

- Church Web Site

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A just weight  
and balance

are the  
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- Hebrews 3:1  
**Wherefore,**
- holy brethren,
- **partakers of the**  
heavenly calling,
- consider the Apostle  
and High Priest  
**of our profession,**  
**Christ Jesus;**

- "Wherefore."
  - This word is the connecting link between the two chapters which precede and the two that follow.
- It is a perfect transition, for it looks both ways.

- To "consider" Christ means to thoroughly ponder who and what He is;
  - The failure to "consider" Him causes us to let them "slip"  
(**Hebrews 2:1**)

- Some time ago a group of tourists were visiting in the city of Rome, and came to an enclosure where a number of chickens were penned.

- The guide said:  
"These are very unusual and distinctive chickens."
- They happen to be descendants of the rooster that crowed on the night in which Peter denied the Lord."
- The tourists were impressed.
  - But one tourist turned to the guide, and said,
  - "Do they lay any eggs?"

- The real question to ask concerning

**our Apostle**

and

**High Priest**

is:

- Can He do anything **for me?**



- **Does the Bible**  
have anything really helpful?
- Can it aid me in  
my **anxiety** and **worry?**
- Can it help me during  
**critical medical issues?**
- Can it help me in  
**my marriage?**
- Can it provide relief from my  
**fear of dying?**

- We may be concerned about Russia and China
  - But what about the day to day problems of nervous tension, resentment or bitterness.
  - These are the ones which take their bitter toll of us each day.

- The Lord Jesus, in his coming to earth, became a man that He could be a

**compassionate**

and

**merciful High Priest**

- **Providing help**  
in moments  
of temptation.
- When our Lord was  
tempted by the Devil  
**he had one answer:**  
**“It is written.”**  
**(Matthew 4)**

- **Chapter 3**  
is asking us  
to consider the  
**astonishing solution**  
that is offered by Jesus.
- The nagging problems of  
**frustration**, **anxiety**,  
and all the  
**neuroses** and **psychoses**  
that are so familiar today.

- He bids his hearers **fix their attention on Jesus.**

(**Hebrews 2:9**)

- The word he uses is **“consider”**.
- It does not mean simply **to notice a thing.**
  - Anyone can look at a thing **without really seeing it.**

- The word means to **fix the attention** on something
- To do it in such a way that **its inner meaning** is understood.
- That the lesson it is **designed to teach,** may be learned.

- **In Luke 12:24**

Jesus uses the same word  
when he says:

**"Consider the ravens."**

- He does not merely mean,  
**"Look at the ravens."**

- He means,  
"Look at the ravens  
and **understand** and **learn**  
the lesson that God is seeking  
**to teach you through them."**

- If we are ever to learn the truth, **a detached glance** is never enough;
- There must be a **concentrated gaze of the mind** in a determined effort to see its meaning for us.



- What is there  
in the  
teachings of Jesus  
that we  
have missed?

- What is there to learn in the parable of **the Ravens** (Luke 24.)

- It is also called the **Parable of the Rich Fool.**

- How does this teaching of Jesus **help us?**

- Two things stand out about this rich man.
- (1) He never saw beyond himself.
  - There is no parable which is so full of the words:
    - I, me, my and mine.
- (2) **He never saw beyond this world.**

All his plans were made on the basis of life here.

- To "consider"
- It is failure to thoroughly weigh crucial matters which causes us to let them "slip"  
(Hebrews 2:1)

- And it is our failure  
    “to consider”  
    which explains  
        why
- We know so little about Him,
  - Why we love Him  
    so feebly,
  - Why we trust Him  
    so imperfectly.

- Let us also dwell on the word  
“holy”  
(**Hebrews 3:1**)
- Holy is God’s ideal for us.
  - Ephesians 1:4  
“that we should be  
holy  
and  
without blame”

- Holy is a Greek word which has in it the idea of difference and of separation.

- A temple is holy because it is different from other buildings;
- God is supremely holy because he is different from men;
- So, then, God chose the Christian that he should be different from other men.

- It must always be remembered  
that this difference  
on which Christ insists is:
  - Not one which takes  
one out of the world;
    - But one who is  
different within the world.
  - It is God's intent  
for mankind to be,  
like Himself.



