

Epilogue

The book of Hebrews was written primarily to those actively pursuing the Kingdom of God. It gives vital instructions for completing the task of converting the mind from the “works of the flesh” to the “fruit of the Spirit.” Therefore, it is a fitting conclusion to this book titled The Priests of Melchisedec. This concluding section is a paraphrased translation of the King James Version of the book of Hebrews. We hope and pray that the information the Father is revealing to you will encourage you to pursue your eternal destiny. We can’t wait to be joined with you as “Priests after the Order of Melchisedec!”

Book of Hebrews

Chapter One

This chapter is about the role of Jesus in God's plan of salvation. It gives a clear explanation of His purpose and destiny.

¹God used the prophets in various ways in the Old Testament to reveal to our ancestors their true destiny. ²He sent us Jesus as a spokesman in the New Covenant that would reveal to us our true destiny. The learning environment was created specifically for Jesus and His co-heirs. ³Jesus became the perfect example for all of us to follow in the pursuit of the Kingdom. He was able to completely purge sin from His life and is now at the right hand of the Father. ⁴He is now at this moment a member of the Family of God! ⁵This opportunity of being a son of God was never made available to the angelic realm. A Father and son relationship for mankind was established for the first time when Jesus was resurrected and welcomed into the Family. ⁶It was for this purpose that Jesus was brought into the world to be the first begotten son. ⁷The angels are truly magnificent as created beings. ⁸The Son of God is much more magnificent! ⁹Jesus loved the "Fruit of the Spirit" and hated the "works of the flesh." The Father was, therefore, well pleased with the outcome of His life on this earth. ¹⁰The Father laid the foundation of His plan of salvation from the beginning of time. Everything we see as physical was created for the purpose of His Marvelous plan. ¹¹The physical world will someday perish but the Spiritual results of the Father's plan will last forever. ¹²When God's eternal plan is completed the physical world will pass away. ¹³Jesus was the first of many to be born into the Family of God.

The angels are serving as the Father's aides in helping those who will be future co-heirs of salvation.

Chapter Two

This chapter helps us to understand our role as co-heirs with Jesus. Our destiny is linked with Jesus' destiny. Jesus is now our intercessor.

¹We should get serious and excited about the things we have heard about our personal salvation. It's easy to take this knowledge for granted. ²Even the angels were diligent in their adherence to the laws of God. ³Our potential of being sons of God is much more awesome. Jesus led the way as the first begotten. It is up to us to use Him as a guide to our personal salvation. ⁴The Father has given us all the proof and information we need for completion of His plan. ⁵The future world is to be ruled by His sons not the angels. ⁶King David was awed by the prospect of man's destiny. ⁷He knew that God made man weak and fragile for a purpose. Man was made master of the physical creation to prepare him to be masters of a Spiritual world. ⁸This Spiritual world will be governed by the Sons of God for eternity. ⁹Jesus was put through the process of achieving salvation first as an example for us. He would blaze the trail for everyone that would choose to follow in His footsteps. ¹⁰He was selected by God to be the captain of our salvation. We will also be required to perfect the "Fruit of the Spirit" in our lives. ¹¹Jesus is proud to be our elder brother in this process. He does not consider Himself better than us. ¹²We can count on Him being with us in our battle with Satan. ¹³He put His complete trust with the Father while He was on the earth. We must do the same in our lives today. ¹⁴We are subjected to

the pulls of the flesh just like Jesus had to endure. Jesus was victorious! ¹⁵His victory will lead us to true freedom. ¹⁶True freedom from Satan's influence leads us to the Family of God. ¹⁷The first born experienced human desires just like us. He is very merciful and faithful as a high Priest in fulfilling the will of the Father. ¹⁸He is more than able to help anyone tempted by Satan.

Chapter Three

This chapter compares the 144,000 kings of the Old Testament to the 144,000 Priests of the New Testament. It points out that obedience is still required!

