



# The New Mountain

Hebrews 12:18-29

# The New Mountain To Which We Have Come

- It is not Mount Sinai
  - Heb. 12:18-21 - “For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow. 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”

# It is not Mount Sinai

- Ex. 20:18 - “Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off.”
- Deut. 4:11 - “And the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of the words, but saw no form; you only heard a voice.”
- Deut. 9:19 - “For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which the LORD was angry with you, to destroy you.”

# It is not Mount Sinai

- Deut. 5:22-26 - “These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. 23 So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. 24 And you said: 'Surely the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he still lives. 25 'Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God anymore, then we shall die. 26 'For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?’”

# It is Mount Zion

- Heb. 12:22-24 - “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.”
- The mountain to which we have come encourages us to draw near!

# The New Mountain To Which We Have Come

- Zion was originally the stronghold of the Jebusites in Jerusalem that eventually became the city of David
  - 2Sam. 5:6-7, 9-10 - “And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who spoke to David, saying, You shall not come in here; but the blind and the lame will repel you, thinking, David cannot come in here. 7 Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion (that is, the City of David)... 9 Then David dwelt in the stronghold, and called it the City of David. And David built all around from the Millo and inward. 10 So David went on and became great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.”

# The New Mountain To Which We Have Come

- Zion eventually referred to:
  - The city of Jerusalem - Psalm 48:1-2 - “Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised In the city of our God, In His holy mountain. 2 Beautiful in elevation, The joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, The city of the great King.”
  - The heavenly Jerusalem where God dwells - Rev. 14:1-3 - “Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.”

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “The city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem”
  - The heavenly city longed for by Abraham and other pilgrims - Heb. 11:10, 13-16
  - The heavenly city longed for by Christians today - Heb. 13:14
  - The heavenly city we will one day directly experience - Rev. 3:12, 21:1-7, 22:14
  - “This heavenly city is where our Lord dwells and is our eternal home. In coming to Christ we have come into the covenant which gives us the right to a place in that city.” (B. W. Johnson, People's New Testament)

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “An innumerable company of angels”
  - Heavenly servants of God in great numbers
    - Rev. 5:11 - “Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands”
  - They minister to those who will inherit salvation
    - Heb. 1:14 - “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?”

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “The general assembly and church of the firstborn registered in heaven”
  - The church universal made up of all of the saved - Acts 2:47
  - The Firstborn enjoys the special privileges of birthright (primogeniture)
  - Their names are in the Book of Life - Rev. 3:5

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “God the Judge of all”
  - Abraham called God “the Judge of all the earth” -  
Gen 18:25

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “The spirits of just men made perfect”
  - Those who died in faith, such as the Old Testament heroes of faith - Heb. 11:39-40
  - They had not been made perfect apart from us, but were redeemed by the blood of Christ
    - Heb. 9:15 - “And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.”

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant”
  - He is the Mediator of a superior covenant -  
Heb. 8:6
  - This new covenant is by means of His death -  
Heb. 9:15

# In Coming To Mount Zion, We Have Also Come To:

- “The blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel”
  - Abel speaks through the example of his faith - Heb. 11:4
  - The sacrifice Christ offered is superior to the one offered by Abel, even though his was by faith
  - Heb. 10:11-14 - “And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- Those at Mount Sinai did not escape
  - Heb. 12:25 - “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven”
  - Heb. 2:2-3 - “For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation...”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- Those at Mount Sinai did not escape
  - Heb. 3:17-18 - “Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?”
  - Heb. 10:28-29 - “Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- The One who speaks will shake heaven and earth
  - Heb. 12:26-27 - “whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven. 27 Now this, Yet once more, indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- When God spoke at Mount Sinai, the earth trembled - Ex. 19:18
- The day is coming when both heaven and earth will be removed
  - 2Peter 3:10-12 - “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- We are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken
  - Heb. 12:28 - “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- We are now in the kingdom
  - Col. 1:13 - “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love”
- In another sense, we have yet to enter the kingdom
  - 2Peter 1:10-11 - “Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- It began on the day of Pentecost after Jesus ascended to sit at God's right hand
  - Acts 2:30-47
- It will be completed when Jesus returns to deliver the kingdom to God
  - 1Cor. 15:23-26
- It will stand forever
  - Dan. 2:44 - “And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- The One who speaks is a consuming fire
  - Heb. 12:29 - “For our God is a consuming fire.”
  - Matt. 10:28 - “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

# Why We Should Heed The Voice From The New Mountain

- God has spoken through His Son
  - Heb. 1:1-2 - “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”
- Will you heed His call to come to the New Mountain?