

A Reformation of Discipleship

(The appeal of *The Letter to the Hebrews*)

The Keswick Convention UK, July 29 – August 4, 2017

OUTLINE OF SESSION 1

A Renewed Conviction about the Message of the Gospel

- I. Greetings
- II. Introduction to the Book of Hebrews
- III. The Bible Readings: 'A Reformation of Discipleship'
- IV. **Talk 1:** "A renewed *Conviction* about the *Message of the Gospel*" (Hebrews 1:1 – 2:18)
 - i. The key text: Hebrews 2:1 – 4
- V. Five reasons why we must value the message of the gospel (1:1-3)
 - i. We value the gospel-message because of its completeness (1:1)
 - ii. We value the gospel-message because it is a revelation from God (1:1 – 2; 2:3 – 4)
 - iii. We value the gospel-message because of its timeliness in the urgency of the "last days" (1:2)
 - iv. We value the gospel-message because its bearer is none other than Jesus (1:5 – 13; 2:5 – 13)
 - v. We value the gospel-message because it clarifies the scope of our salvation (1:3; 2:14 – 18)
 - a. The devil is destroyed (v.14)
 - b. Death holds no terror (v.15)
 - c. Our sins are forgiven (v.17)
- VI. Conclusion and Response

OUTLINE OF SESSION 2

A Renewed Confidence in the High Priest of Grace

- I. Greetings and Review
- II. **Talk 2:** “A renewed Confidence in the High Priest of grace (Hebrews 4:14 – 5:10)
- III. Key text: Hebrews 4:14-16
 - i. ‘Let us hold firmly to the Confession’ (4:14)
 - ii. ‘Let us approach God’s throne of grace with Confidence’(4:16)
- IV. The Context: 2:17 – 4:13
 - a. Moses and the wilderness-generation
 - b. New Covenant Christians like the Old Covenant Israelites (3:12 – 14)
 - c. Strident warning and deep conviction? (4:12 – 13)
- V. Peter: How Jesus responded to a failed-Christian (John 18:15 – 18; 21:1 – 17)
- VI. Jesus, the Great High Priest (5:1-10)
 - a. A high priest like Aaron
 - b. A high priest superior to Aaron
- VII. Hebrews 4:14-16: Renewing our *confidence* in Jesus, the High Priest of Grace
- VIII. Christ alone! Grace alone!
- IX. Application and Response

OUTLINE OF SESSION 3

A Renewed Commitment to the Confession and to the Community

- I. Greetings and Review
- II. Introduction: The Pattern of the *Letter to the Hebrews*
 - i. Part I (1:1– 10:18): What Jesus has done as both the Son (1:1– 4:12) and as the High Priest (4:14– 10:18)
 - ii. Part II (10:19–13:25): The readers' appropriate response
- III. **Talk 3:** "A renewed Commitment to the Confession and to the Community (Hebrews 10:19-39)
- IV. Hebrews 10:19-22 and 4:14-16 as *inclusio*
- V. Rehearsing the benefits of having a great high priest (10:19-22)
 - i. We have confidence before God
 - ii. We have an access that is both *new* and *living*
 - iii. We are blessed with integrity of heart because we are clean both inwardly and outwardly
- VI. The responsibilities of our new status with God: A twin-commitment to both the Confession and the Community (10:23-25)
 - a. The Sacrament of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as expressions of our twin-commitments
 - b. The twin-commitments to the Confession and the Community as the focus of the text? (10:32-35)
 - c. Consequences of violating our twin-commitments (10:26-31)
- VII. The Church: A neglected doctrine of the Reformation?
 - a. George Whitefield, John Wesley, and a rope of sand!
- VIII. True disciples are capable of a better way (10:36 – 39)
- IX. Application and Response

OUTLINE OF SESSION 4

A Renewed Courage to Persevere in the Christian Race

- I. Greetings and Review
- II. **Talk 4:** “A renewed Courage to persevere in the Christian race” (Hebrews 12:1 – 17)
 - a. The ordinary Christian life as a race
- III. How we must approach the Christian race (Hebrews 12:1-13)
 - a. The heroes of the faith inspire us
 - b. The choices we make liberate us
 - c. The example of Jesus instructs us
 - d. The experiences of suffering train us
- IV. The great rewards at the end of the Christian race
 - a. Holiness – A friendship with God
 - b. Peace – An influence in the world
- V. The Christian race as a team event (12:14-17)
- VI. Application and Response

OUTLINE OF SESSION 5

A Renewed Clarity about the Priorities of Christian Service

- I. Greetings and Review
- II. **Talk 5:** “A renewed Clarity about the Priorities of Christian Ministry” (Hebrews 12:28 – 13:17)
 - a. The context: Hebrews 12:18 – 24
 - b. Worship or ‘Service’ as response (12:28 – 29)
- III. Seven priorities of Christian Service for our ‘Reformation of Discipleship’ (13:1 – 17)
 - i. Initiate and maintain the ‘new’ commandment (13:1-3)
 - ii. Safeguard marriage (13:4)
 - iii. Overcome materialism (13:5-6)
 - iv. Practise good followership (13:7-8, 17)
 - v. Resist heresies (13:9-10)
 - vi. Identify with the crucified Christ (13:11-14)
 - vii. Integrate worship as both adoration *and* action (13:15-16)
- IV. Summary of the series
- V. Application and Response