¹Jesus is now serving as a "Priest after the order of Melchisedec." ²He was faithful to the New Covenant Spiritual requirements as Moses was faithful to the Old Covenant physical requirements. ³There are differences between the two covenants. Jesus' Spiritual accomplishments under the New Covenant were more glorious than Moses' physical accomplishments under the Old Covenant. ⁴It was the Father who established both the Old and New Covenants. ⁵Moses was faithful to the covenant of the 144,000 kings. ⁶Jesus was faithful to the covenant of the 144,000 Priests. ⁷The Holy Spirit of God will lead you to the truth of His plan if you will only listen. ⁸Don't resist the Spirit's guidance in your life. ⁹The nation of Israel resisted God's guidance for forty years in the wilderness. ¹⁰They never seemed to comprehend what God was offering them. ¹¹God will not reward disobedience to His laws. ¹²Obedience to His laws is still required for us in the New Covenant. ¹³We need to be willing to help each other to escape the deceitfulness

of sin. ¹⁴We will be made co-heirs with Jesus if we endure to the end. ¹⁵Don't be foolish and hard headed like those of the Old Covenant. ¹⁶Many resisted God's help that were brought out of Egypt. ¹⁷Those that resisted did not go into the Promised Land. ¹⁸God will never reward disobedience. ¹⁹Their unbelief caused them extreme grief.

Chapter Four

This chapter admonishes us to make sure we don't fall short of our destiny.

It gives us vital information to consider in preventing this failure.

¹We should make sure the same resistance to God's guidance doesn't happen to us as it did to Israel. ²The good news of the Kingdom of God was delivered to both covenant groups. A lack of faith in God's promises can affect our acceptance of God's will in our personal lives. ³The plan for mankind's salvation was established from the beginning of time. Only those that truly believe will enter into the promised rest He has prepared. ⁴What kind of a rest is our Father offering? ⁵The Father spoke of the "rest" from having to work against the pulls of the flesh. ⁶Many are called into this "rest" but not all respond faithfully. ⁷We have been given a choice. We are being asked to not harden our hearts. ⁸Jesus showed us clearly the way. He said to follow in His footsteps to receive salvation. ⁹God will free us from the pressures of the flesh if we really desire it. ¹⁰Victory and completion of our mission in life is within reach. ¹¹Our number one goal in life should be to please the Father. ¹²The path to salvation has been set and revealed to only those who seek it. God knows our true commitment level. He examines our motives and personal thoughts. ¹³The Father is aware of everyone's actions and status in the salvation process.

¹⁴Jesus proved a human could achieve salvation. He is now a High Priest in the Family of God. ¹⁵He was tempted in all points just like we are, yet He became perfect. ¹⁶This accomplishment by Jesus should give us boldness in our pursuit of perfection.

Chapter Five

This chapter explains the selection process God established for choosing priests. It can help us understand the process used for our selection as a Priest.

¹The office of high priest in the Old Covenant was chosen from men and ordained by God to offer sacrifices for both gifts and sins. ²These priests Of the Old Testament were human like everyone else. ³The priest also had to sacrifice for sins in his life. ⁴The office of the physical priesthood was a physical calling from God. ⁵The Priesthood in the New Covenant is also a calling from God. Jesus was called to be a high Priest in the New Testament. He was personally begotten by God for that purpose. ⁶Jesus was then made a “Priest after the Order of Melchisedec” after His resurrection. ⁷When Jesus was in the flesh, He had to endure the pressures of sin. The Father constantly helped him because Jesus sought His help through prayers and obedience. ⁸Jesus was strengthened through His obedience to the Father during His earthly suffering. ⁹His continued obedience to the Father’s will made Him perfect in character. This pattern of obedience by Jesus established the path toward salvation for all of us. ¹⁰He was called by God and is now a High Priest after the “Order of Melchisedec.” ¹¹A reluctant response to our high calling can hinder our understanding of Spiritual matters. ¹²We cannot be proficient in teaching

others until we understand spiritual matters ourselves. Our growth in spiritual knowledge can become stagnant because of a lack of action. ¹³As long as we are lacking in knowledge, we will be unskilled in the word of righteousness. ¹⁴God will only give depth of knowledge to those who are diligent in their response to Him.

Chapter Six

This chapter is about our personal calling. It tells us we should trust God in our lives and gives us encouragement to continue our journey to salvation.

