

“Jesus > Moses”
The Sermon God Wrote #8
Hebrews 3:1-6
November 1, 2015

Introduce Series
Introduce Reading

Hebrews 3:1-6

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

Prayer

Introduction

Question: who is your hero? Who is somebody that you look up to?

Proposition: As human beings, we are *made for* belonging and following—belonging to a people and following a leader. Jesus, the ultimate leader, is building a people, and we are to pledge our allegiance to him above all else.

Image & Worship

We were made for belonging & following because we are made in the image of God

- Belonging — Trinity, relationship, community
- Following — love, submission, deference
- We are all worshippers at heart
 - Sin — we exchange worship of the Creator for created things
 - When we don’t worship God, we don’t stop worshipping, we will worship anything
 - So we turn our leaders into gods

I. The Servant | vs. 1-2

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1. The backstory
 - a. Genesis 12 — God calls Abraham
 - b. Genesis 17-50 — Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, moving to Egypt
 - c. Exodus 1 — 400 years of slavery
 - d. Exodus 2 — Moses is born
2. Moses’ Resume
 - a. Divine protection & calling as a child
 - b. Raised in the Pharaoh’s home — educated, wealthy, well-acquainted with Egyptian culture

- c. Forty years as a Shepherd — alone time with God, hard worker, suffering
 - d. Liberator — political revolutionary // Martin Luther King Jr.
 - e. Leader — as many as a few million people
 - f. Law-giver — Spoke directly to God, was given God's holy and perfect law
3. Direct communication with God
- a. Numbers 12:6-8 — ⁶And [God] said, "Hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD make myself known to him in a vision; I speak with him in a dream. ⁷Not so with my servant Moses. He is faithful in all my house. ⁸With him I speak mouth to mouth, clearly, and not in riddles, and he beholds the form of the LORD."
 - b. Exodus 33:11 — Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

II. The Son | vs. 3-6a

³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son.

Jesus' sonship is greater than Moses' servanthood!

1. Possession:
 - a. 3:5 — "Moses was faithful in all *God's house*." Moses was faithful, but these people did not belong to him. Jesus was faithful, and we are now his people.
 - b. 2:13 — "Behold I and the children God has given me."
2. Position:
 - a. 3:5 — Moses was faithful *in* all God's house
 - b. 3:6 — Christ is faithful *over* God's house
3. Anticipation:
 - a. 3:5 — Moses "testified to things that were to be spoken later."
 - b. 1:3 — "after making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the majesty on high."
4. Opposition: remember that passage from Numbers that's being quoted here? The context of that passage is Moses being opposed by the people
 - a. 3:16 — "'For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses?'"
 - b. 2:9 — "Jesus tasted death for everyone"
5. Duration:
 - a. 3:5 — Moses *was faithful* in all God's house
 - b. 3:6 — Christ *is faithful* over God's house

III. The Saved | vs. 3b-4, 6b

[T]he builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)...And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

1. God is building a "house," made out of people!

1. 1 Peter 2:5 — ...you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
2. Ephesians 2:19-22 — ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.
2. God gets the glory and honor
 1. No house builds itself, but God is the builder
3. Moses was faithful, Jesus was faithful, we are called to be faithful

Conclusion | vs. 1

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession...

- “Our confession” — what we talk about, what our life demonstrates
- If people were to look at your life, would they see a loyalty to Jesus that eclipses all other loyalties?

Jesus wants to occupy the #1 place in our lives:

C.S. Lewis quote: “Our Lord is like the dentists. If you give Him an inch, He will take an ell. Dozens of people go to Him to be cured of some one particular sin which they are ashamed of (like masturbation or physical cowardice) or which is obviously spoiling daily life (like bad temper or drunkenness). Well, He will cure it all right: but He will not stop there. That may be all you asked; but if once you call Him in, He will give you the full treatment. That is why He warned people to "count the cost" before becoming Christians. "Make no mistake," He says, "if you let me, I will make you perfect. The moment you put yourself in My hands, that is what you are in for. Nothing less, or other, than that.”

Call to Response

- Offering
- Communion
- Singing