

/Hello. / Let us begin with the fourteenth lecture on Hebrews. / The title of chapter 13 is “Love.”

/First point, love your brothers. / Verses 1-3. / Second, do not be greedy. /Verses 4-6. / Third, do not be carried away by strange teachings. / Verses 7-9.

/Fourth, let us go to Him outside the camp. / Verses 10-14. / Fifth, offer sacrifices that God is pleased with. / Verses 15-16. / Sixth, obey your leaders. / Verse 17. / Seventh, request and blessings. / Verses 18-21. / Eighth, encouragement and greetings. / Verses 22-25.

/Verse 1. / Keep on loving each other as brothers.

/The author is telling the Hebrew Christians, / “You have become Christians, / and you must not treat your physical Jewish brothers / with less kindness.”

/Even if they persecuted them, / they were not to do the same. / Instead, they were to think that they were given the chance to show God’s grace / and love to their brothers as Christ did. / If they did not love their brothers, / they were not true believers.

/The crux of Christianity is love. / The Hebrew believers loved others, / but they were to continue to love, so that their love would not grow cold.

/There are issues concerning ceremonies of the law/ and other religious differences. / Fighting over these reasons/ negatively /affect spiritual love. / The author warned them/ and told them to continue to love their brothers and sisters.

/We who are a family of faith must have a special kind of love. / This is because we were created in the same image, / we profess the same faith, / and we have the same covenant.

/Brotherly love/ is like a frail plant that requires much attention. / If we do not attend to it and water it, it will wither. / This love does not come from our nature. / Our nature, our true nature,/ is corrupted.

/Yet, we received God’s love from the outside. / Because the nature is different, / when people mistreat us, / we are easily influenced by it. / Our hearts wither easily at their harsh words.

/Therefore, in order for this love to grow and stay strong, we are to attend to and take care of it well. / God’s word that tells us to continue to love our brothers is his word of grace. / We have been saved by God’s grace.

/Hence, we must show grace to others. / This word is comprehensive. / We must encourage one another, / comfort one another with good works, / show attention to one another, / and love one another.

/This is also a powerful word. / We must submit to God’s word. / We must rely on the

Holy Spirit even when we practice our faith. / We must rely on the Holy Spirit when we love.

/There are things that prevent us from loving our brothers. / Let's look at some examples. / Self-love, / pride, / sectarianism, / love for the world, / forgetting to love brothers, / and impatience.

/We must get rid of these / and continue to love our brothers. / We must love our brothers for God's glory. /We must also pray so that we can love our brothers.
/There is a way to love.

/We see in verse 2, / "Do not forget to entertain strangers."

/We believers must be diligent in receiving Christians in need. / During the time this letter was written, God's people had dispersed because of persecutions. / The dispersion of Jews is called "the Diaspora." / They wandered around without homes because they left their homeland.

/The verse says that entertaining these strangers brings the same rewards as receiving angels. / This does not mean that / we will receive honor when we receive strangers. / It means that there will be an abundance of rewards / for those who are faithful in entertaining strangers.

/There is another way to love. / We see in verse 3, / "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering."

/There were people whose freedom were taken away and were imprisoned, / who received harsh punishments, / who faced great penalties, / whose husbands were imprisoned, / and whose providers of the family were taken away.

/We must help these people.

/The verse says, "as if you were their fellow prisoners." / There was the possibility that they would be in that situation.

/In verse 4, it says, / "Marriage should be honored by all."

/Marriage is the foundation of a family. / This is because God poured out special honor on marriage. / This is the first regulation that God instituted. / Thus, family life is one of the great teachings of Scripture.

/Why did God institute marriage? / First, / increase of offspring. / Proverbs 5:18/ Malachi 2:15/ Second, / prevention of sexual immorality. / 1 Corinthians 7:2/ Deuteronomy 23:2/ Third, / prevention of discomfort of living alone. / Genesis 2:18

/Also, there are conditions when choosing our spouses. / First, / we cannot marry someone within our family. / Leviticus 18:6-7/ Second, / a Christian must marry a Christian. / 2 Corinthians 6:14/ Third, / marriage should be done in the Lord. / 1 Corinthians 7:39

/Then how should a couple live as a family? / First, / there must be love. / Ephesians 5:25/

/Second, / the husband is the head of the family. / Ephesians 5:23/ 1 Peter 3:7/ Third, / the wife must submit to her husband. / Ephesians 5:22

/The husband/ must not put himself in debt to others, / but lead his family well. / He must also provide for the needs of his family.