¹If we follow the example Jesus established, it will lead us to perfection. We will no longer be prisoners of the “works of the flesh.” It will enable us to accomplish our destiny in God’s plan of salvation. ²The “works of the flesh” in our life will be a thing of the past. The power of God’s Spirit will lead us to the promised resurrection and the mercy of God’s eternal judgments. ³This is the true destiny God desires for all mankind. ⁴When we finally achieve our eternal destiny, through the power of God’s Spirit, it will be impossible to fall away. ⁵We will be an actual member of God’s eternal family. ⁶The safety net of God’s Spirit working with you is finally removed. You will then be a member of the Family of God! ⁷The earthly learning environment that was used as a temporary classroom was a blessing. ⁸It will someday be destroyed by God. ⁹A better spiritual world awaits us beyond this mortal life. ¹⁰He will reward your labor of love with something much better. ¹¹We should all be diligently pursuing the hope of a better world unto the very end of our lives. ¹²We shouldn’t be lazy, but followers of others who have walked in Jesus’ footsteps in the past. ¹³God fulfilled His promises to Abraham

concerning the Old Covenant agreement. ¹⁴He blest him and multiplied his seed upon the earth. ¹⁵Abraham received the promises of God because he was patient until the end. ¹⁶Those who trust God will not be sorry for their patience. ¹⁷God promised we would be co-heirs with Jesus in the Kingdom by an oath. ¹⁸This oath and promise from God will be accomplished! We will be rewarded by the hope set before us, if we have been willing to separate ourselves from the “works of the “flesh.” ¹⁹This hope of salvation should give us a strong foundation of growth. ²⁰Remember, Jesus made it. He is now a “Priest after the Order of Melchisedec!”

Chapter Seven

This chapter explains the duties of the priesthood. It makes a clear distinction between the priesthood of the Old and New covenants. It gives us hope of a better covenant.

¹The most high God of the Old Testament, known as Melchisedec, met Abraham returning from battle and blessed him. ²Abraham was diligent in giving this King of righteousness and peace a tenth of all that he produced. ³This being known, as Melchisedec, had the form of a man but was not a human. He was not born of earthly parents as others. His existence stretched into eternity. ⁴He had to be more than a human being for Abraham to give Him the tenth of his substance. ⁵The physical priests of Levi had a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law. These priests were the descendants of Abraham. ⁶Abraham paid a tenth to someone who was not human before the physical priesthood was established. This is someone who also shared eternal

promises with Abraham. ⁷These promises were eternal promises that only a God could fulfill. ⁸Physical priests in the Old Covenant eventually died. Entrance into the Spiritual Priesthood is everlasting. ⁹These tithes by Levi were physical just as Abraham paid tithes to Melchisedec. ¹⁰The Levitical priesthood didn't exist when Abraham met Melchisedec. ¹¹If the priesthood of Levi in the Old Testament could have produced perfection it would have been called the "order of Aaron." There would not have been a need that another Priest should arise after the "Order of Melchisedec." ¹²The physical priesthood of the Old Covenant was changed to the Spiritual Priesthood of the New Covenant. ¹³The new Spiritual Priest would come from a source other than the tribe of Levi. ¹⁴Jesus came out from the tribe of Judah. Moses didn't mention the tribe of Judah concerning the priesthood. ¹⁵This new Priesthood would spring from Melchisedec not from humans. ¹⁶Melchisedec was not human because He possessed the power of an endless life. ¹⁷Jesus was declared a Priest after the order of Melchisedec after His resurrection. ¹⁸The old physical priesthood came to an end as the new Spiritual Priesthood emerged. The old priesthood was never able to lead the way to eternal life. ¹⁹The Old Covenant priesthood did not produce perfection in a person's character. The New Covenant introduced a Priesthood of spiritual perfection. ²⁰This Spiritual Priesthood came as a promise from the Father to all mankind. ²¹The promise of a Priest after the "Order of Melchisedec" was never given to the priesthood of the Old Covenant. ²²Jesus was the first born of this better Priesthood of the New Covenant agreement. ²³All the priests of the Old Covenant eventually died. ²⁴The Priests of the New Covenant will live forever. ²⁵Therefore, Jesus is able as our intercessor, who lives forever, to help us in our pursuit of the Priesthood. ²⁶We can also become Priests by separating ourselves from the sin of this world. ²⁷Once

you become a Priest after the “Order of Melchisedec,” it will be eternal just like Jesus’ eternal Priesthood. ²⁸Once again, the physical priesthood of the Old Covenant was temporary. The Priesthood of the New Covenant is eternal!

