

- **“the heavenly Jerusalem”** How is it different from the earthly Jerusalem?
- **“innumerable angels in festal gathering”** What are the angels celebrating? (See Luke 15.)
- **“the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel”** How does the blood of Jesus “speak a better word” than the blood of Abel? (See also Heb 11:4.)

**Our text highlights the difference between the terror God’s people experienced at Mt. Sinai and the delight we will know in “Mt. Zion,” where we will celebrate the gracious goodness of God.**

- 1. Mt. Sinai, where God gave the Law, belled smoke and fire, and only Moses was permitted to ascend, to receive the Law on behalf of the people of God.**

  - There are two main errors with regards to God's Law. One is legalism, assuming that keeping the Law makes us right with God. Legalism is appealing to human vanity because it gives us a sense of control. Have you ever been tempted by the error of legalism? How have you dealt with that temptation?
  - Another error with regards to the Law is to reject God's authority altogether. That error is endemic in our highly individualized society, where sincerity is the highest test of truth and personal autonomy is treated as sacrosanct. Have you been tempted by that error? How have you dealt with it?
- 2. On the other hand, Mt. Zion, where we will enjoy the goodness of God, will be teeming with life and joy.**

Everyone in God's Kingdom will be amazed that he or she could be included in the family of God. What is most amazing to you about the goodness of God in your life?

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