

Receiving The Unshakable Kingdom

Ps Andrew Foo (22/3/2020)

Scripture: Heb 12:25-29 (TPT)

²⁵ Make very sure that you never refuse to listen to God when he speaks! For the God who spoke on earth from Sinai is the same God who now speaks from heaven. Those who heard him speak his living Word on earth found nowhere to hide, so what chance is there for us to escape if we turn our backs on God and refuse to hear his warnings as he speaks from heaven? ²⁶ The earth was rocked at the sound of his voice from the mountain, but now he has promised, "Once and for all I will not only shake the systems of the world, but also the unseen powers in the heavenly realm!"

²⁷ Now this phrase "once and for all" clearly indicates the final removal of things that are shaking, that is, the old order, so only what is unshakeable will remain. ²⁸ Since we are receiving our rights to an unshakeable kingdom we should be extremely thankful and offer God the purest worship that delights his heart as we lay down our lives in absolute surrender, filled with awe. ²⁹ For our God is a holy, devouring fire!

1. The Reality of Shaking

→ 3 revelations from this passage

- God's unshakable kingdom
- God shakes
- God speaks

→ A glimpse of shakings and upheavals at the end times – Luke 21:11 (AMPC)

¹¹ There will be mighty and violent earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences (plagues: ^[a] malignant and contagious or infectious epidemic diseases which are deadly and devastating); and there will be sights of terror and great signs from heaven.

→ Covid-19, a global pandemic disrupting many areas of life

2. The Response God Requires

a. Re-tune my spiritual hearing

→ Heb 12:25 (TPT)

²⁵ Make very sure that you never refuse to listen to God when he speaks!^[a] For the God who spoke on earth from Sinai is the same God who now speaks from heaven. Those who heard him^[b] speak his living Word on earth found nowhere to hide, so what chance is there for us to escape if we turn our backs on God and refuse to hear his warnings as he speaks from heaven?

- Israel's refusal to listen to God's warnings

→ Ps 32:8-9 (TPT)

⁸⁻⁹ I hear the Lord saying, “I will stay close to you, instructing and guiding you along the pathway for your life. I will advise you along the way and lead you forth with my eyes as your guide. So don’t make it difficult; don’t be stubborn when I take you where you’ve not been before. Don’t make me tug you and pull you along. Just come with me!”

- God wants to guide us
- The problem of stubbornness

“The Lord has pressed the PAUSE BUTTON...”

It is time for us to pause, be quiet and spend time with Him. We must pause to listen to Him, for time is fast running on”

(A disciple of Jesus from Singapore)

b. Re-examine my priorities

→ “Defer all non-essential activities and travels” (SG Govt advisory)

→ Ask myself – what is really, really of utmost importance?

→ Matt 6:33 (TPT) – His Kingdom – my central pursuit

³³ “So above all, constantly chase after the realm of God’s kingdom and the righteousness that proceeds from him. Then all these less important things will be given to you abundantly.

→ Col 3:2 (AMP) – Habitually focus on heavenly realities

² Set your mind *and* keep focused *habitually* on the things above [the heavenly things], not on things that are on the earth [which have only temporal value].

c. Renew my relationship with God

→ Heb 12:29 (TPT) – Cultivate Godly fear

²⁹ For our God is a holy, devouring fire!

→ Heb 12:28b (TPT) – Absolute surrender

...as we lay down our lives in absolute surrender, filled with awe.

→ Heb 12:28a (TPT) – Gratitude → pure worship

²⁸ Since we are receiving our rights to an unshakeable kingdom we should be extremely thankful and offer God the purest worship that delights his heart