070923 Upward I Look and See Him There Heb 3:1-6 Bernard Bell



Background

We return to the Book of Hebrews for seven weeks this summer. The author repeatedly presents *Christ Before Us*. He is to be the object of our attention: "take a good hard look at Jesus" (3:1 The Message). Where is he? He has gone before us into the very presence of God where he now ministers as our great High Priest on our behalf. Therefore we can boldly approach the eternal throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace.

Sermon Text: Heb 3:1-6 (NIV)

¹ Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. ² He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. ³ Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. ⁵ "Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. ⁶ But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. What stands out to you the most from this sermon?

2. Sunday questions (pick 3?)

- a. Announcements: Christine went through several announcements about "participating in God's work" around PBCC. She mentioned kid's ministry, kid's club and childcare for the young families. How are you serving at PBCC? Would any of these opportunities fit with your schedule?
- b. Bernard asked this question in his introduction: "Do you have an example of how you've been cared for by your church family?" Explain.
- c. What is your view of God? When you think of God as Father, do you see a "smiling face" or a frowning face? Is God's presence a safe place for you? Why or why not?
- d. Confidence is a key word in Hebrews. Would you say you are "confident" that you can freely draw near to God? Why or why not?
- e. Name practical ways you hold onto Jesus. Do any of these ways include the "together-ness" of the church? Do you value getting together with others in the church? Why or why not?