

Completing the Journey
(A Communion Meditation)

I have been thinking a lot lately about the letter to the Hebrews. I have noticed over the years that when those who speak at the Lord's Table about Hebrews usually they tend to draw attention to figures and types in the Levitical system as a preparatory shadow of what took place at Calvary. Those things are there; but I do not think that is the point of Hebrews. Hebrews is all about the journey in which we are now engaged as believers.

The writer spends a number of chapters speaking about the faithful ones of old. Then he comes to that roll call of heroes in Hebrews 11. Among his many memorable lines is the beautiful description of Abraham in 11: 8-10. Any reader of scripture will know that Abraham was a wealthy man. Yet, with keen eyes he notes that Abraham chose to live in tents. For one who thought in Greek, this means he deliberately chose a life of privation. The writer finds common cause with Abraham as an alien and stranger to this world. He claims that Abraham chose his odd lifestyle because he knew where his true home existed. His place of transcendence was a city whose builder and maker was God.

This is the point of Hebrews. In the end, there is only one abiding reality. The things of the earth will pass away – soon for many of us. But we follow Jesus the Originator and Completer of the new order that ultimately abides. We come here this morning to pledge our dependence upon him whether we arrive with joy or we bear abuse similar to what he suffered. “For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come.” We pray to God we will be faithful to this task as we pledge again our allegiance to him at this table.

Allan J. McNicol
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