

# Sermon Notes – September 5, 2021

## Review

- Hebrews 12 uses an extended analogy of a runner to teach us about the Christian life. For the follower of Jesus, life is like a long-distance race that carries urgency, brings danger, and threatens weariness. Christ ran His race all the way to Calvary's cross, and we run best when we keep our eyes on Him.
- Last week with Pastor Ben we again saw the contrast between the terrifying reality of sin pictured at Mt. Sinai, and the glorious grace of God brought to us in our Savior Jesus.

## Text & context: READ Hebrews 13:1-9

The book of Hebrews is loaded with solid doctrine on which we can build our lives and our faith! Doctrine is not meant simply to be taught and discussed and debated. It is meant to be lived. So, what does good Christian doctrine “look like”? Today's text identifies seven ways that our lives should “adorn” the gospel (Titus 2:10).

### 1. Love God's People (1)

- ⇒ You might think that this goes without saying – but it's easy to agree with the \_\_\_\_\_, but harder to *do* in real life.
- ⇒ The readers ARE doing this, but they must continue!
- ⇒ Galatians 6:10 “...do good to all, especially...”

### 2. Love Those Who Aren't God's People (Yet) (2)

- ⇒ In Bible times, hospitality to strangers was highly valued and much needed in that pre-\_\_\_\_\_ world.
- ⇒ Numerous stories in the Bible emphasize that in loving strangers we never really know what God is up to.

### 3. Meet Practical Needs (You Know What It's Like!) (3)

- ⇒ In this case, people were often in prison for “being on the \_\_\_\_\_ of history,” not simply for actually doing wrong.

### 4. Honor Marriage; Stay Away From Sexual Sin (4)

- ⇒ In every generation, God's plan for marriage is assaulted; sometimes celibacy is viewed as better, or God's boundaries are despised.
- ⇒ Honoring marriage is not just about saying no to wrong things, but about saying yes to right things. You aren't honoring marriage if you just \_\_\_\_\_ about how people are messing it up; you need to show them how it should be done. “Adorn” the gospel!

### 5. Be Content (People Will Be Amazed) (5-6)

- ⇒ The essence of advertising is to create a \_\_\_\_\_ for something that up until that moment, you didn't know you just HAVE to have, or your life will be forever incomplete. A contented heart is truly counter-cultural!
- ⇒ You see, of course, that the text calls us away from the *love* of money; it doesn't say, “Keep your life free from money.” See I Tim. 3:3; 6:10

### 6. Live At Peace With Church Leaders (7-8)

- ⇒ This is another radical idea! In this text, godly leaders are described as those who \_\_\_\_\_ God's truth clearly, and \_\_\_\_\_ it diligently (albeit, imperfectly).
- ⇒ Then, as now, there was conflict inside churches. See I Cor. 1:10-15; 16:10-12; I Tim. 4:12. See also 13:17

### 7. Don't Walk Away From Good Doctrine (9)

- ⇒ Every generation has its share of “diverse and strange” teachings, most of it resurrected from past generations like stale \_\_\_\_\_ in the back of a refrigerator, warmed up & repackaged like something new. Very little of it is actually new.
- ⇒ Rather, “eat, drink, & sleep” the gospel of grace – be strengthened by grace. Grace isn't actually a “\_\_\_\_\_.” Grace is a Person! The Lord Jesus Christ is grace personified.

## Responding to God's Word

- ⇒ Adorning the gospel means living like Jesus in a world that is, in fact, watching you every day...not just listening to your words, but watching your life, measuring your love, and evaluating your attitude.
- ⇒ As a church, let us adorn the gospel as well in our community, and around the world. What are some ways that we might do that today?

Worship Next Sunday: September 12, 2021

“We Seek An Enduring City”

(Hebrews 13:10-25) Pastor Jay Mosser