Chapter Eight

This chapter explains in more detail why the New Priesthood was needed. It also informs us that the Spiritual Priesthood is available to everyone.

¹Here is the conclusion of the subject thus far: We now have a High Priest at the right hand of the Father in heaven. ²He is a Spiritual Priest not a physical priest. ³The physical priests were required to offer gifts and sacrifices. What kind of gift does this new Spiritual Priest have to offer? ⁴He is not on the earth today as a physical priest. ⁵The physical priests offered gifts and sacrifices that were a shadow of things to come. Moses was told that everything in the tabernacle was patterned after something heavenly. ⁶The real ministry and better promises are now here! ⁷The first covenant wasn’t anywhere near as good as the second covenant. ⁸Those under the Old Covenant will someday have a chance to accept the New Covenant agreement. ⁹They will not be under the old agreement that God made with Israel when they left Egypt. They were not even able to keep that agreement. ¹⁰When they are resurrected, God will put His laws in their hearts. We will finally be together as a family. ¹¹The knowledge of the Family of God and the Royal Priesthood will be known by everyone. ¹²What they did under the Old Covenant will not be held over their heads. ¹³It is time to eliminate the Old Covenant agreements of the past and move on with the better covenant!

Chapter Nine

This chapter gives a description of the better Priesthood. It compares the physical procedures of the physical priesthood to the spiritual meaning of the Spiritual Priesthood.

¹Let me give a brief description of the first covenant that consisted of physical services. ²There were two basic parts of the tabernacle in the Old Testament. The first part consisted of a table, a candlestick, and the showbread which is called the sanctuary. ³The second part, separated by a veil, was a section called the “Holiest of All.” ⁴This section called the “Holiest of All” consisted of the golden censer, the Ark of the Covenant overlaid with gold. Inside the ark was the golden pot that had manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant. ⁵Over all this were the Cherubim portraying the mercy of God. The Children of Israel had no idea what these symbols really meant in the Old Testament. ⁶When these things were first established, the priests would go into the first section to start the service. ⁷All the priests were not allowed into the second section. Only the high priest was allowed to go in once every year. He had to take blood which he offered for himself and the errors of the people. ⁸This meant that the way into the Spiritual Priesthood was not yet available to mankind. The first covenant would have to end. ⁹Now, all this was a shadow of a covenant that was to come in the future. None of this ritualistic service could make anyone perfect. ¹⁰The different carnal ordinances of washings and sacrifices were a shadow until the “real deal” arrived. ¹¹Now that we have briefly explained the first covenant, let’s talk about the new and better covenant! Jesus came as our High Priest and announced the good news of the Kingdom of God. It would

be a Spiritual tabernacle instead of a physical tabernacle. ¹²There was no longer a need to sacrifice animals for sins. By death He presented Himself unblemished and perfect to the Father and entered into the “Holy of Holies” as a member of the Family of God. ¹³The physical services performed by the physical priests could not accomplish this task of perfection. ¹⁴If we want to be a part of the Family of God, we must use the Spirit of God to purge ourselves of the “works of the flesh.” We must stand before the Father as a perfect son. ¹⁵Jesus has already accomplished what we must also accomplish. He is now the “yard stick” we must use in comparing our progress in the conversion process. ¹⁶Jesus was to be the example for us by completing the whole process. This required Him to be faithful until the end of His life. ¹⁷He proved that He could endure to the end. ¹⁸That’s why we had the symbolism of blood in the first covenant. ¹⁹Moses delivered the ordinances to the people of Israel. He then sprinkled both the book and all the people with the blood of calves and of goats mixed with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop. ²⁰He then announced that the blood joined them with God. ²¹He even sprinkled blood on the tabernacle and all the vessels to make the point God was presenting. ²²This was informing us that our lives must be given in the pursuit of our destiny. ²³These ordinances of the old covenant were picturing something much better than they realized. ²⁴Jesus didn’t have to present the blood of animals in order to enter the “Holy of Holies.” He presented Himself a perfect son to the Father. He is now with the Father in heaven. ²⁵He only had to present Himself as a sacrifice once. The physical high priests were required to present themselves every year. ²⁶Jesus was required to live a life of pursuing the Kingdom of God and making the conversion to the “fruit of God’s Spirit.” ²⁷We all must

die at least once. ²⁸Jesus only had to die once! He set the example for the many that will follow. We should all look forward to His coming at the seventh trump!

