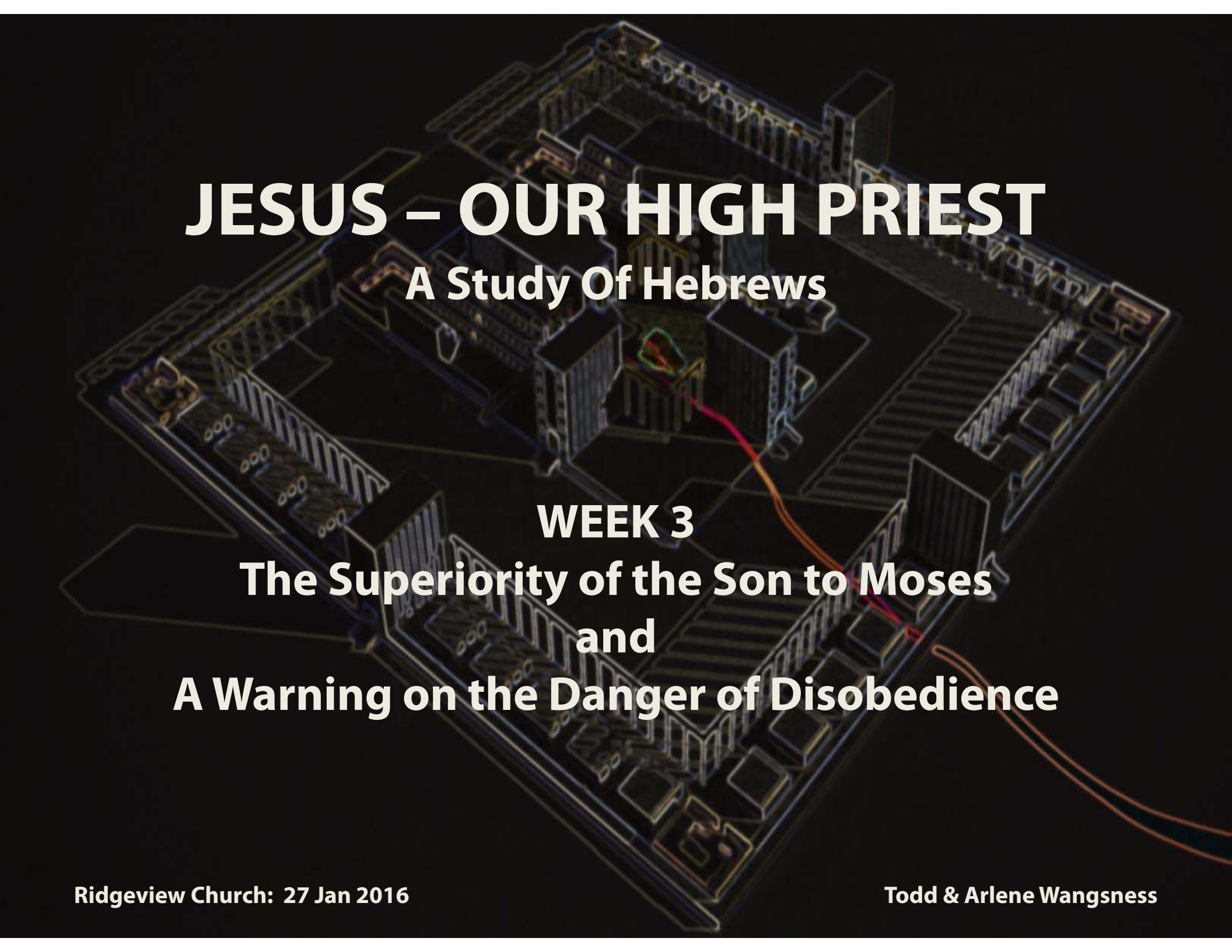


JESUS – OUR HIGH PRIEST

A Study Of Hebrews

WEEK 3

The Superiority of the Son to Moses

and

A Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

Ridgeview Church: 27 Jan 2016

Todd & Arlene Wangsness

HEBREWS: Jesus Our High Priest

Topics

• Week 1:	Theme, Background and Overview	1:1 – 1:3
• Week 2:	Superiority of the Son to Angels	1:4 – 2:18
• Week 3:	Superiority of the Son to Moses and	3:1 – 3:6
	Warning on the Danger of Disobedience	3:7 – 4:13
• Week 4:	A 'Better' Position and	4:14 – 4:16
	A 'Better' Priest (Part 1)	5:1 – 6:19
• Week 5:	A 'Better' Priest (Part 2)	7:1 – 7:28
• Week 6:	A 'Better' Covenant	8:1 – 8:13
• Week 7:	A 'Better' Sanctuary	9:1 – 9:10
• Week 8:	A 'Better' Sacrifice	9:11 – 10:18
• Week 9:	Exhortations – Warning – Encouragement	10:19 – 10:39
• Week 10:	Evidence of the Life of Faith	11:1 – 11:40
• Week 11:	Exhortation to Endurance of Faith	12:1 – 12:29
• Week 12:	Concluding Exhortations	13:1 – 13:25