/We see through this verse / that celibacy is wrong. / Celibacy/ is only reserved for those who received the gift of remaining celibate. / Sexual relationships between a married couple is not filthy.

/It is a beautiful thing that God has instituted in holiness. / Thus, God said that he would judge the sexually immoral.

/We see in verse 5, / “Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have.”

/This means that we should not be greedy. / Greed is the opposite of satisfaction. / Greed leads to / dissatisfaction with the things God gave us, / and makes us wish excessively for worldly things.

/Even the Ten Commandments / say that we are not to covet our neighbor’s house. / Also in Luke 12:15, it says to be on guard against all kinds of greed.

/Complaints are a sign of/ ignoring God’s wisdom, / is the denial of God’s goodness, / is an opposition to God’s will. / It is also resistance against God’s sovereignty / and disbelief in God’s providence.

/In 2 Samuel 12:7-8 / we see the prophet Nathan reproach David. / When David defiled Uriah’s wife, / Nathan told David that God gave him everything. / If that was not enough for him, / God would have given him more things.

/God did not give him more things / because David had enough at the time. / This does not apply only to David. / It applies to all of God’s people today.

/We must believe that God gave us a suitable amount of things, and we must rely on the Lord.

/It also says in verse 5, “and be content with what you have.”

/ We must be content with the things God gave us. / This is because / God said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”/ God knows all our needs.

/It is written in verse 6, / “The Lord is my helper.”

/This means that the Lord always had the heart / to help us when we need help.

/God is trying to help us at all times, / so what should we be afraid of then?

/It says, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?”

/In verse 7, it says, / “Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you.”

/The Christians/ were persecuted by unbelieving brothers. / Also, they faced the danger of apostasy.

/Yet, there were spiritual leaders who led them. / These leaders were those who taught them God’s word. / They were to remember those leaders.

/They were to remember their leaders and imitate their faith. / “Remember your leaders” / refers to reverence and submission to them. / Also, there were teachings and warnings / that they were to firmly hold on to.

/Also, what “imitate their faith”/ means is that they are to follow their leaders’ examples./ Just as the leaders trust in God, / they are to trust in God. / We also should remain in their profession of faith/ and follow their examples.

/When we are tempted by apostasy, / we must remember the faithfulness of our ancestors of faith / and remember their persecutions. / We must think about our leaders’ principles of faith/ and be influenced by them. / Our ultimate goal should be to please the Lord.

/It says, “Consider the outcome of their way of life.” / We must consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate them.

/It says in verse 8, / “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

/The theme of the Book of Hebrews / is that Christianity is superior to Judaism. / This verse proves the theme of Hebrews. / There were many changing systems / in Judaism.

/When we compare those systems, / Christ fundamentally exists as the same being in all generations. / The spiritual leaders passed away during the Old Testament period. / However, Christ is everlasting. / Also, we are shaken if we do not hold on to Christ.

/It says in verse 9, “Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings.”

/Christ is the same teacher, / he has the same will,/ the same teaching, / and the same purpose. / The truth is not two, but one.

/The verse says, “all kinds of strange teachings.” / There are many things that are not of the truth. / We must know that the truth is the one and only Jesus Christ. / Ephesians 4:5/ Jude 3

/Verse 10, / “We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.”

/It says in verse 9, “It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace.”/ This refers to confidence about the truth/ and peace with God.

/To “strengthen” / refers to being firm and unwavering.

/To be “strengthened by grace” / refers to the grace of God / that is outside of us. / It is grace that God wants to give us.

