



HEBREWS

JESUS IS BETTER

Hebrews 12:14-29

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

Hebrews 12:14-29

¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”

Hebrews 12:14-29

²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking.

Hebrews 12:14-29

For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.

Hebrews 12:14-29

²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

Outline

1. **Gospel holiness**
2. **Gospel truth**
3. **Gospel worship**

1. Gospel holiness

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Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

1. Gospel holiness

Two lessons:

- **Temporary pleasure is never worth eternal loss**
- **Grace doesn't exempt us from the call to holiness.**



2. Gospel truth

Hebrews 12:18-24

2. Gospel truth

a. Mt. Sinai (v. 18-21)

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2. Gospel truth

b. Mt. Zion (v. 22-24)

²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.



Let us love and sing and wonder

Let us praise the Savior's name

He has hushed the law's loud thunder

He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame

He has washed us with his blood

He has brought us nigh to God.

—John Newton

2. Gospel truth

Application

Are you content with surface-level knowledge, or are you pressing in to see and savor Christ? → Don't drift from gospel truth.



3. Gospel worship

Hebrews 12:25-29

3. Gospel worship

a. Listen to the voice of God (v. 25-27)

See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.

3. Gospel worship

b. Worship God with reverence (v. 28-29)

²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

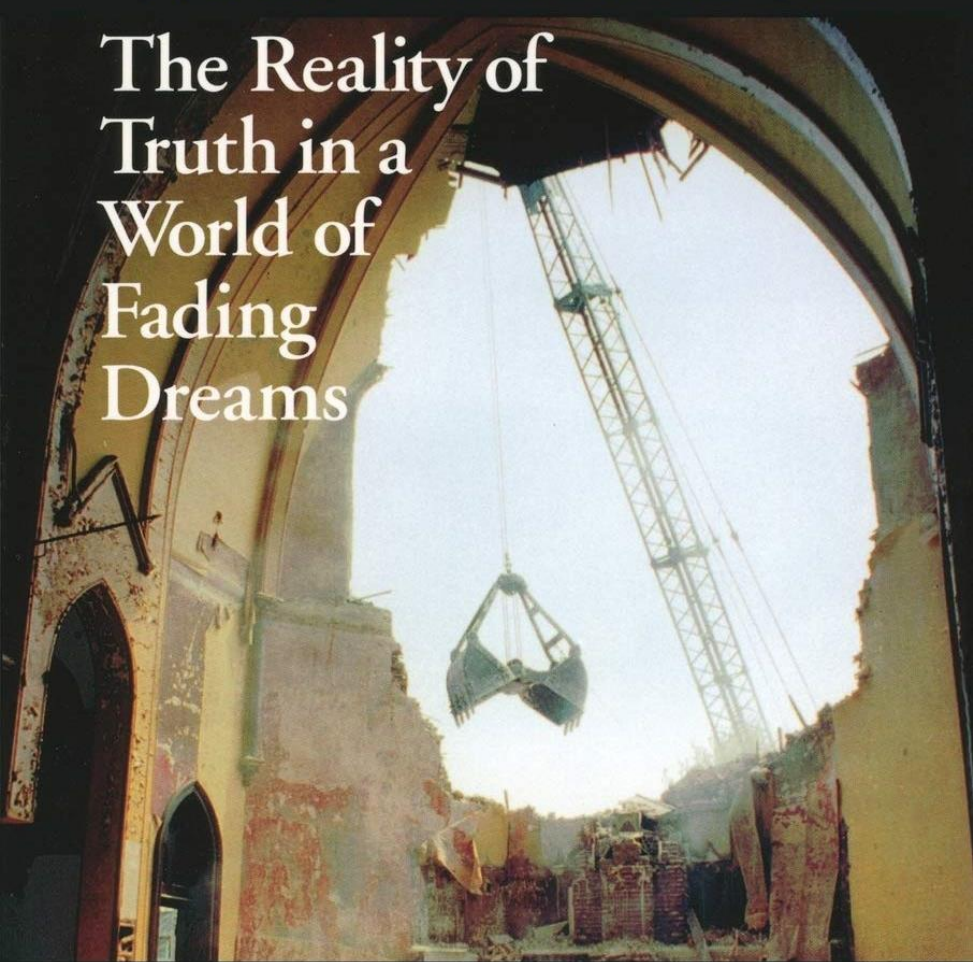
3. Gospel worship

Application

- Do not neglect corporate worship
- Offer God the right kind of worship

GOD IN THE WASTELAND

The Reality of
Truth in a
World of
Fading
Dreams

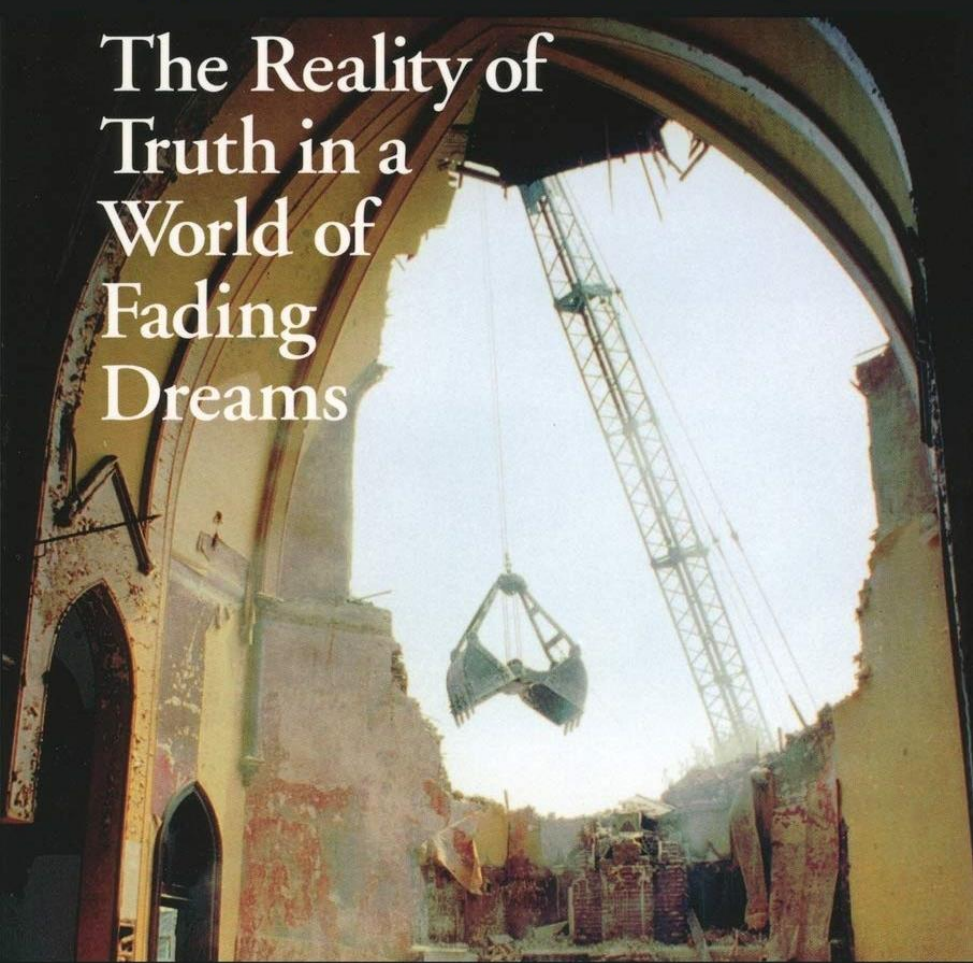


DAVID F. WELLS

It is one of the defining marks of Our Time that God is now weightless. I do not mean that he is ethereal but rather that he has become unimportant. He rests upon the world so inconsequentially as not to be noticeable. He has lost his saliency for human life.

GOD IN THE WASTELAND

The Reality of
Truth in a
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DAVID F. WELLS

Those who assure the pollsters of their belief in God's existence may nonetheless consider him less interesting than television, his commands less authoritative than their appetites for affluence and influence, his judgment no more awe-inspiring than the evening news, and his truth less compelling than the advertisers' sweet fog of flattery and lies.

3. Gospel worship

Application

- Do not neglect corporate worship
- Offer God the right kind of worship

Summary

The gospel calls us to holiness, to deep engagement with its truths, and to reverent worship. Are we listening?