Chapter Ten

This chapter explains what the “shadow of things to come” means in the New Testament. It helps us to understand what our role should be in the new covenant.

¹The sacrifices of the Old Covenant could not accomplish perfection required by God. ²If they could have produced perfection there would not have been a reason for them to cease. ³The sacrifices helped them to remember that sin was present with them.

⁴Obviously, the blood of bulls and goats couldn't eliminate sin. The rituals only reminded them of sins presence in their lives. ⁵Jesus knew it was a sinless life that God required for salvation. ⁶God established a process that would eventually produce perfection. ⁷Jesus was determined to do the will of the Father. ⁸He knew the Old Covenant sacrifices were not required for Him. ⁹He was determined to be a part of the Spiritual Priesthood offered by the New Covenant. ¹⁰We can make the same choice by following in Jesus' footsteps.

¹¹The priests of the Old Covenant worked daily to perform their tasks that would not take away their sins. ¹²Jesus' daily sacrifice of His life in the conversion of His mind produced results. ¹³He didn't allow His enemies to distract Him. ¹⁴He proved to everyone that perfection was possible. ¹⁵The same Holy Spirit that helped Jesus succeed is available to us. ¹⁶God wants us to love His laws and incorporate them in our lives in this New Covenant agreement. ¹⁷If we make the decision to yield to God's will, our sins of the past

will be forgotten. 18Don't let your past sins that were forgiven bother you. 19We should be bold in our pursuit of entering into the "Holy of Holies" by following in the footsteps of Jesus. 20Jesus had the courage to lead the way. 21He is now a High Priest in the House of God. 22Our sins can also be forgiven. Therefore, draw close to God with a full assurance of victory! 23Don't waver in your pursuit of salvation. God will fulfill what He promised to mankind. 24You should encourage others to incorporate the "fruit of God's Spirit" in their lives. 25Take every opportunity you can to be with brethren that share your excitement for God's purpose for humanity. This fellowship will be beneficial during times of trial. 26Becoming perfect is our personal responsibility. You are not under the old covenant where a priest will offer sacrifices for you. 27If you continually resist God, He will not allow you to enter His Family. 28Those who broke the law in Moses' day suffered the physical penalties when found guilty. 29Don't reject what God is offering you! To be denied entrance into the Spiritual Priesthood of God would be a terrible shame. 30You can't by-pass the requirements of God. He will be the judge of your actions. 31God is very strict in the requirements for the Spiritual Priesthood. 32Don't forget the zeal you displayed at the beginning of your journey. 33You were willing to separate yourselves from those that were sinners. They didn't understand your actions. You chose to be with those who desired to please God more than man. 34You were willing to join yourself to those who were being persecuted. You didn't mind giving up worldly possessions for a better and enduring substance. 35Remain confident of the reward God has promised you. 36Patience will be rewarded! 37Jesus will return quicker than you think. 38God will never be pleased with those who give half-hearted efforts. Let

faith be your driving force. ³⁹We should not allow ourselves to be numbered among those who turn back to destruction.

Chapter Eleven

This chapter is devoted to those of the old covenant who were obedient to God. They will be members of the group of 144,000 kings. We can learn a lot about the role of faith in our process of conversion from those of the Old Testament.

