

Pick Your Mountain

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Hebrews 12:18-24

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

If you've trusted in Jesus' blood, you're not under the terrors of the law - Mt. Sinai. 18-21

- Law given at Mt. Sinai^{Ex19}. Terrifying^{Heb12:18-21}
- God's law should instill in us a fear of His Holiness & Judgment
 - *words made the hearers beg that no further*^{Heb12:19}...
 - We only come to God on His terms^{Ex19:12-13; 2Sm6:7}
- God's law should install in us our NEED for God's Mediator
 - Moses, Aaron, priests = sinners^{Heb5:1-4}
 - Jesus, a better mediator^{Heb7:26-27}

If you have trusted in Christ, then you have come to the joys of the New Covenant in Jesus' Blood 22-24

1. You've come to the joy of inclusion in the city of the Living God

- 1) Mt. Zion^{2Sm5:6-8}; synonym of Jerusalem^{Ps147:12; Amos1:2; Mic4:2}; represents place where God dwells with his people
- 2) City of the Living God - city^{Heb11:10,16; 13:14}; Entrance is by faith alone^{Heb3:12; 9:14}
- 3) The heavenly Jerusalem - holy city^{Rev21:2}; fellowship with God^{Rev21:3-4}

2. You've come to the joy of angels in festal gathering

- Angels are celebrating God's redemption of believers!

3. You've come to the joy of the Church of the Firstborn who are enrolled in heaven

- firstborn: usually refers to Jesus^{Lk2:7; Rm8:29; Col1:15,18; Heb1:6; Rev1:5}; earlier in Hebrews to those struck by destroyer^{Heb11:28}
- HERE refers to redeemed saints^{Rm8:29} now brothers of Christ
- Don't squander our inheritance for fleshly passions like Esau

4. You've come to the joy of a Judge who is God of All!

- Terrifying to come before Judge who knows all...
- Gospel truth - Jesus fully satisfied God's wrath^{Rm3:24-25}
- Gospel - all that is left is reward for us by Spirit^{Mt10:42; Gal6:9}

5. You've come to the joy of the spirits of the righteous made perfect

- Gospel truth - we're declared righteous by faith in Christ^{Phi3:9}

6. You've come to the joy of Jesus - the mediator of a new covenant

- God sent Jesus to be our mediator^{Heb8:6; 1Tim2:5; Gal3:19,24}

7. You've come to the joy of the sprinkled blood which speaks better than the blood of Abel

- Abel's blood^{Gen4:10} cries out for God's justice against sin
- Jesus' blood is better^{Heb12:24}

So What?

- Where are you living? Mt. Sinai or Mt. Zion
- Sinai = trying to earn acceptance with a Holy God by attempting to keep His Holy Law... live in terror^{Gal3:11}
- Zion = live on Zion by faith alone in Christ alone!