

## **Sunday: Looking to Jesus**

### **By Bob Young**

*[The abbreviated Sunday posts which appear on my blog and Facebook page are shortened versions of Bible classes and sermons. The website posts provide more detail and a basic outline of the studies.]*

#### **Introduction**

Easter is past. In most churches, the Easter focus on the story of Jesus has also passed. Pulpits have returned to moralizing: what we must/should/ought to do.... This is the “what to do” without the “why to do it.”

#### **Lesson**

The gospel is the story of Jesus! Powerful—for salvation and for life. Tell the story of Jesus. Help Jesus’ disciples look to Jesus. Never tire of talking about Jesus. Urge everyone to look to Jesus (Hebrews 3, 12). Fix your thoughts, fix your eyes on Jesus.

This sermon surveys the message of the book of Hebrews.

- 1- Jesus is the PIONEER (trailblazer) of our faith, Heb. 2:10ff, Heb. 12:1-4. The word “author” that appears in some translations may fail to communicate the meaning. Jesus has prepared the way for us.
- 2- Jesus is the PROTOTYPE (perfecter) of faithfulness. The prototype typology is applied to Jesus as a new type of high priest, replacing the prior system. It is also applied to the covenants in Hebrews 8.
- 3- Jesus is the promise that exaltation comes to those who faithfully endure. This is a primary point in the book of Hebrews, especially in Chapters 10-12.

I like alliteration. Many other possibilities can be found in a careful reading and study of the book of Hebrews.

#### **Conclusion**

Jesus is faithful and merciful high priest, Heb. 2:14-18.

Because he is faithful, we can cast off entangling sin. Because he is merciful, we can lay aside the burdens of life.

Note the connection between the description of Jesus as high priest in Heb. 2 and the admonition of Heb. 12. We can deal with sin and we can deal with the weights and troubles of life.

Jesus opens our way to God’s throne where we find forgiving grace and strengthening mercy, Heb. 4:14-16, also Heb. 10:19ff.

The message of Jesus constantly gives hope for the future and guards against weariness on life’s journey.

This message is heard too seldom from our pulpits—Look to Jesus!

He is the solution to sin; he is the solution to life. He deals with sin and provides strength for the journey.