Hebrews: Superiority of the Son to Moses

Heb 3:1–6

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. 3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. 4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. 5 And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Hebrews: Superiority of the Son to Moses

Superior to Moses in His Person and Work (Heb 3:1-4)

- In 1st Century Judaism, Moses was held in almost 'god-like' esteem
- The writer first refers to Jesus as 'Our Apostle'
  - In this sense, Jesus is like Moses…He represents God to Man
- He is also our 'High Priest'
  - In this capacity, Jesus is like Aaron…He represents Man to God

Hebrews: Superiority of the Son to Moses

Superior to Moses in His Position (Heb 3:5-6)

- These verses contrast Moses and a servant and Jesus is the Son
  - Jesus is the Owner and Heir of the house
  - But Moses is only a servant in the house
- Comparison 1:
  - Moses delivered Israel from the bondage of slavery in Egypt
  - Jesus delivers all believers from the bondage of sin and condemnation
- Comparison 2:
  - Through Moses, God made the Israelites the 'people of God'
  - While Jesus consecrates <u>all</u> believers as the 'sons of God'
- Comparison 3:
  - Moses ushered the Israelites into the Old Covenant
  - Jesus brings <u>all</u> believers into the New Covenant

Hebrews: Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

Heb 3:7–19

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. 10 Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.' 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'" 12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." 16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Hebrews: Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

- Warning to not do to this 'One' what the Israelites did to Moses (:7 - 11)
  - A redeemed people can lose the blessings intended for them
    - Because they do not continue in faith to reap the rewards
  - The 'rest' described in this passage is subjection of the self to God's Power
    - This 'rest' enables the believers to conquer sin

- Warning to guard against unbelief (:12)
  - Unbelief is evidenced by departing from the Living God
  - Negative affirmation

- Exhortation to come along aside one another for encouragement (:13)
  - 'While it is called Today'
  - Positive affirmation

- Salvation is evidenced by the continuation of faith (:14-15)

Hebrews: Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

Heb 4:1–13

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. 2 For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them,[a] not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. 3 For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,'" although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. 4 For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; [c] 5 and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest." 6 Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, 7 again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time, as it has been said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts." 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

Hebrews: Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

- The focus of these verses is to get the believers to enter the fullness of Rest (4:1 - 10)
  - 'Rest' means the cessation of activity
  - The use of 'Rest' is unique to the book of Hebrews
    - Because they do not continue in faith to reap the rewards
  - The Israelites failed to enter the rest
    - David – in Psa 95:7-8 – spoke of a new Rest
    - The writer uses this quote to confirm/prove that there remains a (sabbath) Rest for God's people
    - The Greek for sabbath here is 'sabbatismos', which is unique to the NT
      - Refers not to the Sabbath day
      - But to the Sabbath observance or celebration
      - It's the unhindered opportunity for God's people to celebrate God's life-sustaining presence among them
      - The emphasis is <u>NOT</u> the cessation of daily activities, rather it's the celebration aspect…it's the IDEAL rest…a type of spiritual maturity!

Hebrews: Warning on the Danger of Disobedience

- **Diligence conveys a sense of urgency, eagerness or quickness (4:11)**
  - **Future glory is not in view…the emphasis is a present glory**

- **The reason for the exhortation is that our *unbelief* will not go undetected (4:12-13)**
  - **God's Word is both Living and Working**
    - **It will one day call all believers into account before God**
  - **The writer describes Gods' Word in five ways:**
    1. **God's Word is Living**
       - **Makes a spiritually dead person spiritually alive**
    2. **God's Word is Active**
       - **Means 'powerful/energetic' and the Greek (*energes*) means 'in-working'**
    3. **God's Word is Sharper**
       - **It has an incisive quality**
    4. **God's Word is Piercing**
       - **It is so penetrating, it can decipher a division between soul and spirit**
    5. **God's Word is Quick to Discern**
       - **It uses the Greek *'kritikos',* where we get our word critic, which implies judgement and discernment.**
       - **Implies the Spirit can discern what a man is thinking and why he is thinking it**