



Hebrews 12:18 – 24

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 ¹⁴Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification
2 without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no
3 one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of
4 bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be
5 defiled; ¹⁶that *there be* no immoral or godless person like
6 Esau, who sold his own birthright for a *single* meal. ¹⁷For
7 you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit
8 the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for
9 repentance, though he sought for it with tears.



10 ¹⁸For you have not come to *a mountain*  that can be
11 touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom
12 and whirlwind, ¹⁹and to the blast of a trumpet and the
13 sound of words which *sound was such that* those who
14 heard begged that no further word be spoken to them.
15 ²⁰For they could not bear the command, “If even a beast
16 touches the mountain, it will be stoned.” [Exodus 19:13]
17 ²¹And so terrible was the sight, *that* Moses said, “I am full
18 of fear and trembling.” [Deuteronomy 9:19] ²²But you
19 have come to Mount *Zion*  and to the city of the living
20 God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,
21 ²³to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who
22 are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to
23 the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus,
24 the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled
25 blood, which speaks better than *the blood* of Abel.

Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.

Review the section from last week (v. 14-17) for the context. Then focus on 18-24.



Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?



- Mark  on the things we do **not** come to.
- Mark  on the things we **do** come to.
- What else do you observe in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- How would you sum up the items with 
- How would you sum up the items with 
- What questions come to mind as you read?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- How much does your experience of faith feel like the  in vs. 18-21? In what ways?
- How would your life be different if you had the perspective of the  in vs. 22-25?

For additional thought and discussion:

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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