

Looking Unto Jesus

*Time after time in the
Book of Hebrews
our attention is directed
to Jesus...*

Looking Unto Jesus

Hebrews 1:1-3 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

Looking Unto Jesus

Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

Looking Unto Jesus

Through out the Hebrew letter,

Facts are stated

and upon these facts

Action is encouraged.

Looking Unto Jesus

There are a number of “Let Us” passages...

*These “Let Us” passages follow
previously stated truths*

and are

*The Basis and Motivation
for our Action or Response.*

Looking Unto Jesus

- 4:1 ***“Let Us be careful”***
- 4:11 ***“Let Us make every effort”.***
- 4:14 ***“Let us hold firmly to the faith”.***
- 4:16 ***“Let us approach the throne of grace”***
- 6:1 ***“Let us leave the elementary teachings”***
- 10:22 ***“Let us draw near to God’***
- 10:23 ***“Let us hold unswervingly”***
- 10:24 ***“Let us consider how we may spur on another”***
- 10:25 ***“Let us not give up our meeting together”***
- 10:25 ***“Let us encourage one another”***
- 12: 1 ***“Let us throw off everything that hinders”.***
- 12: 1 ***“Let us run with perseverance’.***
- 12:2 ***“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus”.***
- 12:28 ***“Let us be Thankful”***
- 13:13 ***“Let us go to Him”.***
- 13:15 ***“Let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise”***

Looking Unto Jesus

*Another Word that appears in Hebrews
some 16 times is “Therefore”*

*“Therefore” is used in drawing a conclusion and in connecting
sentences and thoughts together logically.*

*Like the ‘Let Us’ passages, the “Therefore” passages follow
‘Previously Stated Truths’
and are The Basis & or Motivation
for our Action or Response.*

Looking Unto Jesus

- **1:9** 'Therefore God'has "Set You above"
- **2:1** 'Therefore, pay attention'
- **3:1** 'Therefore...consider'
- **4:1** 'Therefore...let us be careful'
- **4:11** 'Therefore make every effort'
- **4:14** 'Therefore....let us hold firmly'
- **6:1** 'Therefore let us leave....'
- **7:25** 'Therefore he able to save'
- **10:5** 'Therefore when Christ came'
- **10:19** 'Therefore since we have confidence'
- **11:16** 'Therefore God is not ashamed'
- **12:1** 'Therefore since we are surrounded'
- **12:12** 'Therefore strengthen your feeble arms'
- **12:28** 'Therefore since we are receiving'
- **13:15** 'Therefore continually offer to God'

Looking Unto Jesus

**Now, in Hebrews chapter 12,
God brings all of the
“Let Us” and “Therefore”
passages to a conclusion.**

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Hebrews 12:1-2 “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

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Hebrews 3:1 “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus.”

“Consider” is also translated as:
behold, perceive, discover, and observe fully...

Why should we “consider” or “look unto”
this Jesus?

Looking Unto Jesus

Hebrews 12:1-2 “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Looking Unto Jesus

What is a witness?

A **Witness** is someone who has experienced something or seen something.

Witnesses have a personal knowledge of something.

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Those mentioned in Hebrews 11
are the *Witnesses*.

They have witnessed
the faithfulness of God

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- *11:4 Able offered a more excellent sacrifice*
- *11:5 Enoch did not see death*
- *11:7 Noah prepared an ark which saved mankind*
- *11:8 -10 Abraham left his home and dwelled in a foreign land*
- *11:11 Sarah conceived and gave birth at an advanced age*
- *11:17-18 Abraham was willing to offer his only son*
- *11:20 Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau*
- *11:21 Jacob blessed his sons*
- *11:22 Joseph gave instructions concerning his bones*
- *11:23- Moses was hidden by his parents and led God's people out of Egypt*
- *11:29 the people passed through the Red Sea to escape the Egyptian army*
- *11:30 The walls of Jericho fell down*

- *IS THERE MORE?*

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- *Hebrews 11:38-40 And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: ³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. ³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again.*
- *Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, * were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented — ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.*

DID THEY RECEIVE THE PROMISE?

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- *Hebrews 39-40 “And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.”*
- *Really? Better than...conquering kingdoms, administering justice, gaining what was promised; shutting the mouths of lions, quenching the fury of the flames, escaping the edge of the sword; having weakness turned to strength, becoming powerful in battle and routing foreign armies and women receiving back their dead and raised to life again!?*

What has God provided for us that is better?

Looking Unto Jesus

What has God provided for us that is better?

JESUS!

Looking Unto Jesus

Hebrews 12:1-2 “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Looking Unto Jesus

Hebrews 12:2 “looking unto Jesus”

Hebrews 3:1 “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus.”

Why should we “look unto” and “consider” Jesus?

Looking Unto Jesus

- ***John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”***
- ***John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”***
- ***Acts 4:12 “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”***

Looking Unto Jesus

- *There have been Generals that have changed the course of battles and wars...*
- *There have been Presidents that have changed the course of our nation...*
- *There have been Teachers and Scientists that have changed our world for good...*

Looking Unto Jesus

But no one has ever changed our world like

JESUS!

Looking Unto Jesus

Historian Philip Schaff described the overwhelming influence which Jesus had on subsequent history and culture of the world.

THIS JESUS OF NAZARETH,

- without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon;
- without science, He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined;
- without the eloquence of schools, He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet;
- without writing a single line, He set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.

Looking Unto Jesus

Historian Philip Schaff described the overwhelming influence which Jesus had on subsequent history and culture of the world.

THIS JESUS OF NAZARETH,

Throughout history, the influence Jesus had on the lives of people has never been surpassed.

No other great leader has inspired so many positive changes in the lives of His followers.

People who encounter the risen Christ are totally transformed. Their outlook on life is altered forever. Staying true to their faith, they do not hesitate to face hardship, persecution and even death. Many devote their lives to serving others, minimizing their own needs and desires.

Looking Unto Jesus

Christianity has been the most powerful agent in transforming society for the better across 2000 years. No other religion, philosophy, teaching, nation, or movement has changed the world for the better as Christianity has done.

The Bible is the greatest Book ever written.

Jesus Christ is the greatest Man who has ever lived.

Wise men still seek Him.

Looking Unto Jesus

This is the Jesus the
Hebrew writer asks us
“to consider” and
“to look unto.”

Looking Unto Jesus

- *He became like us - that we might become like Him. Philippians. 2:7*
- *He was rejected that we might be accepted. 1 Peter 2:7*
- *He was condemned that we might be forgiven. Luke 24:20*
- *He suffered that we might be strengthened. Colossians 1:11*
- *He was whipped that we might be healed. 1 Peter 2:24*
- *He was hated that we might be loved. 1 John 4:10*
- *He was crucified that we might be justified. Titus 3:7*
- *He was tortured that we might have peace. John 14 26*
- *He died that we might live. Romans 6:8*
- *He went to Hell so we might go to Heaven. Acts 2:27, 31*
- *He endured what we deserve so that we might enjoy what only He deserves. 1 Peter 2:24*

Looking Unto Jesus

No one has ever changed our world like

JESUS!

Wise men still seek Him.