

God Swears, I Rest
Hebrews 6:13-18

In Hebrews 6 we have been looking at the subject of assurance. How can I know that God has saved me? How can I know that Christ died for me? What is the basis of my assurance? The first week we saw that there are a few who “fall away” because they never really experienced grace. Last week we saw how we can be convinced of our salvation because of “*faith, hope and love.*” Today, we come to the core of the belief that a sinful soul will be saved from future judgment. **God swears.** If you have experienced saving grace, you will never lose it because **God swears.**

I. God’s desire is that you be encouraged by His swearing.

“When God made the promise ... He interposed [it] with an oath ... that we may have strong encouragement ... we who have fled [to Christ] for refuge” (Hebrews 6:17-18).

Encouragement from sworn testimony is the basis for sound justice in Western civilization.

England: I swear by God that the evidence I shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth ...

Scotland: I swear by Almighty God that I will tell the truth, the whole truth and ...

U.S.: I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, **so help me God.**

Nobody is greater than God, and there is no greater Person on whom you may swear (v. 13).

Your greatest encouragement comes from God’s commitment to you, not yours to Him.

II. God’s promise is that when you flee to Christ you will find refuge.

The point of this text is that this promise made to you is similar to that made to Abraham.

“In the same way desiring even more to show [His faithfulness] to the heirs of the promise” (v. 17).

The significance of God’s faithfulness to protect you from judgment is seen in Abraham:

“By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you [Abraham] have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies” (Genesis 22:16-17).

Abraham had one son, Isaac, who was his heir “according to the promise.” God was now calling Abraham to take his only son Isaac to an altar to sacrifice Him. This is a beautiful type (picture) of God giving us His Son, but the point is Isaac was Abraham’s “only son.”

A. Abraham knew himself incapable to perform in order to obtain an heir (120 years old).

So too you are utterly incapable of performing the work necessary to escape judgment.

B. Abraham *believed* God reliable in fulfilling His promise to give him “a nation.”

Hebrews 11:19 says Abraham *“believed God is able to raise Isaac from the dead.”*

C. Abraham discovered life sustainable through faith in a God who swore to Him.

For you to be saved from the wrath to come must be a total and complete work of God.

III. God’s people (the heirs of His promise) are those with faith in a God who swears.

Romans 4:16 says, *“The promise is certain . . . to those [Gentiles and Jews] who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all [Jew and Gentile].”* When God swears, I rest.

My encouragement to you this morning is to take your eye of faith and turn it toward Christ.

Make Jesus the “anchor of your soul’s hope,” and love others like God has loved you.