

Hebrews 12:25-29

²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

Opening Illustration

In 1980, scientists warned residents around Mount St. Helens to evacuate. Many refused—including Harry R. Truman—who insisted the mountain would never harm him. When the volcano erupted on May 18, it killed 57 people. Refusing a clear warning proved fatal.

1. Respond to the Voice of the King (vv. 25–27)

- God is speaking—do not refuse Him.
- Israel refused His voice at Sinai and did not escape (Exodus 19; 32).
- Rejecting Christ’s voice today is even more serious (Hebrews 2:1–4).
- God will shake heaven and earth in final judgment (Haggai 2:6–7).

Application

- Where are you tuning out God’s voice?
- What command or conviction have you been ignoring?

2. Be Grateful for the Unshakable Kingdom (v. 28a)

- Believers receive a kingdom that cannot be shaken.
- Earthly things are unstable—health, finances, nations, relationships.
- God's kingdom is eternal and secure.

Illustration

In the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, more than 28,000 buildings fell, but a few—including the U.S. Post Office at 7th & Mission—remained standing. The structure survived because it was anchored to bedrock. What survives depends on what it is anchored to.

Application

- Thank God daily for salvation and eternal security.
- Let gratitude shape your worship and obedience.

3. Adore and Admire the Coming King (vv. 28b–29)

- Offer acceptable worship with reverence and awe.
- Our God is a consuming fire—holy and majestic.
- Worship is not casual; it recognizes God's holiness.

Illustration

During the 1919 solar eclipse, crowds watched in stunned silence as the sun's corona appeared. Sir Arthur Eddington described the scene as 'overwhelming magnificence.' If creation inspires awe, how much more the holiness of God.

Closing Application

1. Examine whether you are refusing God's present voice.
2. Cultivate gratitude for His unshakable kingdom.
3. Renew your reverence—worship Him with awe, for He is a consuming fire.