

A Better Country

Like Abraham, believers walk by faith as strangers and pilgrims, seeking the heavenly city God has prepared while living sanctified and steadfast in the present world.

SERMON TITLE	MINISTER
A Better Country	Pastor Jason Gillick
DATE	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Sunday, May 25, 2025	Hebrews 11:8-16

TOPICS [Heavenly Citizenship](#) | [Faith](#) | [Hope](#) | [Sanctification](#) | [New Creation](#)

NOTES

Truth to carry into the week.

01 Faith obeys God before the entire destination is visible.

- Abraham left at God's command without knowing every detail of where he was going. ([Hebrews 11:8](#))
- He lived in the promised land as a foreigner because his confidence rested in God's promise rather than present comfort. ([Hebrews 11:9](#))
- Faith keeps looking to God, the Author and Finisher, as understanding unfolds along the journey. ([Hebrews 12:2](#))

"He just knew that God had spoken to him."

STUDY [Hebrews 11:8-9](#); [Hebrews 12:2](#)

02 Believers live as pilgrims who are seeking a heavenly homeland.

- The faithful confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth because this present age was not their final home. ([Hebrews 11:13](#))
- They desired a better, heavenly country, and God prepared a city for them. ([Hebrews 11:14-16](#))
- Remembering the destination keeps the heart from returning to the country and life God called it out of. ([Hebrews 11:15](#))

"We're just passing through."

STUDY [Hebrews 11:13-16](#)

03 The city prepared by God gives hope beyond present suffering.

- God will dwell with His people and wipe away every tear from their eyes. ([Revelation 21:3-4](#))
- Death, sorrow, crying, and pain will not have the final word because the former things will pass away. ([Revelation 21:4-5](#))
- Future hope produces joy and endurance now without denying the hardship believers walk through. ([Romans 8:18](#))

“There shall be no more death, no more sorrow, no crying. There shall be no more pain.”

STUDY [Revelation 21:3-5](#); [Romans 8:18](#)

04 Life is found by abiding in Christ and continuing to receive from Him.

- Jesus is the vine, and His people bear fruit by remaining connected to His life. ([John 15:4-5](#))
- New birth opens a life of knowing, experiencing, and fellowshiping with God rather than merely adopting religious information. ([John 17:3](#))
- Spiritual hunger keeps receiving the Word and presence of God as believers grow from milk toward maturity. ([1 Peter 2:2](#); [Hebrews 5:13-14](#))

“Outside of God, death. Inside of God, life.”

STUDY [John 15:4-5](#); [John 17:3](#); [1 Peter 2:2](#); [Hebrews 5:13-14](#)

05 Heavenly citizens remain in the world while being sanctified by truth.

- Jesus did not ask the Father to remove His disciples from the world but to keep them from the evil one. ([John 17:15](#))
- Believers are not of the world in the same way Jesus is not of the world, even while they are sent into it. ([John 17:16-18](#))
- God’s Word sets His people apart, shaping their thoughts and conduct according to heavenly truth. ([John 17:17](#))

“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth.”

STUDY [John 17:15-18](#)

06 The good fight is maintaining faith in Christ's finished victory.

- Jesus has already disarmed principalities and powers, so the believer receives and stands in His triumph. ([Colossians 2:15](#))
- The armor of God guards the mind and heart from deception while the Word exposes the enemy's lies. ([Ephesians 6:10-18](#))
- Faith rests from self-powered striving and keeps holding the truth God has spoken. ([Hebrews 4:9-11](#); [1 Timothy 6:12](#))

"The fight now is the good fight of faith."

STUDY [Colossians 2:15](#); [Ephesians 6:10-18](#); [Hebrews 4:9-11](#); [1 Timothy 6:12](#)

SCRIPTURE INDEX - NKJV

Read the Word in context.

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[Hebrews 12:2](#)

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[Revelation 21:3-5](#)

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How will you put the Word into practice?

Where is God asking you to obey even though you cannot yet see the entire destination?

What part of the old life might tempt you to forget that you are a pilgrim seeking a better country?

How does the promise of a world without death, sorrow, or pain strengthen your hope today?

What truth from God's Word will help you remain set apart and steadfast in the present world?
