

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 -

## Hebrews 13:20-25 - Endure the Word to be Equipped

A. The reason many may say, "God bless you" after someone sneezes.

B. Today's text is the closing benediction or blessing offered to a troubled people, needed enabling grace.

We must endure the Word of God to be equipped	I. BENEDICTION OF PEACE II. BENEDICTION TO EQUIP III. ENDURING THE WORD TO BE EQUIPPED
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### I. BENEDICTION OF PEACE (v20)

A. A *benediction* is not just any prayer; it is a God-instituted prayer of blessing, usually upon a congregation.

1. Turn to **Num 6:22f** for the 1<sup>st</sup> benediction instituted or commanded by God.

2. Book of Hebrew with its benediction was read aloud during worship (later recognized as Scripture).

B. Notice 1<sup>st</sup> the author appeals to the "**God of peace**"— the only one who can bring true peace.

1. In God's plan to send His beloved Son to suffer & die for us, in **Isa 7** says the Messiah to be born of virgin was to be called "**Immanuel**" (God with us).

2. **Isa 9** foretold the Child would be called "**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty G,... & Prince of Peace.**"  
→ Because God is both just & holy— it was absolutely necessary for Father to send His Son.

3. Christ as our ultimate source of true peace is only possible through the miracle of resurrect (v20).

a. Skeptics don't believe any resurrection whatsoever because they deny the supernatural.

b. Lets see what God says about those who deny this doctrine → **1 Cor 15:11f**

### II. BENEDICTION TO EQUIP – (end of v20-21)

A. The author pleads for God to hear his prayer dia or on behalf of "**blood of the eternal covenant**"

1. Gods promised the seed of the woman would crush Satan upon the head... (**Gen 3:15**).

2. That promise— covenant of grace— God kept & fulfilled in sending His Son 1000s of years later.

3. A covenant is an unbreakable bond or agreement initiated by God & sealed / validated by blood.

B. Pleading the absolute promise of God's covenant, the author asks God to "**equip**" the persecuted

1. This is a great & very necessary prayer. "**...You do not have because you do not ask**" (**James 4:2**).

2. What sort of equipment do we need "**do His will**"? → Turn to **2 Cor 10:4-6**

C. Same power of God that raised Christ from dead can enable & equip you to do His will→ **Rom 6:1-7**

→ Being "Spirit-filled" is evidenced by the old-self being crucified and no longer enslaved to sin.

### III. ENDURE THE WORD TO BE EQUIPPED (v22)

A. author “**urges**”—he encourages—his audience to “**bear with**” [also trans “endure”] his epistle.

→ In **Mat 17:14f**, Christ’s disciples couldn’t cure a demon-possessed boy. In (v17) “**Jesus answered & said, ‘You unbelieving & perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you?’**”

1. This is the same Gk word our text today translates as “**bear with**” or “endure.” Why use this word?
2. God tells all people—in today’s text & elsewhere— to bear with— to endure— His Holy Word:
  - a. Some start well as a professing Christian yet later cannot endure hard-teachings of the Wd.
  - b. → Turn to **2 Tim 4:1-4**

B. Do not be dazzled or fooled by any speculation— lofty idea or theory raised up against knowledge of God. Instead, endure the Word of God to be equipped to take every thought captive for XP.

→ **Rom 3:4** “**Let God be true & every man a liar.**”

Review/ Conclusion / Application: