

*Holding fast in a sea of change*



*Studies in the book of Hebrews.*

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# HEBREWS

11:9,13–16

13:12–16

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AUDIENCE:



• SEE 10:32–34



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PERSECUTION & IMPRISONMENT

Hebrews 11:14 “**foreigners** and  
**temporary residents** on the earth.” -CSB



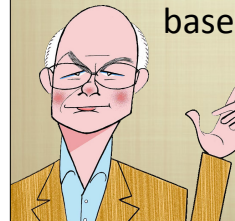
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The word *city*, in the ancient times, was synonymous with the words *society* or *civilization*. The reason *city* and *civilization* were so closely tied was in ancient times only in the city did you have the safety for a cultural life to grow. Only in the city do you have political life, the rule of law. Only in the city do you have economic life and commerce and exchange. You didn't have it anywhere else.



- "The City of God" May 1st 2005

Therefore, when the Bible says Abraham was seeking a city God is building, what it means is God is preparing a new human society, a new human order, a new set of social arrangements not based on power and pride, what the Bible calls the *lofty city*, *the earthly city*, or *the city of man*, but a new human order based on justice, based on peace, and based on service, the city of God, the heavenly city.



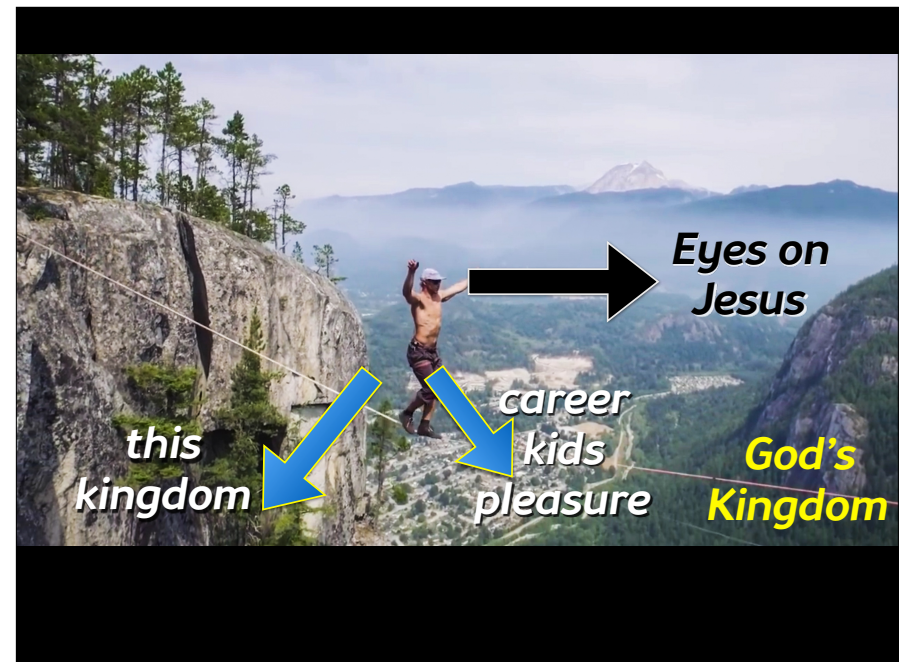
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Hebrews 11:14 "**foreigners and temporary residents on the earth.**" -CSB

**#1** The people in Hebrews chapter 11 remind us of the delicate balance between being invested in the places where we live, but not letting the places where we live dictate the values and priorities we live by.



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Hebrews 13:13-14 ***“go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. <sup>14</sup> For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come”***

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Hebrews 13:13-14 ***“go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. <sup>14</sup> For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come”***

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**#2** When our eyes are set on God and His Kingdom we won't always be loved or be driven by the same values of the world we live in. So we shouldn't be surprised when other people reject us and some of the ideas and values that shape our lives.



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Hebrews 13:15-16 ***“openly profess his name. . And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”***

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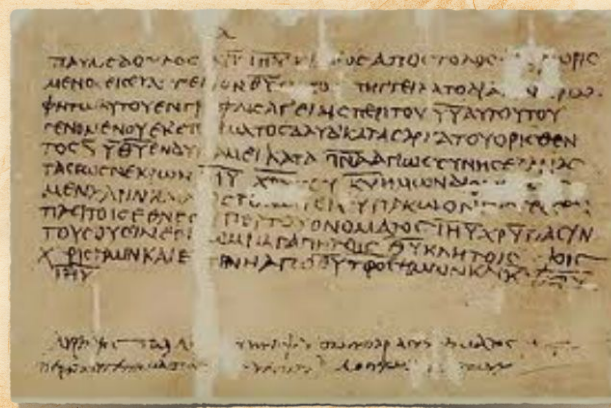
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**#3** What can we do to bring God pleasure?  
When talking, use your words to proclaim  
your appreciation and allegiance to God and  
dedicate yourself to helping others enjoy the  
good things in life!



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## Letter to Diognetus





"I see, most excellent Diognetus, the exceptional desire you have to learn the method of worshipping God that prevails among the Christians. Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life...

With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, they follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign. And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labor under all the disabilities of aliens.

Like others, they marry and have children, but they do not expose them. They share their meals, but not their wives. They live in the flesh, but they are not governed by the desires of the flesh. They love everyone, and by everyone they are persecuted. When they do good, they are punished as evildoers; when they are punished, they rejoice as though brought to life...

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