¹True faith in God's promises will pay off! ²It was that kind of faith that allowed our earthly fathers to endure. ³We must have faith that God is the creator of everything. ⁴By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain. He obtained righteousness by his obedience. ⁵By faith Enoch was moved from the earth so he would not see death. He pleased God prior to his removal from the earth. ⁶Everyone needs faith to please God. We must believe that God will keep His promises. ⁷Noah also had faith in God's promises. He was warned of the destruction by water of his society. He believed what God warned would happen and took action. ⁸Abraham was willing to respond to God's guidance even though he didn't completely understand where it would take him. ⁹He was willing to get out of his "comfort zone." Isaac and Jacob would also have the same willingness to respond to God's will. ¹⁰Abraham had a vision of something much greater than earthly possessions. ¹¹Sara, his wife, also had faith that God would fulfill His promises. She was strengthened by God in child birth although she was well past the years of child bearing. ¹²From the faith of Abraham and Sara a great nation arose. ¹³All

these individuals died in the faith that God would fulfill His promises to them. They all knew they were on this earth for a temporary purpose. ¹⁴They all desired to be in the Kingdom of God! ¹⁵If they had not been focused on the Kingdom of God, they would not have had the strength to continue their journey. ¹⁶God was very pleased with their faith and patience in His promises. Their place is already prepared in the Kingdom! ¹⁷Abraham had so much faith in God's promises that he defied all logic in his willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac. ¹⁸Abraham knew that somehow Isaac had to live out his life on the earth because God promised that a great nation would come from him. ¹⁹He knew that even if God allowed him to slay Isaac that God would bring him back to life. ²⁰Isaac had the same faith in God and informed Jacob and Esau of the promises God had made. ²¹Jacob, before he died, passed those promises on to Joseph and his two sons. ²²Joseph also passed on the promises and prophesied the departure of Israel from Egypt. He even gave instructions on not leaving his bones in Egypt. ²³It was faith in God's promises that gave Moses' parents the courage to defy the Pharaoh's commandments. ²⁴Many years later, Moses displayed the same faith in God's promises as his fathers had done. ²⁵He could have stayed in his "comfort zone." ²⁶He knew that the promises of God were much better than any treasure on this earth. ²⁷He was willing to give up everything, if necessary, for the promises of God. ²⁸He was willing to accept the safety that God promised to all those who are obedient. ²⁹God rewarded the faith that was displayed by giving them safe passage through the Red Sea. Their enemies were destroyed by God. ³⁰It was by faith of our fathers that the walls of Jericho fell down after seven days. ³¹The harlot Rahab escaped death by having faith in God. By helping those whom God had chosen, she joined herself with those of faith. ³²There are many acts of faith displayed by God's

people. We could mention individuals like Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae, David, Samuel, and the prophets. ³³Through faith, they chose righteousness over the wickedness of the world. Even the mouths of lions were not able to touch them. ³⁴Some escaped being burned to death, others escaped being executed. They were transformed from serving the “works of the flesh” to serving the “fruit of the Spirit.” Their transformations made them alien to the ways of the world. ³⁵There were additional examples of children raised from the dead. Others endured torture without giving in to the pressure. They knew there was a reward at the future resurrection of the dead. ³⁶Many were ridiculed and sometimes thrown in prison. ³⁷Some were slaughtered by the sword or stoned to death. Many were willing to give up physical possessions to achieve their destiny. ³⁸They knew the physical things of this world were only temporary. They were as strangers and sojourners on this earth. ³⁹All of these of the old covenant are now waiting for God’s promises to be fulfilled. ⁴⁰They will not be resurrected until the New Covenant promises are fulfilled in us!

Chapter Twelve

This chapter is devoted to those who choose to be faithful under the new covenant agreement. It will be from this group that the 144,000 Priests will be selected. We are told that God will be faithful to us.

¹The example of God’s intervention in the lives of those of the old covenant should give us the strength to lay aside every obstacle on our path to salvation. We should boldly pursue our destiny! ²We have the advantage of the example of Jesus to follow. He gladly

