

Hebrews (May 9, 2021)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Hebrews 12:18-29

1. From Exodus 19:12-13, 16-19, 20:18-21; Deuteronomy 4:11-13 describe the Hebrews' experience under the old covenant on Mt. Sinai that is referred to in Hebrews 12:18-21.

2. Read Hebrews 12:22-24; Psalm 2:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; Revelation 21:1-8 and share what you find concerning Mt. Zion as promised in the new covenant. Note the fundamental differences evident among the old and new covenants and between Moses and Jesus as mediators.

3. Hebrews 12:23 mentions the "firstborn who are enrolled in heaven". Who are the firstborn (Hebrews 1:5-6, 12:5-6; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:3)? Why is this enrollment crucial (Luke 10:20; Revelation 20:12,15)?

4. What was the result of the spillage of Abel's blood compared to the spillage of Jesus' blood (Hebrews 12:24; Genesis 4:8-12; Romans 5:8-9)?

5. The shaking of the earth at Mt Sinai points to an eschatological shaking. Describe how this prophesied event escalates according to Hebrews 12:26-29; 13:8; Psalm 102:25-28).

6. Contemplate the things in everyday life that "will be shaken" and those that "will not be shaken" when Christ returns. Evaluate in which of these are you putting your confidence.

7. According to Hebrews 12:28-29, believers have been given a part in the "kingdom that can't be shaken" and should respond appropriately. How can we reflect gratefulness, acceptable worship, reverence and awe?