

Hebrews 3:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

Analysis

'Holy brethren' emphasizes believers' set-apart status and family relationship with Christ. 'Partakers of the heavenly calling' (Greek 'metochoi kleseos epouraniou') stresses that salvation originates from above, not human effort. Christ is presented with dual titles—'Apostle' (sent one) and 'High Priest'—combining His prophetic and priestly offices. 'Consider' (Greek 'katanoeo') means to fix attention upon, demanding sustained meditation.

Historical Context

Moses was the supreme figure in Judaism, the lawgiver and mediator of the old covenant. By calling Christ both Apostle and High Priest, the author shows He surpasses Moses (prophet) and Aaron (priest) combined.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How often do you deliberately consider or meditate on Christ's person and work?
2. What does it mean practically to be a partaker of a heavenly rather than earthly calling?

Interlinear Text

Ὥθεν ἀδελφοὶ ἄγιοι κλήσεως ἐπουρανίου μέτοχοι
Wherefore brethren holy calling of the heavenly partakers
G3606 G80 G40 G2821 G2032 G3353

κατανοήσατε τὸν ἀπόστολον καὶ ἀρχιερέα τῆς ὁμολογίας
consider the Apostle and High Priest profession
G2657 G3588 G652 G2532 G749 G3671

ἡμῶν Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν
of our Christ Jesus
G2257 G5547 G2424

Additional Cross-References

2 Timothy 1:9 (Holy): Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

Philippians 3:14 (References Jesus): I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 7:26 (Holy): For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Hebrews 2:17 (Parallel theme): Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 10:21 (Parallel theme): And having an high priest over the house of God;

Ephesians 4:1 (Parallel theme): I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

1 Peter 2:9 (Holy): But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Ephesians 4:4 (Parallel theme): There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

Romans 15:8 (References Jesus): Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

1 Corinthians 9:23 (Parallel theme): And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.