- Again, Our question is:  
What can this  
**Apostle**  
&  
**High Priest**  
do for me?  
(**Hebrews 3:1**)

- **# 1**
- **God's will has been revealed to us.**  
**(Ephesians 1:8-10).**
  - It had been **a secret** since the foundation of the world.
  - **Matthew 13:35**
  - A secret that even **the angels wondered about.**  
**(1 Peter 1:12)**

- 2

- He has forgiven us  
(Ephesians 1:7).

- The word  
“forgive”

- literally means

- “to send away.”

- Sin is a terrible burden  
that is sent away  
by the blood of Jesus.

- **1 Peter 2:24 (BBE)**

**He took our sins  
on himself,  
giving his body  
to be nailed on the tree,  
so that we, being dead to sin,  
might have a new life  
in righteousness,  
and by his wounds  
we have been made well.**

- It is pictured by **the scapegoat** **on the Day of Atonement,** taken into the wilderness (**Leviticus 16:20-22**).
- We see in this God **meeting his people's needs.**
- How like a Heavenly Father he watches over us, his people, with **tender, compassionate care!**

- In the **Sermon on the Mount**

we see Jesus  
setting forth the  
**secrets of life.**

- He goes through a list of things that men seek for, and he says to his own:

- **"I don't want you  
to be anxious  
{G\_3309}**
- **About what you shall  
eat or drink**
- **or how you are going  
to be clothed.**

- But," he says,  
**"the essential thing is:**

- ***seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness***

- **and then he adds,**  
***"and all these other things will be added unto you..."***

**(Matthew 6:31-33).**



- **How we have reversed that!**
- We spend our time and energy **thinking about:**
  - How to get money, food clothing, etc.
  - And we have just **a little time left over** for the essentials.
- No wonder so many lives **lived backward!**

- But once again,  
we are called by God  
**to put life back in balance.**
- **Despite all the accumulation  
of human knowledge**  
we cannot handle life  
**adequately**  
by ourselves.
- **So what is man to do?**

- We find the answer in **Jesus Christ.**
  - Our great **High Priest.**
  - Because we **don't understand** the mysteries of life.

- We need a standard

to measure life by.

- No mortal man

has ever done that.

- Something to tell us  
the difference  
between  
what will hurt us  
and  
what will help us.

- What will advance us and what will destroy us.

- We need

**God's word**

to help us to distinguish  
**between right and wrong**  
and  
**good and evil.**

- That is not easy to do,  
but God has  
**provided a standard.**

- **# 3**

- **He has redeemed us**  
**(Ephesians 1:7)**.

- By giving His life on the cross,

- Christ

- **purchased us**

- from the

- slavery of sin.**

- He has delivered us  
**from the penalty**  
and power of sin



- The great thing  
that God is after,  
the ultimate purpose  
of our lives.  
is to appear in a  
face to face encounter  
with the living God.  
(**Genesis 3:8**)

- We can never forget that one day long ago when Adam & Eve walked with God in the garden in the cool of the day.
- We still long for that!
- And no human relationship can quite satisfy that yearning.

- The difficulty is that the sin and evil of our life veil us from the face of God,
- Since the fall in the garden our confidence in walking with God.
  - Has failed us.

- We have a **troubled conscience.**

- But the **ultimate end** of God's work with us is to give us **a clear conscience.**

- **Before him**  
and  
**before men.**

- Let us now note that we have “a heavenly calling”.  
(Hebrews 3:1)

- I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.  
(Philippians 3:14)

- Turn Your Eyes  
Upon Jesus

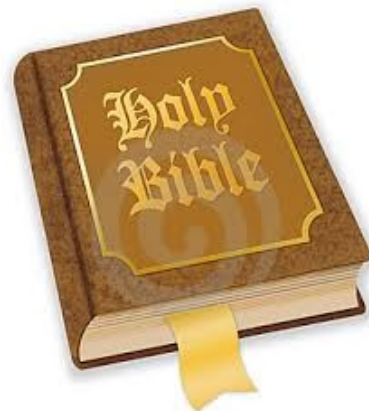
- Look full in  
His wonderful face,
  - And the things of earth
  - Will grow strangely dim
    - In the light of  
His glory and grace.
- (# 276)

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church  
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride  
Say  
“Come”.**

**Revelation 22:17**





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