



Stirred But Not Shaken

Keith Walker

Minister-at-Large Christian & Missionary Alliance, Canadian Mid West District

Keith.Walker@Usask.ca

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A. Primary Text: Hebrews 12

B. The Shaky World We Live In

⁶You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth pains. (Matthew 24:3-8)

C. The Context and First Readers of the Letter to Hebrews

Homesick, anxious, frightened, questioning, error-prone, stalled, listless, immature, drifting, wavering, tired/weary, distracted, identity confused, bitter . . . (i.e., Heb 2:1-3; 3:12-15; 4:1, 7, 11, 14; 5:11-14; 6:1-3, 11, 12, 15; 10:23, 25, 32-39; 12:1, 3-6, 11, 12, 15) and in need of **stirring** via Exhortation, Encouragement, Enlightenment

D. Stirring Words of Hebrews 12

- Throw off, run with perseverance (1-11)
- Be strong, make straight, pursue peace & holiness, don't be like Esau (12-24)
- See to it – don't refuse warnings, trust, don't spurn grace (25-27)
- Be thankful, serve and worship (28, 29)

E. Therefore Hinges (x4)

- **LET US, THEN, BOTH KNOW AND DO:** **Therefore**, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²**let us draw near** to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³**Let us hold unwaveringly** to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And **let us consider how** we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵[let us] not giving up meeting together, as some are in the

habit of doing, but [let us be] encouraging [of] one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:19-25)

- **LEGACY OF FAITHFUL: Therefore**, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, **let us** throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And **let us** run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² **[let us]**fix[ing] our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1, 2)
- **LOVING DISCIPLINE OF THE FATHER: Therefore**, **[let us]** strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³“Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. (Hebrews 12:12, 13)
- **LIVING, LASTING, WORSHIPING: Therefore**, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, **let us** be thankful, and **[let us]** so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our “God is a consuming fire.” (Hebrews 12:28-29)

F. The Unshakeable Kingdom of God

- Kingdom of God (of Heaven): The range of God’s effective will, where what God wants done is done. It is an everlasting metaphysical reality, the natural home of our souls. It is God and His everlasting reign.
- The shaking of the world is to get our attention, restore His truth and glory in creation, and to provide His gift (Hebrews 12:25, 28; Haggai 2:6-9).
- **Our Kingdom priority:** “³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But **seek first his kingdom and his righteousness**, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:30-33)

G. Essence of Message from Hebrews 12 for Us Today

As we continue to fall in love with Jesus Christ and look to Him as faithful and indwelt disciples, we will experience the benefits and blessings of His “Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.” We are called to yield to Him as our Saviour, our Source, our Goal and our Anchor. We need to be stirred to love Him with our whole being and to receive His Kingship in our lives. In doing so we CAN NOT BE shaken. The triune God is our covenant keeping and redeeming God who has never lost a battle and His kingdom WILL NOT be shaken. In Him our longings are fulfilled and our fears are quelled: we are safe, secure, significant, and unshaken. (1 Corinthians 3:10-15; Romans 8:28, 38, 39)

Tisdale Alliance Church