

# Finding the Unshakeable City

HEBREWS 12:18-29

JESUS IS GREATER



**Jesus is greater than \_\_\_\_\_.**

# Hebrews 12:18-29

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to a physical mountain, to a place of flaming fire, darkness, gloom, and whirlwind, as the Israelites did at Mount Sinai.

<sup>19</sup>For they heard an awesome trumpet blast and a voice so terrible that they begged God to stop speaking. <sup>20</sup>They staggered back under God's command: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup>Moses himself was so frightened at the sight that he said, "I am terrified and trembling."

<sup>22</sup>No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering. <sup>23</sup>You have come to the assembly of God's firstborn children, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God himself, who is the judge over all things. You have come to the spirits of the righteous ones in heaven who have now been made perfect.

# Hebrews 12:18-29

<sup>24</sup>You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup>Be careful that you do not refuse to listen to the One who is speaking. For if the people of Israel did not escape when they refused to listen to Moses, the earthly messenger, we will certainly not escape if we reject the One who speaks to us from heaven! <sup>26</sup>When God spoke from Mount Sinai his voice shook the earth, but now he makes another promise: "Once again I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also." <sup>27</sup>This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain.

<sup>28</sup>Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe.

<sup>29</sup>For our God is a devouring fire.

## **Deuteronomy 4:11-14**

“You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain while it blazed with fire to the very heavens, with black clouds and deep darkness. Then the Lord spoke to you out of the fire. You heard the sound of words but saw no form; there was only a voice. He declared to you his covenant, the Ten Commandments, which he commanded you to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets. And the Lord directed me at that time to teach you the decrees and laws you are to follow in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess.”

# The Old Covenant

- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.

# The Old Covenant

- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.
  - Dark cloud of smoke

# The Old Covenant

- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.
  - Dark cloud of smoke
  - Flaming fire
  - Darkness
  - Gloom
  - Whirlwind

# The Old Covenant


- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.
  - Dark cloud of smoke
  - Flaming fire
  - Darkness
  - Gloom
  - Whirlwind
  - The mountain shook
  - God's voice thundered

# The Old Covenant

- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.
  - Dark cloud of smoke
  - Flaming fire
  - Darkness
  - Gloom
  - Whirlwind
  - The mountain shook
  - God's voice thundered
- The people had to be consecrated.

# The Old Covenant

- Given at a physical mountain: Mount Sinai.
  - Dark cloud of smoke
  - Flaming fire
  - Darkness
  - Gloom
  - Whirlwind
  - The mountain shook
  - God's voice thundered
- The people had to be consecrated.
- A boundary was established between the people and God.



**God in His holiness,  
sovereignty, and authority is far  
too great for sinful humans to  
be in His direct presence.**

**But...**

# The Kingdom Under the New Covenant

- Where God resides.

# The Kingdom Under the New Covenant


- Where God resides.
- Angels come together **joyfully**.

# The Kingdom Under the New Covenant

- Where God resides.
- Angels come together **joyfully**.
- The children of God are united and assembled.

# The Kingdom Under the New Covenant

- Where God resides.
- Angels come together **joyfully**.
- The children of God are united and assembled.
- It is a place of:
  - Joy
  - Grace
  - Love



“Those who now live by faith and hope have already, in a sense, arrived at this heavenly city. They already belong there, in prayer and worship they are already welcome before God’s throne.”

~ N.T. Wright

# Characteristics of the New Covenant

1. The New Covenant is the work of Jesus.

# Characteristics of the New Covenant

1. The New Covenant is the work of Jesus.
2. We are forgiven through the blood of Jesus.

# Characteristics of the New Covenant

1. The New Covenant is the work of Jesus.

2. We are forgiven through the blood of Jesus.

3. Because of His sacrifice, we have been justified and deemed righteous by faith.

## Romans 3:20-22

“Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by works of the law; rather, through the law, we become conscious of our sin. **But now** apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.”

# Characteristics of the New Covenant

1. The New Covenant is the work of Jesus.
2. We are forgiven through the blood of Jesus.
3. Because of His sacrifice, we have been justified and deemed righteous by faith.
4. We go to God Himself.

**The Jewish Christians could not believe in what Jesus had done while simultaneously living as if they were under the Old Covenant.**



**We walk in a new way of life, one  
that Jesus calls us to as we  
follow His example.**



**Worldly Success**

**Wealth**

**Fame**

**Possessions**

**Safety**

**Health**

**Money**

**Popularity**

**Relationships**

**Worldly Success**

**Wealth**

**Fame**

**Possessions**

**Safety**

**KINGDOM**

**Health**

**Money**

**Popularity**

**Relationships**

# Kingdom-Minded

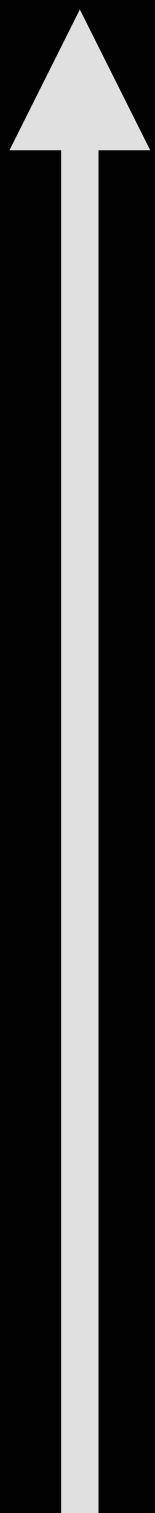
- We recognize our need for God.
- We grieve sin in our lives, and we search for healing in Jesus.
- We value others and are kind and gentle. Not taking advantage of those around us.
- We seek after God's righteousness and we seek holiness in our lives.
- We forgive others and make peace with them.

## **Verses 28 and 29**

Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe. For our God is a devouring fire.



**Proclaim the Good News!**



**Live Lives of Worship**



**Proclaim the Good News!**



**Jesus**



**Jesus is greater!**