

TOPIC Jesus: The Greatest Avenger SPEAKER SP Chua Seng Lee

THEME Hebrews DATE 9 & 10 September 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In the second part of this Hebrews book study on **The Supremacy of Jesus**, SP shared how Jesus is the Greatest Deliverer of mankind, and that He is greater than the Old Testament prophets and our unbelief.

JESUS IS THE GREATEST AVENGER

In Greek, the word "avenge" means to do justice, protect or to judge – a person who would protect the innocent and punish the evil doers. SP shared three reasons why Jesus is our Greatest Avenger.

1) Jesus is GREATER than Moses

In Hebrews 3:2, the author said that both Jesus and Moses were faithful to the house of God. The author mentioned Moses as he was a key figure in the Old Testament as well as in the eyes of the Jews. However, in v3-6, the author pointed out that Jesus was worthy of greater honour than Moses, as Jesus is the **Son** who was the *builder* of the house, while Moses was a *servant*.

The implication is that we should focus on Jesus and be faithful to the end. In this process, SP reminded us to examine our hearts to find out the "Moseses" in our lives: people we deem as more important than Jesus. They could be our superiors at work, family members or even church leaders.

At times, people may be disappointed with church leaders and this might result in them giving up on God. But SP reminds us to focus on Jesus, and not on men, as Jesus is far greater than all the Moseses in our lives. When we do not hold fast to Him, that results in hardened hearts despite all the good that God has done. And if we continue to provoke and test God, there are consequences (v10), where we can incur the wrath of God.

Jesus is the Greatest Avenger because the day will come where He will judge and punish the ungodly. We need to examine our hearts to make sure that our hearts do not become hardened, disobedient and unbelieving.

2) Jesus is GREATER than Joshua

Hebrews 4 covered three types of rest – *Creation, Canaan* and *Calvary Rest*. In the minds of the Israelites, Joshua was also considered an avenger as he fought against the enemies and brought

the Israelites into the Promised Land. However, Joshua only provided the Israelites with Canaan Rest (Heb 4:8). If we want to experience true rest, that can only be found in Jesus (v10).

Type of Rest	Creation Rest	Canaan Rest	Calvary Rest
What it means	Rest in the Body	Rest in the Soul	Rest in the Spirit
Reference	V3	V8	V9, 11
Provides relief in	Physical	Place	Person

Faith is required in order to enter the "rest" that Jesus came to give us. And this was something that Joshua could not provide. We need to endure in faith, and bring all our concerns and problems to Jesus in order to find the rest that we need for our body, soul and mind.

3) Jesus is GREATER than our unbelief

Our unbelief is due to our disobedience (disbelief in the judgement of God) and a hardened heart (disbelief in the goodness of God). To guard ourselves against an unbelieving heart, Heb 3:13 tells us to do so by encouraging one another daily.

Do the right thing *today* that will impact your future and redeem the things of yesterday. And the key thing to do is to *encourage* one another *daily* to draw near to Jesus so we can receive mercy from Him and find the grace we need in our lives.

CONCLUSION

Unbelief can block us from seeing the road ahead. Therefore, we need the encouragement from one another to help us believe and trust in God again. In order to find true rest, let us turn to Jesus, instead of seeking worldly reliefs, which are temporal.

Jesus is the only Avenger who is greater and more powerful than Moses and Joshua. He can right every wrong and give you true rest.

QUESTIONS

1. What comes to your mind when you think of the word "avenger"? What qualities did you think of that are similar to the character of God?

2. SP reminds us to focus on Jesus and not on the various "Moseses" in our lives. Who or what are some of these "Moseses" in your life, and how have you been affected by them?

3. What is a solution provided in Hebrews 3:13 that will keep us from straying away from God? Is there someone that God has placed in your heart to encourage today?