



Hebrews 12:12 - 29

Persevering together in light of heavenly realities

We continued in the theme of persevering in the Christian life In Hebrews 12 on Sunday morning. The writer to the Hebrews urges us to press-on together in light of the heavenly realities that are ours in Christ.

Are there things that particularly challenged or encouraged you in the passage?

1. Persevere in faith together (v12-17)

- How do these verses show us the importance of our ongoing perseverance in faith to one-another?
- How do we avoid becoming like Esau, who '*sold his inheritance rights*' for momentary pleasure (verse 16-17)? Are there some temptations like this we need to guard against?
- Can you think of ways in which we might better '*see to it that no-one falls short of the grace of God?*'

2. Persevere in light of heavenly realities that are yours in Christ (v18-24)

- What are the contrasts between the two mountains in these verses?
 - Why and how is 'Mount Zion' a much better mountain to 'come to'?
 - How does the description here of the reality we have come to in Christ encourage you to keep persevering in faith?
3. Persevere and praise God – because this reality cannot be shaken (v25-29)
- What is the significance of God's promise to 'shake not only the earth but also the heavens' (verse 26)? What does this teach us about the permanence of God's kingdom?
 - In what ways might we need to hear this as a warning?
 - How does the idea of kingdom that cannot be shaken give us hope, especially in times of trial or suffering?
 - Verses 28 and 29 encourages us to be 'thankful and to worship God with acceptability with reverence and awe.' What are some practical ways we can do this in our daily lives?