

Hebrews 3:1-6 Consider Jesus

Who is the greatest American in History?

The Greatest American was a four-part [American television series](#) hosted by [Matt Lauer](#) in 2005. The show featured biographies and lists of influential persons in U.S. history, and culminated in a contest in which millions in the audience nominated and voted for the person they felt was the "greatest American".

[Ronald Reagan](#)

[Abraham Lincoln](#)

[Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

[George Washington](#)

[Benjamin Franklin](#)

[George W. Bush](#)

[Bill Clinton](#)

[Elvis Presley](#)

[Oprah Winfrey](#)

In 2008, two thousand high school students across the country were asked to name the greatest Americans, excluding presidents and presidents' wives

Some names who made their top ten.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Benjamin Franklin

Oprah Winfrey

Marilyn Monroe

Thomas Edison

Albert Einstein

Well if you were asking anyone Jewish person old or young that question in the first century – the person at the top of every list would be Moses!

Moses was esteemed by the Jews far above any other Jew who ever lived. Name is mentioned 700 times in the Scriptures

A) God had miraculously protected him as a baby and personally provided for his burial.

B) Between those 2 points in his life are miracle after miracle after miracle.

A) Abraham was the father of the Jewish race – but Moses was the hero- the leader- the law giver.

B) God called Moses to lead the nation out of Egypt after being in slavery there for 400yrs.

1) God gave Moses the 10 commandments

2) Moses wrote the Pentateuch the first 5 books of the Bible. Also called the Torah

C) From those books came the Law of Moses – that shaped the way that Jewish people lived, loved, inner acted with each other as well as Gentiles

1) It guided them concerned what to eat, and not eat, - Everything you can imagine was laid out in that List.

Sacred books – Torah- Moses wrote

From the Torah the religious leaders came up with the Mishnah a list of Oral traditions derived from the Torah

and the Gemara – written commentary on the Torah specifically the social laws in Leviticus. The Mishnah and the Gemara – make up what is known as the Talmud – which is a 63 volume detailed description of what Moses was trying to say in writing the Torah.

In the first century – This was the document that ruled the religious culture in Israel.

Well the writer of Hebrews is seeking to show the Supremacy of Christ and his superiority over all the major people and aspects of OT Judaism. He is making his point by way of contrast. Ch. 1-2 Laid the foundation for who Jesus is – God in human flesh and his superiority over the Angels

In This Current section – begins Contrast of Jesus w/ some of the Major Leaders in Jewish religious History – Moses / Joshua & Aaron –

A) Reveals that as great as those men were – And wonderful as the Works they did –Jesus greater – worthy of more glory

Starts with Moses

But before he begins his contrast – he gives an exhortation in v.1 that is so profound and full of insight – we cannot merely skip over it.

This morning we are going to spend some time looking at this.

Therefore: Looking back – summary statement of Ch.1-2 combined because Jesus is Superior to the Angels – Revealed in Ch.1-2 As

God in Human flesh, the only one who could redeem and rescue fallen man, Author of Salvation; - Sanctifier; Elder Brother the only one who is qualified to be our Merciful –{compassionate - full of mercy} and Faithful – {committed, our Helper in temptation

Keeping all that in mind

Hebrews 3:1

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

I love this verse because it tells us three important things

#1 Who we are in Christ

#2 What we are called to as followers of Christ.

#3 Where are focus is to be as we seek to live for Christ in this world

1st: Who We Are in Christ - “Holy Brethren”

A) Now think for a minute how stunning these words would sound to these Jewish people

B) In Judaism – they would never hear these words – accept as a commandment from the *Lord to BE HOLYHOLY*

In their teaching the only way for a person to be Holy was to keep the law – and that was the problem – couldn't be done

C) TODAY people have their methods of achieving “**HOLINESS**”

Some think it can be done thru religious affiliation – belong to a Church and be a regular attendee on Sundays – Holy in Gods Eyes

D) Many actually think that way – When I was playing Ball – if some guy was having great day – several hits 5for5 – **Church on Sunday?**

Now it is good to be in Church – don't get me wrong – *Don't forsake the assembling of yourselves* – it is good for you - Coals in fire

The fact that you are here doesn't add to your holiness in God's eyes

B) Other people think **their service or their giving to charities** will make them Holy & right in the sight of God.

