

## MAIN QUESTION

### **"What is your life built on?"**

Just as the author did at the end of chapter 12, where he writes ...

"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken" and closing with the phrase, "for our God is a consuming fire"; in Chapter 13 verse 6, he tells us what our reaction should be to this unshakeable kingdom when he writes.....

### **"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"**

Because of this unshakeable kingdom and because God is a consuming fire, there is no reason for us to fear when things don't go as planned. Satan, as much as he may try, cannot shake us, as long as we build our lives on our relationship with Jesus.

Did you wake up this morning with confidence that **"The Lord is my helper and I will not fear?"** Tomorrow when you go to work, will you go with confidence that **"The Lord is my helper and I will not fear?"** When your spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend, boss or friend hurts you or treats you poorly; when your world is being shaken and appears to be crumbling around you, will you stand with confidence and proclaim, **"The Lord is my helper and I will not fear; what can man do to me?"**

With this unshakeable kingdom and our relationship with Jesus as our foundation, the author of Hebrews wants to leave us with some practical advice for the role we must play as followers of Jesus.

Chapter 11 = examples of faith

Chapter 12 = encouragement to remain faithful

Chapter 13 = evidences of faith that should appear in our lives if our lives are built on Jesus and this unshakeable kingdom

### **Read Hebrew 13:1-3**

Cultural significance of the word "brotherly" in Hebrews 13:1.

The Hebrew people being addressed here had chosen to follow Jesus and had no doubt been rejected by family and friends, so the use of the term "brotherly" love would have seemed odd to them, but the author was wanting to make a point that even though they had been rejected by their birth family, they were now part of a new family, known as the family of God. They were "brothers" even though they were not from the same family or tribe.

The author continues his theme of love in verses 2 – 3 where he stresses that we are to show hospitality. Because persecution had driven many believers from their homes, if they were not in prison, as it talks about in verse 3, they were often in need of places to stay, as were the missionaries who traveled from city to city preaching the Gospel. Also, many believers who were driven from their homes were poor and could not afford lodging. Since the church met in homes during these early days of Christianity, it was only natural that believers would stay with each other in their homes.

This theme of love now goes from the streets to our marriage. Part of being a faithful follower of Jesus is maintaining a God-honoring marriage.

### **Read Hebrews 13:4**

By maintaining sexual purity in our marriage, we are showing honor to both God and our spouse.

With the second part of verse 4, the author also addresses those of you who are not married. Even though you may not be married, you can still show honor to the God-given institution of marriage and to your future spouse by not engaging in sex outside of marriage.

If we have a right relationship with God, we will have a right relationship and brotherly love for others—both believers and strangers.

If we have a right relationship with God, we will maintain a right relationship in our marriage and ...

Finally, here in verse 5, the author says that if we have a right relationship with God, we will have a right relationship to material things.

### **Read Hebrews 13:5**

When we are content with what we have, then we are showing our love and trust in the Lord that He will provide for our needs.

In Hebrews 10:32-34, the author speaks to the fact that the people he was writing to had lost most, if not all, of their material possessions, but they did not worry because they had a new-found confidence in God and Jesus Who promised them a kingdom that could not be shaken.

Here in Hebrews 10:35, I believe the author chooses to address this topic one more time, believing that some may be questioning their faith because of what it had cost them. Because some of them may be wavering in their faith, the author repeats the words of Jesus here at the end of verse 5...

"I will never leave you nor forsake you." and continues with verse 6 which reads ...

**"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"**

Back to the question of the day.

"What is your life built on?"

Hopefully, as you listened to God speak here at the beginning of Hebrews 13, you now have a better understanding of the importance of building your life on the foundation of Jesus and how our relationship with Him can provide us with the confidence we need when we experience fear and uncertainty in all of our other relationships, including our relationship with material things.

### **Closing Question:**

How do we maintain our faith and run with endurance the race that is before us? How do we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus? How do we live out our lives with an unshakeable faith?

One thing we must do is not allow ourselves to live the many lies that Satan places in our paths. Here are a few of those lies:

God could never forgive me. (the stronghold of fear)

Bad things always happen to me. (the stronghold of self-pity)

I have to be in charge. (the stronghold of pride)

I don't deserve to be loved. (the stronghold of rejection)

I'll never recover. (the stronghold of defeat)

My self-worth is found in my possessions (the stronghold of materialism).

Don't allow Satan to sap you of your confidence in God by replacing it with fear and doubt. Instead, claim the promise of Hebrews 12:28 where it says that we, as children of God, have received a kingdom that cannot be shaken and because of this promise, we can live without fear, knowing that God is our helper and the world can't harm us.