah 2:7). We need to remember our faults (Matthew 5:23). We need to remember Lot's wife—the one who disobeyed God (Luke 17:32). We need to remember the Lord's death (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25).

We need to remember God's Word (Psalm 119:52). We need to remember the exemplary faith and life of other brethren (Hebrews 13:3,7). We need to remember the persecuted will be rewarded (Hebrews 10:32-39). We need to remember to grow (2 Peter 1:12-15). We need to remember the saved can be lost (Jude 5). We need to remember our lost spiritual condition before we became a Christian (Ephesians 2:11).

Why remember these things? So God will remember us and reward us in the judgment day (Malachi 3:16-18). - *Chris Reeves*

Up-Coming Events

- We will have a VBS workday and card distribution starting at 9 AM on June 3.
- Plan now to attend our up-coming VBS, June 5-9, 2017.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Jesus Christ: God's Final Word

The same problem exists today among religious people that existed when the book of Hebrews was written in the 1st century. People are easily distracted from the truth by different voices: "Be not carried away by divers and strange teachings" (Hebrews 13:9). The solution to this problem is to view the voice of Jesus, not as one voice among many, but as the final word of God.

When you read Hebrews 1:1-4, you will note that the writer begins his book by contrasting God's word spoken to Old Testament persons with God's word spoken to New Testament persons. Then, the writer proceeds to list six characteristics of Jesus to show His superiority over the Old Testament prophets and even the angels. The writer's intent here is to convince his readers (Jewish Christians) that Jesus is God's final word and to encourage them not to fall back into Judaism and fall away from Jesus. Let us examine the Hebrew writer's argument.

"God, having of old time..." speaks of the Old Testament dispensation of time. God has always made his will known to man. He has never left himself without witness (Romans 1:18-32).

"Spoken unto the fathers" refers to all the Old Testament persons, in particular the Jews. "In the prophets" speaks of inspiration (1 Peter 1:10,11; 2 Peter 1:21). God spoke by and through the prophets.

"By divers portions and in divers manners" refers to the time and method of God's revelation. God spoke his will in many different parts (to Eve, Noah, Abraham, Moses, etc.) and in many different ways (in dreams, visions, angels, prophets, etc.).

"Hath at the end of these days" refers to God's word given in the final dispensation of time before the judgment day (from the New Testament period until today; see Isaiah 2:2; Acts 2:17; 1 Peter 1:20; 1 Corinthians 10:11; Hebrews 9:26).

"Spoken unto us" refers to the writer and his readers. "In [his] Son" refers to Jesus, the Son of God (John 2:48-50; Matthew 17:5). "Son" draws attention to Jesus' rank, dignity, and deity.

So, in the first couple of verses of Hebrews, the author makes several contrasts. There is the time contrast: old time vs. these days. There is the audience contrast: the fathers vs. us. There is the person contrast: many prophets vs. "Son" There is the content contrast: old time vs. end time. There is the method contrast: different methods vs. one method (Jesus).

When one understands the contrasts then one understands the advantages of remaining with Jesus. When one understands the contrasts then one understands that he has responsibilities toward God's word spoken "in his Son."

God has spoken to man through his son, Jesus Christ. This revelation shows that God

has a divine interest in human affairs (John 3:16,17; 15:26; 16:8ff). This revelation is necessary (1 Corinthians 2:10-16). This revelation is the inspired word of God (2 Timothy 3:16). The effects of this revelation brings salvation to mankind (2 Timothy 3:15). This revelation is understandable (Ephesians 3:4; 5:17; Colossians 1:9).

God's word "of old time" and in "these days" blends together into one message. God is the author of both testaments. Keep this in mind when you read the OT and NT. Someone has said: "He who reads only one testament, knows neither."

God has spoken to man for the last time. The New Testament scriptures are not just more "recent," but "complete" and final (2 Timothy 3:16,17). There will be no more revelation from God (Jude 3). Someone has said: "To be deaf to that last appeal is to have God speechless to us for ever." Today, God's word leads us to salvation. In the judgment day, God's word will sentence us to eternal punishment if we have not obeyed (John 5:24-29).

Since God has spoken to man, man has solemn responsibilities. We have greater privileges (Matthew 13:16,17), we are without excuse (Hebrews 2:1-4), and God's word is our ultimate and final authority (John 17:17).

Jesus Christ is God's final word. Let us not be distracted by any other word. Hear Jesus today! - *Chris Reeves*