

A Study of the General Epistles

NT Survey Lesson 154—Hebrews 12

Introduction: In view of the many witnesses of faith the writer has mentioned in chapter eleven, he now urges the Hebrews to faithfulness to the Lord, accepting their persecutions as discipline from the Lord for their holiness. He reminds them of the experience of their ancestors as they came to Mt. Sinai, urging them to recognize that God now speaks from Mt. Zion and should not be refused.

Lesson aim: To show how God uses persecution to discipline His children.

An appeal to accept the discipline of the Lord—Heb. 12:1-17

1. In view of the witnesses surrounding them, what did the Hebrew writer exhort his readers to do? (v. 1) Upon whom were they to fix their eyes? (v. 2)
2. How does the Hebrew writer describe Jesus' experiences? (v. 2-3) What did he want his readers to do in view of this?
3. Had the Hebrews' persecutions reached the point of shedding blood? (v. 4) What exhortation had they forgotten? (v. 5-6)
4. God was dealing with the Hebrew Christians as what? (v. 7) What did this cause Him to do?
5. How had the Hebrews responded to their human fathers? (v. 9) How then should they respond to God, their spiritual father?
6. What are the results of the Lord's discipline? (v. 10-11)
7. What two things did the writer urge them to do? (v. 12-13)
8. What two things did he urge them to pursue? (v. 14)
9. What things were they to see to it that they did not occur? (v. 15-17)

God is now speaking from heaven itself—Heb. 12:18-29

1. What kind of mountain had the Hebrew not come to? (v. 18-21) To what OT event is the writer referring? How did Moses respond to the sight? (v. 21)
2. To what mountain had the Hebrews now come? (v. 22) To what else had they come? Define each one (v. 22-24).
3. What exhortation did he give in view of God's speaking from Mt. Zion? (v. 25) Why?
4. God had shook Mt. Sinai in the past. What would He shaken in the future? (v. 26) What would remain?
5. What had the Hebrews received? (v. 28) What should be their response in view of this? Why? (v. 29)