



The Book of Hebrews  
**Faithfully Follow**  
*And the sheep follow Him; for they know His voice.* John 10:4

When we follow Christ we are following someone who has set an example of consistent faith, grace and sacrifice. Here are four things that the preacher reminds the Hebrews about following 'by faith' the will of God.

### 1. Following Leadership *Heb 13:7-8; 17*

(a) **Local church leadership:** Verse :7 refers to past leaders and verse :17 to current leadership. **Measuring leadership:**

(1) **Speaking the Word:** Able to rightly divide the Word.

(2) **Men and women of faith:** Conduct that you can measure.

(3) **Responsible for you:** Leaders will have to answer to God regarding your life.

(b) **My responsibility to leadership:**

(1) **Remember:** We are to remember the men and women pioneers of the faith and draw strength from their walk.

(c) **Only ONE leader:** [:8] No matter who we lead and what position we have in the Body of Christ there is only ONE ultimate leader and that is Jesus Christ.

### 2. Following Correct Doctrine *Heb 13:9*

(a) **Don't get carried away:** This means getting 'swept away' by a teaching or teacher that is contrary to the Word of God.

(b) **Let grace rule in your heart:** The 'strange doctrines' here are anything that puts you under obligation or law to be righteous. The 'various' doctrines probably refer to returning to the sacrificial system of Judaism that the Hebrews had left to follow Christ.

### 3. Following Holiness *Heb 13:10-14*

The preacher now contrasts the sacrificial system under the law to the sacrifice of Christ under grace. It is a strong reminder to all of us that the finished work of Christ on the cross is our bases for live and salvation. It is the GRACE of God at work in us.

(a) **We have an altar:** Altar here in verse :10 is used as a metaphor for the work of Christ. Thus those that are not of Christ cannot partake of the benefits of that altar.

(b) **Going outside the camp:** Once the sacrificial animal was slain it's body was taken outside the camp and it's blood was spread on the altar. So likewise...Jesus crucifixion took place outside the temple area—outside the camp.

(c) **Our sanctification:** Jesus IS our 'sanctification' because His blood covers our sin. To bear His reproach means we are to '...deny ourselves and take up His cross daily and follow Him.'

### 4. Following Christ *Heb 13:15-16*

(a) **By Him:** "Therefore by Him let us..." All that we do we do 'by' Him—Christ is our motive and motivation for both what comes from our mouth and our actions.

(b) **Sacrifice of praise:** This is similar to the concept of sacrificial giving and living. It is 'sacrificial' in that it is rooted in what Christ has done for us and it is 'praise' in that it is an authentic expression from our voice/lips to Ha Shem (His Name).

(c) **Pleasing God:** Doing good, sharing with others and praising God are all 'sacrifices' that please God. This kind of sacrificial lifestyle comes from following the example of Jesus.

### Hebrews 13:7-17 (NKJV)

7 Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

9 Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

10 We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

11 For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp.

12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

13 Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

14 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

16 But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.