

# Remember What?

Scripture:	
Announcements:	
Scripture Reading:	
<div>RECAP:</div>	<p>Over the last 3 weeks we have looked at a warning for the Hebrew church.</p> <p>— It was a warning that there are those who seem to be believers but are not.</p> <p>— — Those who taste but do not eat, they experience but don't commit, and those that have been there but are not a part of the body of believers.</p> <p>— — — The warning is not to follow in their foot steps, but remain firm in their commitment to God.</p> <p>— — — — We learned about the eternal state of believers and how there is a connection to God that is unbreakable.</p> <p>— — — — — We also learned that God gives blessings to the believer and the non-believer alike but it is the believer who does something with those blessings.</p> <p>— — — — — — The non-believer takes the blessings from God and uses them for their own selfish gain.</p>
<div>INTRODUCTION:</div>	<p>Today we will not be looking at a warning but a moment of encouragement and building up.</p> <p>— The author is not telling the Hebrews that they are like those mentioned previously but that they have done well.</p> <p>— — The author tells those he is writing, to keep working hard and producing fruit.</p> <p>— — — The author is reminding the readers that God does not remember the believer in Christs shortfalls but He remembers their work.</p> <p>— — — — Lastly, the author charges the readers to continue in faithful service to God.</p>
Passage Begins	

Scripture:	
<p><b>Hebrews 6:9–12 (NASB95): 9 But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.</b></p> <p><b>10 For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.</b></p> <p><b>11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end,</b></p> <p><b>12 so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.</b></p>	<p>So, we just finished up a difficult passage and the author gives us this bit of scripture.</p> <p>—He references confidence in these believers’ ability to stay strong in the faith until the end.</p> <p>— —He addresses them with love at this point, calling them beloved.</p> <p>— — —He is sure, he is confident in the personal connection of the people that he is speaking.</p> <p>— — — —He tells them that there are better things in store for those that are believers in Christ.</p> <p>— — — — —Better things are in store for believers than those that taste and walk away, than those who experience but don’t commit, and better than those who misuse the blessings of God.</p>
	<p>So what are the better things?</p> <p>—<b><u>READ: Philippians 1:6 (NASB95): 6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.</u></b></p> <p>— —The better things are perfecting works of Christ in our lives.</p> <p>— — —These better things accompany salvation. So, all better things that accompany salvation.</p> <p>— — — —So, things like forgiveness of sins: <b><u>READ: Acts 2:38 (NASB95): 38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.</u></b></p> <p>— — — — —Oh!!! The Holy Spirit is also a better thing that God gives those that are saved.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p><b><u>READ: Ephesians 2:8–9 (NASB95):</u> 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.</b></p> <p>— Better things are grace, faith, and not being judged based on our works but being judged on Jesus’ righteousness.</p> <p>— — <b><u>READ: Titus 3:5 (NASB95):</u> 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,</b></p> <p>— — — Mercy, regeneration, and renewing are all better things.</p> <p>— — — — <b><u>READ: John 6:44 (NASB95):</u> 44 “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.</b></p> <p>— — — — — Being raised up in the last days is a better thing that believers have coming to them.</p> <p>— — — — — There are so many more “better things” that believers in Christ have than those who do not come to Christ don’t have.</p>
	<p>How does the author know that they are going to receive these better things?</p> <p>— How does he have such confidence in them to be able to say this?</p> <p>— — His confidence in them comes in verse 10 where the author talks about their work, their love that they have shown towards God’s name, and the ministering they have done to the saints.</p> <p>— — — So, the author has observed these believers and found these qualities in them.</p> <p>— — — — What about you? If someone observed your life would they see evidence of these things in your life?</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>The first thing that this early church did well is: they worked.</p> <p>—As we talked about last week, we are called to work and do work for God.</p> <p>— — <b>READ: Ephesians 2:10 (NASB95): 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.</b></p> <p>— — <b>READ: Colossians 3:23–24 (NASB95): 23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.</b></p> <p>— — — Work is something that accompanies our faith, not because we have to be because it is who we become.</p> <p>— — — — <b>READ: James 2:18 (NASB95): 18 But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”</b></p>
	<p>The second thing that the author has noticed about those he is writing to is: the love they have shown God’s name.</p> <p>—In the time that this book was written your name was bigger than something you were called by.</p> <p>— — If we think about it, a name carries a lot of weight.</p> <p>— — — In the greek, name means: the proper name, reputation, what is said about a person.</p> <p>— — — — So, as Christians we are called to represent the name of God well.</p> <p>— — — — — Showing love to the name of God means we show love to God and that is one of the most important commands that God gives us.</p> <p>— — — — — — <b>READ: Mark 12:30 (NASB95): 30 and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’</b></p>

