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We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

They could not enter in
A Message for Adults

Week of Sunday 6 August, 2017 A.D.
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Sunday 14 Av, 5777

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- Read aloud Text: Hebrews 3: 1-19 ASV

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, even Jesus; who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also was Moses in all his house. For he hath been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by so much as he that built the house hath more honor than the house. For every house is builded by some one; but he that built all things is God. And Moses indeed was faithful in all his

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house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were afterward to be spoken; but Christ as a son, over his house; whose house are we, if we hold fast our boldness and the glorying of our hope firm unto the end. Wherefore, even as the Holy Spirit saith, To-day if ye shall hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, Like as in the day of the trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tried me by proving me , And saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was displeased with this generation, And said, They do always err in

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their heart: But they did not know my ways; As I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest. Take heed, brethren, lest haply there shall be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God: but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called Today; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin: or we are become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end: while it is said, Today if ye shall hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For who,

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when they heard, did provoke? nay, did not all they that came out of Egypt by Moses? And with whom was he displeased forty years? was it not with them that sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that were disobedient? And we see that they were not able to enter in because of unbelief.

- Allow me to summarize; having the High Priest over the house of God, a faithful Son, exalted above Moses, the faithful servant; let us by

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faithfulness make sure our calling to be God's sons; is unlike those who through their disobedience in the wilderness provoked the LORD, and were excluded from the promised rest.

- The last Home Ministry Message for Adults asked you to indulge in the pretense you live two thousand years ago under Roman authority in a district of Palestine, as an investigative reporter for the *Roman Inquirer*, on assignment to obtain truths hidden from the world about

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whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ (Matthew 1: 16 ASV). I asked who believed the message? Questions 1-20 focused on conversion identifying to whom the arm of Jehovah has been revealed? While questions 21–40 focused on backsliding hearts. Every guilty verdict provokes the LORD through disobedience.

- Take heed, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, parting you from the LORD. Exhort one another daily, while it is called To

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day, lest any of you be hardened through deceitfulness of sin. While it is To day, if you will hear His voice, and harden not your hearts as in the provocation of your fathers in the wilderness, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness, and could not enter into His rest, because of unbelief.

- Allow me to summarize; our fathers, chosen of Jehovah, had evil hearts filled with unbelief, demonstrating disobedience, which kept them from entering in the Promised Land. Jehovah

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was grieved with that generation because they always err in their heart; and had not known His ways. So in His wrath, they were kept from entering in. Will everyone who errs in their heart be kept from entering in? The Hebrew writer says; Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and to-day, yea and for ever. Be not carried away by divers and strange teachings: for it is good that the heart be established by grace; not by meats, wherein they that occupied themselves were not profited. We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat that serve the

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tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned without the camp. Hebrews 13: 8-11 ASV Obedient Christian love is blessed of Jehovah!

- Here only is the name Apostle directly given to our Lord. The word literally translates, one who is sent forth. So, Jesus is the supreme ambassador of God. An ambassador is clothed with all the power and authority of the country and the king who sends him. On one occasion

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of the king of Syria, Antiochus Epiphanes, invaded Egypt. Rome desired to stop him. Rome sent Popillius, an envoy to tell Antiochus to abandon the invasion. Popillius caught up with him on the border of Egypt. Antiochus and Popillius talked of this and that for they had known each other in Rome. Popillius had not the vestige of an army with him, not even a guard, no force at all. Finally Antiochus asked him why he had come. Quietly Popillius told him that he had come to tell him that Rome wished

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him to abandon the invasion and go home. "I will consider it," said Antiochus. Popillius smiled a little grimly; took his staff and drew a circle in the earth around Antiochus. "Consider it," he said, "and come to your decision before you leave that circle." Antiochus thought for a few seconds and then said; "I will go home." Popillius himself had not the slightest force available; but behind him was the power of Rome. The ambassador is clothed with the authority of the empire or kingdom from which

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he came. So Jesus came from God, clothed with the power of God. All of God's grace and mercy and love and power were in His ambassador. So Jesus came with the voice of God; in Him God speaks; in listening to Him we hear the voice of God.

- Jesus is the Great High Priest. What does that mean? The word literally translates, bridge builder. The priest builds a bridge between man and God. To do that he must know man and God. Jesus can represent man because he was

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Immanuel, God with us; and in Him man approaches God. In a sense that is the reason the Hebrew writer refers to his friends as sharers in heavens calling. The invitation, the summons, the call that comes to be a Christian has double direction. It is a call from heaven, and is calling to heaven. It is a voice which comes from God and calls us to God. It is a call which demands concentrated attention because of both its origin and its destination, its source and its purpose. Can you afford to give a dis-

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interested glance to an invitation to God from God?

You are invited to join us!

We continue steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and prayers every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

We study doctrine and pray every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.