rejected the world's rewards for God's promises. He made the right choice and is now with the Father. ³We should be strengthened by His example. Don't let doubt and weaknesses beset you. ⁴Your journey is not over until you endure to the end. ⁵Never resist your Father's corrections. Let the corrections strengthen you. ⁶The Father loves you very much! He is giving you special attention in the conversion process. ⁷If you heed the Father's corrections, He will be able to speed up your progress. ⁸A close relationship to your Father will be hindered by continual resistance. ⁹The Father's concern for your welfare is much greater than any physical father's concern for their children. ¹⁰A physical parent wants us to enjoy physical pursuits. The Heavenly Father wants us to be happy for an eternity. ¹¹The trials we must encounter in our journey sometimes seem overwhelming. But, the results are well worth it! ¹²Never allow yourself to think about being discouraged. ¹³Don't get side tracked by physical things on your journey. ¹⁴Be determined to live a peaceful life as you wait to be united with Jesus. ¹⁵Always be on guard for obstacles that may creep into your life. If you let them, they can destroy your progress. ¹⁶If you're not careful you can lose sight of your goal like Esau did by selling his birthright. ¹⁷He regretted the decisions he made. He was rejected because he lost sight of his purpose in life. ¹⁸We are being offered an opportunity in the New Covenant much greater than the Old Covenant opportunity. ¹⁹Israel refused to listen to God's voice at Mount Sinai. They said they wanted God to speak to Moses not them. ²⁰They refused to even come close to the mountain to hear God's instructions. ²¹Even Moses was a little reluctant to approach God. ²²You are being asked to listen to God in this New Covenant agreement. ²³You are being invited to be a part of the first resurrection at Jesus' return. You will be united with Jesus at His coming. This resurrection will be composed of a

group of individuals were made perfect through the trials of this physical life. ²⁴This second Adam, called Jesus, is the path to the New Covenant agreement. It is much better than the Old Covenant agreement launched by Abel. ²⁵The nation of Israel was rejected because they refused to listen to God in the Old Testament. It would be a shame if we refused to listen to God in regard to something even better in the New Testament. ²⁶His voice in the Old Testament spoke of physical blessings. His voice in the New Testament speaks of Spiritual blessings. ²⁷The physical blessings were all temporary. The Spiritual blessings are eternal. ²⁸Don't refuse this golden opportunity! ²⁹Your Father will be faithful to His end of the deal.

Chapter Thirteen

This chapter deals with the conduct expected by God from those who are serious contenders for the 144,000 Priests resurrected at the seventh trump. It admonishes us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

¹Let the "fruit of the Spirit" flow through you! ²Show the love and mercy possessed by the Father toward everyone you meet. The Father is observing your attitude of service. ³You should have mercy and empathy for those who are enduring trials in this life. ⁴If you choose to be involved with the "works of the flesh," God will be your judge. ⁵Conduct your physical lives with honor. Don't be unthankful toward your Father. He will provide what you need in life. ⁶We should boldly say that God is our strength. The fear of the physical world should vanish from our lives. ⁷Always remember the examples of those individuals who have patiently followed God in the past. Follow the guidelines of faith

they displayed. Look at the results of their actions. ⁸The example of Jesus' life is the measuring stick for all of us. We must walk in His footsteps to achieve salvation. ⁹Keep focused on following Jesus' example. Other things can come along to distract us. The pre-occupation of our minds on physical things will not profit us! ¹⁰We have an opportunity that those of the Old Testament agreement didn't. ¹¹Physical sacrifices were offered by the priests in the Old Testament for sins committed by the people. ¹²Jesus gave us an example by offering His life as a sacrifice. It became the doorway for everyone who would enter the Kingdom of God. ¹³We should be willing to walk through that door of deliverance as He did. ¹⁴Don't get involved in this world's pursuits! ¹⁵Give God thanks and praise by letting the "fruit of His Spirit" dwell in your life. ¹⁶God is well pleased toward anyone who continues down this path of righteousness. ¹⁷You should listen closely to the instructions of those who have elected to walk in Jesus' footsteps. Those instructions are there to help you, not hurt you! ¹⁸Pray for us! We want to stay on course as well. ¹⁹I need your prayers in my pursuit of being united with you. ²⁰In closing, don't forget that Jesus arose from the dead and is a member of the everlasting covenant. ²¹If you walk in His footsteps, you will be made perfect. Don't forget to appreciate what He did for us. ²²This letter was meant as one of encouragement! I tried to be precise. ²³Timothy is scheduled to visit you soon. I might see you then if we should travel together. ²⁴Appreciate and give respect to all who share the gospel with you. Those of Italy wish you the best! ²⁵May God be with you all! Amen