



Sunday, August 29, 2021  
Pastor Don Denyes

## **Intro to Hebrews 6:13-20**

We learn a lot about God through the great hymns of the faith. Many of them reflect deeply on various passages of Scripture. So, we learn, not only the basic truths of the Bible, but also how to think and meditate and reflect on those truths in a way that fortifies our faith in God. One of those hymns reflects on Hebrews 6:19 and comes to this conclusion: “When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; in every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ the solid Rock, I stand—all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.”

What a great comfort! There is a lot of darkness in the world. From the heart-breaking devastation of what’s happening overseas to the on-going turmoil here at home, there is a lot that could lead us to despair. Added to all these is the constant temptations to sin that we face that could cause us to lose our faith and walk away from Jesus. How great a comfort is it, then, to know that in the midst of that darkness, in the midst of the “stormy gale,” that our hope and confidence in the promises of God can be certain because Jesus has entered into the heavenly Holy of Holies.

### **Context**

This is an important section in Hebrews. Having finished the third warning passage earlier in the chapter (6:4-6), the author has turned to his confidence of better things for his audience (6:9). Those better things are what they are, not primarily because of the virtues of the audience themselves, but because of the certainty of God’s promises. God’s promises, made with an oath, by “swearing” (in the sense of making a promise), are a firm and steady foundation for our faith. We can withstand the trials and temptations of life because God will see us through. This will set up his argument later on that the Lord has sworn an oath to Jesus Himself that He is our priest like Melchizedek (7:20ff.).

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 6:13-20

“Does Your Anchor Hold?”

Every soul needs an anchor for the voyage of life

God made a promise to Abraham 6.13

- God made certain the promise 13-14
- God made good on the promise 15

God made a promise to us 6.16-20

- God made certain the promise
- God *will make* good on the promise

When we feel the stress of the storm we realize the worth of the anchor

## **Discuss**

- 1) When someone fails to keep a promise to another person, what does that do to the relationship?
  
- 2) How does knowing that God always keeps His promises impact your relationship with Him?
  
- 3) If our God always keeps His promises, what does that mean for us as His people? How should we then live?
  
- 4) When it comes to hope, what is the difference between wishful thinking and certain confidence based on the Bible?
  
- 5) Because Jesus's sacrifice for sins has been accepted (having entered "behind the curtain"), how does that impact the way you relate to God?