1) God did you see what I did? – Doesn't affect your holiness in his eyes

C) Listen Holiness is not something that We do to achieve it / it is based on what Jesus did for us

Bible says we were **dead in our trespasses and sin separated from God** - no fellowship - lost and doomed to spend eternity apart from Him!

1) But Jesus came seeking to save that which was lost!
–

When a person receives Christ New Creation - old passed away – clean slate

A) When the Father looks at you He doesn't see your flaws and imperfections - He sees you in His Son! Holy, righteous

Covered and clothed in the righteousness of Christ

C) **Think of it this way** - This glass why is that in here I can't have anything to drink – why should he ?

Illustration – **Liquid in the glass**

1) But you don't know what color –Brown Tea/ Plum Grape Juice / Orange

All you see is Blue :

D) **Well here is the illustration- that Liquid is you the Blue around the glass represents the Holiness of Christ**

And when the Father looks at You / all He sees is Blue :
See you Holy in Christ –

E) **But here is the Beauty** – it is not because He can't see the real thing – but He chooses not to : He wants to see the finished product –sees us in Jesus

So How Should this first truth affect my life ?

A) First it releases me – I know that **I am accepted** / I know that I belong not on the Basis of what I do / what Jesus my brother already done!

B) **I have a confidence & a boldness to approach the Lord / to step out in faith – He is w/ me / for me / He accepts me – in Jesus**

C) **Why he will exhort us in ch. 4 to enter boldly into the holy of holies**

1) **Shocker for the Jewish person – NO ONE GOES IN THERE - HP once a year**

D) **Veil was torn – Open house - Come on in You are welcome**

Vince Lombardi – Act like you have been there before! Act like you belong there

2nd thing it does is Motivates me to Live a Holy life – life set apart from sin / set apart to God / Holiness worked out practically in my life

A) **So the first thing we need to grasp is that We are Holy Brethren because of Christ Work –**

Great theme of the New Testament – Jesus made you holy – so live like it

A) **Romans Present your members as instruments of righteousness**

B) **Whole new way to live**

C) **Ephesians – Walk in a manner worthy of your calling !**

Christian life lived on the offensive instead of the defensive!

A) **HS for me – living not to fail – living – don't want to blow it – if I did man I felt like a failure – fell out of God's grace**

B) **Now living to love Jesus – Not worrying about falling into sin – I am thinking about what can I do to make an impact –**

1) **What can I do to tell others about Jesus – How promote – how proclaim**

C) **Now if I fail – quick to repent and move forward!**

See the first way living on the defensive or not to fail puts all the pressure and confidence on me.

Living on the offensive puts all my confidence in Him –

It is about Jesus living thru me – Being confident about who I am in Him and what He desires to do with my life in my life – through my life.

A) **Confidence in Christ is the whole point of Paul's writing in Ephesians on Spiritual warfare – Be strong in the Lord.....**

B) The armor we are to put on is all about – Who we are in Jesus.

So #1 Who we are in Christ

**#2 What are we called to as followers of Christ - -
*Partakers of a heavenly calling***

Word partakers speaks **a partnership –joint partakers** of somethings

we are partners w/ Christ in a Heavenly calling

B) This speaks of our inheritance in Christ – Ch.2:14 – He **Partook** of flesh & blood in order to make us **partakers** of a heavenly calling

C) One of the problems w/ many of the - Philosophies that have invaded the church today is there is **a great emphasis on the here & now**

Causing People to become focused almost **entirely on this life & their** happiness in this world

What would you think upon flying – airport – layover – guy next to you starts redecorating the Lobby – moving chairs pictures/ orders a recliner brought

A) This guy is little strange – odd / No one does that because they realize that airport is a temporary place / **People in transit**

B) I wonder of heaven looks at us shakes their heads as we put so much effort into being comfortable here
Like a guy redecorating a Airport Lobby

C) Listen – **Our life on this earth is going to feel like a short layover** in an airport in comparison to Eternity
But some times we can resemble that guy in the Airport Lobby – consumed by the cares of this world

D) So this statement definitely serves as a reminder that this world is not our home