/Also, / it refers to the gift of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. / God / gave us new life. / He planted a new nature in us, / and the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

/We rejoice in God/ and wait for Christ. / We know and accept Christ as the bread of life. / We follow / the Holy Spirit / who works in our hearts.

/The verse says, “not by eating ceremonial foods.”/ If we look at Leviticus chapter 11, / it says that the people were allowed to eat animals that chewed the cud and had split hooves, /and animals that did not were not to be eaten.

/From there, clean and unclean animals were distinguished. /Romans 14:13-23. / In Romans, it says that some have strong faith and eat all kinds of meat,/ while some with weak faith only eat vegetables.

/In the Old Testament times, food was separated, / but in the New Testament period, such rituals were abolished.

/We must keep the truth that is within the rituals. / The laws concerning rituals and the written code were abolished. / Those who realizes this ate both meat and vegetables. / However, some did not, and they only ate vegetables.

/Our hearts are not strengthened by food. / It is best that our hearts are strengthened by grace. / Now, the Holy Spirit / leads us / through the truth / and through Christ. / Our hearts are strengthened when we follow him.

/It says in verse 10, “We have an altar.”

/Worship in Israel during the Old Testament times was a model. / The reality is Jesus Christ. / Here the altar / symbolizes Jesus Christ. / It teaches us about Christ’s glorious personality.

/When the people converted from Judaism, / the altar disappeared. / They no longer had to serve God at the altar. / This appeared as if they betrayed the tradition of their ancestors. / That is why the verse says, “We have an altar.”

/When God’s people / worship, / they try to show that Christ / is the provider of their spiritual food.

/“From which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.”

/“Those who minister at the tabernacle” / refer to those who continued to give sacrifices in Jerusalem / at the time this letter was written.

/When this letter was written, / those who continued to offer sacrifices in Jerusalem/ had no right to eat at the altar of Christ. / They could not enjoy benefits / from the personality and sacrifices of Christ.

/Those who clung to Judaism / had no right to enjoy the privileges given to Christians. / Because they leaned towards rituals and systems, / they did not accept Christ.

/It says in verse 11, / “The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.”

/In the sin offering of the Old Testament, / the blood of animals were brought into the Most Holy Place, / and the body of animals was burned outside. / Leviticus 4:1-12/ 12-21. / The blood of the sin offering / was first, / brought into the Most Holy Place. / Leviticus 4:6/ However, it was not taken in with other offerings. / This displayed the honor of the Son.

/Second/ the fat of the internal organs were burned. / Leviticus 4:8-10/ This showed that the Lord would be a pleasing aroma to God.

/Third,/ the entire animal was burnt outside. / Leviticus 4:12/ However, the regulations of sacrifices of the Levi priests / did not give righteousness or peace with God.

/This is because/ animal offerings cannot redeem humans. / Therefore, in order for one to benefit from the altar of Christ,/ he needed to first leave Judaism.

/It says in verse 12, / “And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.”

/The sacrifice offering was killed / and its body was burned outside the camp. / This showed Christ, / who received the wrath of God who hates sin.

/Verse 13 says, / “Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.”

/The “camp” / was a place where the people set up their tents. / It was the camp of Jerusalem, / and it was a place of Judaism’s politics and religion. / It was also a center location.

/To be inside the camp / means that they had all rights in Israel. / However, those who could not exercise their rights / were sinners who were taken outside the camp.

/When this letter was written, / the camp referred to Judaism, which abandoned its faith. / Judaism nailed Christ to the cross. / The world may appear different, / but it is essentially the same.

/Thus, “go to him outside the camp” / means to leave the camp morally and religiously. / It means to leave the camp religiously.

/It means to give up all rights that oppose / the works of faith / and communication with Christ.

/In other words, / to go outside the camp means to go before Christ. / Our hearts / must turn away from / Satan, / sin, / the world, / and all things that oppose Christ. / We must leave ourselves to Christ.

/Therefore, our spirits must go before Christ. / We must go before Christ, / first, / through prayer. / Second, / we go before Christ by faith. / Galatians 2:20.

