



## Sermon Notes

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Title: We are not alone or abandoned

#6 in Series on the Book of Hebrews

1. On being “lost”
  - a. *“Depression is the flaw in love. To be creatures who love, we must be creatures who can despair at what we lose, and depression is the mechanism of that despair.”* Andrew Solomon
  - b. The mire of adversity
  - c. The angst of loneliness
  - d. The frustration of inability
2. God’s Search & Rescue: *“Covenants and Tabernacles”*
  - a. The Garden, *“Where are you?”* Gen. 3:9
  - b. The election and priestly office of Noah (cf. Gen. 9)
  - c. The election and priestly office of Abraham (cf. Gen. 17)
    - i. Circumcision set as a sign of the covenant
  - d. The salvation and deliverance of the Hebrews from Egypt through His servant
    - i. Aaron’s role as *“translator”* for Moses; Jesus also serves a *“translator”* for God the Father.
    - ii. The symbolism of the Red Sea: blood & baptism
    - iii. The mercy shown to the Hebrew firstborn through the blood of the lamb; the mercy of shown to the world through the death of the Firstborn over all creation, the Lamb of God.
  - e. The establishment of the Law and of the Tent of Meeting
    - i. Moses used his personal tent prior to the construction of the Tabernacle (cf. Ex. 33:7)
  - f. The Tabernacle (cf. Ex. 39:32); God dwelling among men!
  - g. The establishment of the Levitical priesthood and of Aaron as first High Priest
    - i. The why’s of the Levites
    - ii. The number of firstborn of all of Israel was slightly less than the census of the Levites.
  - h. The river, the city and the knife: Joshua
  - i. David and the Temple (cf. 1 Kings 5); God dwelling among the nations. 1 Kings 8, *“...that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other...”*
  - j. The Messiah *“tabernacled”* among us; Jn. 1:14, *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”*
  - k. Our earthly tents and temples; the High Priest through the intimacy of the Holy Spirit ministers at a closer distance than ever before.
    - i. Jesus is now truly in the Holy of Holies, but unlike previous High Priests, He is seated and dwells there.
3. The Aaronic priesthood was imperfect
  - a. His qualities
  - b. His call
4. Jesus learned obedience (cf. Phil. 2:5-11)
  - a. He is perfect in His person but became perfect in His work of salvation.
  - b. He became complete in is identity with us, making Him the perfect sacrifice.
  - c. Jesus is the Way to the Father; in the end, it’s all about relationship with Him.

5. The necessity and drive to go deeper.
  - a. Sloth and apathy lead to or maintain immaturity. (v. 12) 1 Cor. 3:1-3, “*And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?*”
  - b. We become skilled in the word of righteousness. (v. 13) Eph. 4:13-14, “*...that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ ...*”
  - c. Called to discern evil from good. (v. 14)
6. Conclusions
  - a. We are lost, what we feel is real, and there must be something done about it.
  - b. God sought us, and continues to call out “*where are you?*”
  - c. We have a High Priest who intercedes on our behalf; sitting full time in the presence of the Father
  - d. We have the Holy Spirit within us speaking to Him
  - e. The challenge to not be a sloth
  - f. Move to the meat