1) What a comfort that must have been to these Jewish believers who were facing a great deal of persecution.
{Going to Heaven

But **understand heaven is Not just a Destination but a motivation: influencing how we think /Act & what priorities are**

B) Ours is a Heavenly calling : Calling speaks of Destiny of vocation of what you were made to be doing / You were made for this

**1) We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works
Heavenly calling – destiny – speaks of Kingdom minded**

C) **Kingdom minded – Knowing what you were called to be doing in Christ kingdom -**

C) **Now I know that this is what I was made to be doing – Pastor B.**

**Blessed me – You were made to Pastor this Church
You might feel that way about what you do – I was
made for this**

**A) You were made to be a school teacher / made to
be a Doctor / made to run that Business / made to be
a Mom – Your calling**

B) And callings can Change in the seasons of life –
right now called to be a Mom –kids still young – 6 yrs
from now – oversees missionary

**Some of you are still trying to figure out what your
calling is – that is fine – where you are now is
Preparation for the future**

**C) But all of us need to grab a hold of the fact that we
are called to be a part of His Kingdom – advancing his
work –**

1) So heavenly minded no earthly good – can't be any
earthly good until you are heavenly minded – realize it
is not about the here and now – but the there and then

***"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth,
where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break
in and steal; "but lay up for yourselves treasures in
heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and
where thieves do not break in and steal. "For where
your treasure is, there your heart will be also.***

**A) Focus is not to be on treasures here or riches here /
but on heaven !**

been said “ *Can't take it w/ you but you can send it
ahead !”*

Our Desire is to be laying up treasures there!

**B) How do I do that by investing in His kingdom now –
thru my time, talents, resources and energy.**

**C) Pastor Greg Groeshell – what would you do if you
were given 10 million dollars never had to work again –
how would you use it**

**D) He was shocked and saddened when – he began to
read the surveys – I would by a boat and sail the world**

1) I would by a mansion move to Maui – surf and
snorkel –

My people are not kingdom minded - - How would you
answer that survey – would the first thought be how can
I impact the world for Jesus or would it be how can I
change my surroundings

Rick Warren – 80 million gross - Still lives in the same
house lived in for 25 yrs – He drives a 7 year old Ford
pick up truck - admire that.

***D) Therefore Holy Brethren - Who we are in Christ –
2nd Partakers***

**What are we called to Heaven/ 3rd - Who is our
focus to be on ? Answer found in their next phrase:
Consider the Apostle {Sent one – sent to us}**

and High Priest of our confession, {presently there to help us intercede for us }

Christ Jesus,

Word consider is interesting: Word used by the astronomers - describe how they studied gazed at contemplated the stars

Or to take a magnifying class to really see something

A) Jesus used the same word in Lk.12 consider Lilies how clothed / Consider The ravens how God provides for them

B) When looking at the Lilies don't just see them as a pretty flower – but understand they are heavenly realities of God's Love & Provision Word that

What does He want us to contemplate about Jesus as our Apostle and High priest?

His faithfulness – this is the point of the contrast with Moses

Heb 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. 3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. 4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. 5 And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a

servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Now the point here is really simple - Why is Jesus greater and worthy of more glory than Moses?

Why did Jesus receive more glory than Moses? 1st His Position / 2nd His person

A) 1st Position : Moses was a *servant* in God's house; Jesus is the *builder* of the house HIS house

B) Moses was a *member* of the household of God; Jesus is the creator of that house, worthy of greater glory

House meaning “household,” and refers to the people, not a building or dwelling. You are the House of God

A) **Moses was a trustworthy steward in that household. A steward does not own the house, he simply manages it for the owner.**

C) **In this he proved trustworthy. Ex.35-40 / 22 ref. To his faithfulness**

Moses was a faithful servant in God's House – His Economy

Moses was a vessel a tool in God's house – Jesus is the Builder

D) **But Jesus was the Builder of the House – the Builder is greater than any of His tools**

No one magnifies a Hammer – Wow ! – No they honor & magnify the one using the hammer

E) Jesus came to Establish the Household of Believers -

(Eph. 2:19). “So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household”

(1 Pet. 2:4-5). “And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house”

The question is, are you a Part of the household of God?