

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for July 28, 2019

Mount Sinai or Mount Zion
Hebrews 12:18-24

The author in Hebrews 12:18-24 contrasted the terror of Mount Sinai representing the Jewish way of life under the Old Covenant with the glories of Mount Zion representing the Christian's joyful way of life under the New Covenant.

The original recipients of the Book of Hebrews would have known that Mount Sinai was the place where the nation of Israel agreed to enter into a covenant with God before they received the Mosaic Law from God (Exodus 19:1-9).

The original recipients of the Book of Hebrews would have known about how God had used Mount Sinai to turn Israel's initial joy into terror (Exodus 19:10-25).

God entered into this covenant with Israel in order to help lead them to Christ so that they through faith in Christ may receive from Him the gift of salvation made possible through His death (Galatians 3:24).

His readers had come to Mount Zion through faith in Christ and were now under the New Covenant and would be able to enjoy the blessings of that covenant.

They will have come to the joy of inclusion in the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem (Hebrews 12:22 cf. Hebrews 11:13,16).

They will have come to the joy of myriads of angels, to the general assembly (Hebrews 12:22,23 cf. Revelation 5:11,12).

They will have come to the joy of the church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven (Hebrews 12:23).

They will have come to the joy of a judge, who is God of all (Hebrews 12:23).

They will have come to the joy of the spirits of the righteous made perfect (Hebrews 12:23).

They will have come to the joy of Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant (Hebrews 12:24).

They will have come to the joy of the sprinkled blood, which is better than the blood of Abel (Hebrews 12:24).

May God give us the grace as God's children to not undervalue Christ and what He is offering so that we might remain faithful in our pursuit of Him until the end.