/Third, / we go before Christ by acting with hope. / We must put our hope in Christ when we are discouraged. / Fourth, / we go before Christ by the works of love. / We must follow our loving Lord. / Fifth, / we go before Christ by submitting our will to Christ.

/It says in verse 14, / “we do not have an enduring city.”

/The city / first / refers to a place where safety is guaranteed. / Second, / it is a place where houses are densely located. / Third, / it is a place where everything we need in life are prepared for. / Fourth, / it is a place of rest.

/Like this, we have a home in heaven, / and that home is our everlasting place of rest. / Here in this world, there is no eternal city. / Like Judaism, / Christians do not have a specific city where they could worship God.

/Believers / do not have the city that provides them / with things in the world that are their ultimate aim. / We look towards what is to come. / It is the kingdom of heaven.

/We can see in verse 15, / “therefore, / let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise.”

/The order of sacrifice for Christians is as follows. / First, / we must confess our sins before God with truly repentant hearts. / Second, / we must accept the grace of Christ, /

and in order for us to accept His grace, we must believe in Christ.

/We must go before Christ / with broken hearts, / believe in His blood, / and tell God about the work of Christ. / God is pleased with sacrifices / that are given with repentant hearts.

/Third,/ we must devote ourselves. / Romans 12:21/ Fourth,/ we must offer the fruit of our lips. / When we lift God up, we give him the sacrifice of praise. / This sacrifice is not only offered on the Sabbath Day, / but must be given at all times.

/Next, in verse 16, / we see another kind of sacrifice / and that is to do good and share with others. / God told us to do good. / We must give food to the hungry, / clothe the naked, / and help the poor.

/To those who have much, / God gave them the chance to give thanks / and love. / To those who have little, / God made them submit to him, /wait for him, / trust in him, / and worship him.

/We see in verse 17, / “Obey your leaders and submit to their authority.”

/The leaders here refer to all of those who hold offices. / Why must we submit to them? / This is because they keep watch over us. / They wish for goodness of the believers’ souls. / Believers must respect the works they do.

/The verse says that we must let them work with joy. / Obeying the teachings of pastors / is a way to greatly encourage them. / When we look down on them, / we look down on the compassion we receive.

/It says in verse 18, / “Pray for us.”

/True servants of Christ / become the channel of our goodness. / They strive to devote themselves to God / with faith and love. / It says, “Pray.”

/It also says, “We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.”/ Because they are always upright before God / and obey him, / we must help them.

/In verse 19, it says, / “I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.”

/He was not in a position to return to them. / Thus, he asked the Hebrew believers to pray for him.

/In verse 20, it says, / “May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back / from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep.”

/In verse 21, it says, / “equip you with everything good for doing his will, / and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, / to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

/It says, “equip you with everything good.” / God’s word / should be applied / to believers who hear God’s word. / We must pray that God’s word would move believers / so that God’s good will would be fulfilled.

/After a preacher delivers God’s word, / God’s word / should apply to their lives. / Also, we must pray that it would move them / so that they would continue to do good. / This is why we want others to be equipped with everything good.

/It should fix their disorderly souls / and make them worthy of serving the Lord with holiness.

/It says, “for doing his will.” / This means to fulfill God’s will.

/“What is pleasing to him” / means that, / first, / we must be conscious / of what God sees / every day. / Second, our purpose must be to please God. / Third, we must examine ourselves and see whether or not things happened according to God’s will.

/Verse 22/ is the author’s word of exhortation. / “Word of exhortation” refer to the entire teachings of Hebrews. / He is telling them to bear with his word of exhortation.

/Verse 23/ “I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been released.”

/Timothy went with Paul on his missionary journeys. / Timothy shared in Paul’s sufferings. / He told them that Timothy was released.

/In verses 24-25, / he greets them. / We servants of Christ / must love one another/ and continue to love.

/“Grace be with you all.”

/We have been saved by grace, / stand in grace, / and are preserved by grace. / We must give our efforts to the Lord, / and we must pray that Christ would fill our weaknesses. / We must pray that believers would receive God’s grace and blessings.

/With this we will conclude the fourteenth lecture on Hebrews. / Thank you very much.