Scripture:	
	<p>People think that taking the Lord’s name in vain means that we don’t use His name when we curse.</p> <p>—But looking that the word vain in the Hebrew it means: futility, worthlessness, nothing, falseness, and emptiness.</p> <p>— —When we are not showing love to the name of God we are taking it in vain.</p> <p>— — —<b><u>READ: Exodus 20:7 (NASB95):</u></b> 7 “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.</p> <p>— — —<b><u>READ: Leviticus 19:12 (NASB95):</u></b> 12 ‘You shall not swear falsely by My name, so as to profane the name of your God; I am the Lord.</p> <p>— — — —We are ambassadors for Christ/we are representatives of Christ and the way we live our lives will reveal what the one we represent is like.</p> <p>— — — — —<b><u>READ: 2 Corinthians 5:20 (NASB95):</u></b> 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>Lastly, the third evidence in their lives that they will get to have the “better things” is: their ministering they have done to the saints.</p> <p>—What does this mean? This means that they have loved people enough to minister to them.</p> <p>— — <b>READ: Mark 12:31 (NASB95): 31 “The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”</b></p> <p>— — — William Hendriksen wrote, “The readers demonstrated their love for their neighbors when troubles and hardship were evident, and they continued to show unselfish love. This love is the fruit of a regenerated heart that is always ready to serve God’s people.”</p> <p>— — — — These believers were serving each other lovingly and they were serving in practical ways.</p> <p>— — — — — The question is, are you serving in love those of the church or is your pride getting in the way? Does your service bring together the body of Christ or is your disservice tearing the body apart?</p>
	<p>So the author is praising the readers for their work and their love.</p> <p>—The author gives us another message in there that I think is very important and encouraging.</p> <p>— — That message is that God does not forget the work we have done for Him; in taking care of the blessings He has given us.</p> <p>— — — He does not forget the work we put in to preparing ourselves, denying ourselves, allowing God’s word to root in our hearts, and cultivating and keeping that which He has planted in our hearts.</p> <p>— — — — God does not forget that work and so much more.</p> <p>— — — — — God remembers the fruit we produce: <b>READ: Matthew 7:20 (NASB95): 20 “So then, you will know them by their fruits.</b></p> <p>- — — — — — Hendricksen wrote, “Their lives exemplify the field that brings forth a crop useful for God’s people, in marked contrast to the author’s picture of a field overgrown with thorns and thistles.”</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>God remembers the deeds of the believer that produce good fruit but He also forgets the believers thorns and thistles once they have been taken care of.</p> <p>— God forgives us when we repent of our sins and once we have repented of our sin, God forgets those sins that would be held against us.</p> <p>— — <b>READ: Isaiah 43:25 (NASB95): 25 “I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.</b></p> <p>— — <b>READ: Hebrews 10:17 (NASB95): 17 “And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”</b></p> <p>— — <b>READ: Psalm 103:12 (NASB95): 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.</b></p> <p>— — — We need to think about this for a minute; the God of the universe lets go of our transgressions, sins, and rebellion; but He remembers the things that are good that we have done, He remembers our work that we have done for Him. WE SHOULD MARVEL AT THIS!!!!</p>
	<p>Now, who are we to not forgive and forget our brother and/or sister when they sin against us?</p> <p>— How prideful to hold on to things! How worldly, sinful, and warlike is it for us to hold on to one’s transgressions.</p> <p>— — <b>READ: Colossians 3:12–13 (NASB95): 12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.</b></p> <p>— — <b>READ: Ephesians 4:32 (NASB95): 32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.</b></p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So verse 11-12 tells us to not be lazy but continues on in diligence; why?</p> <p>— So, we can realize the full assurance of hope.</p> <p>— — We should be diligent in our growth; this is what is being said once again.</p> <p>— — — The author of Hebrews most-likely some kind of pastor for them is concerned about their growth pace.</p> <p>— — — — Much like in the church in America today, the pace of Christian church maturity has rapidly slowed down.</p> <p>— — — — — We need to be growing and we need to be changing for Christ.</p> <p>— — — — — — <b><u>READ: 2 Peter 3:17–18 (NASB95): 17</u></b></p> <p><b>You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.</b></p> <p>— — — — — — <b><u>READ: 2 Peter 1:10–11 (NASB95): 10</u></b></p> <p><b>Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.</b></p>



Scripture:	
	<p>So, what is our practical application? What is our take home?</p> <p>— If you are a believer in Christ you have been given the better things through your salvation.</p> <p>— — Remember and enjoy the better things that God has given you. Focus on the better things and not the perishable things of this world.</p> <p>— — — Does your life reveal your work for Christ, your love that you have shown towards God’s name, and the ministering you have done to the saints?</p> <p>— — — — Or does your life show the neglect of these things?</p> <p>— — — — — Are you embracing the forgiveness of God and not forgiving others?</p> <p>— — — — — — Are you continuing on in your maturing process or are you struggling to mature for Christ.</p>