

v1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. v2 He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. v3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honour than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honour than the house itself. v4 For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. v5 Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, testifying to what would be said in the future. v6 But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

Hebrews 3:1-6

If I said the phrase “**I am the greatest**”, who would come to mind? I imagine most of you would say Mohammed Ali, the professional boxing personality formally called Cassius Clay, who used the phrase about himself. The story of the saying is described in Wikipedia:

By late 1963, Clay had become the top contender for Sonny Liston's title. The fight was set for February 25, 1964, in Miami Beach. Liston was an intimidating personality, a dominating fighter with a criminal past and ties to the mob. ..., Clay was a 7–1 underdog. Despite this, Clay taunted Liston during the pre-fight buildup, dubbing him "the big ugly bear", stating "Liston even smells like a bear" and claiming "After I beat him I'm going to donate him to the zoo."^[62]

The outcome of the fight was a major upset. At the opening bell, Liston rushed at Clay, seemingly angry and looking for a quick knockout. However, Clay's superior speed and mobility enabled him to elude Liston, making the champion miss and look awkward. At the end of the first round, Clay opened up his attack and hit Liston repeatedly with jabs. Liston fought better in round two, but at the beginning of the third round Clay hit Liston with a combination that buckled his knees and opened a cut under his left eye. This was the first time Liston had ever been cut. At the end of round four, Clay was returning to his corner when he began experiencing blinding pain in his eyes and asked his trainer, Angelo Dundee, to cut off his gloves. Dundee refused. It has been speculated that the problem was due to ointment used to seal Liston's cuts, perhaps deliberately applied by his corner to his gloves.^[63] ...

Despite Liston's attempts to knock out a blinded Clay, Clay was able to survive the fifth round until sweat and tears rinsed the irritation from his eyes. In the sixth, Clay dominated, hitting Liston repeatedly. Liston did not answer the bell for the seventh round, and Clay was declared the winner by TKO. Liston stated that the reason he quit was an injured shoulder. Following the win, a triumphant Clay rushed to the edge of the ring and, pointing to the ringside press, shouted: "Eat your words!" He added, "I am the greatest! I shook up the world. I'm the prettiest thing that ever lived."^[66]

NOW IN RELIGIOUS CIRCLES, MOSES IS A HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION. IF ANYONE COULD SAY “I AM THE GREATEST” AS A RELIGIOUS LEADER IT WAS MOSES. AFTER ALL, HE:

1. Confronted the leader of the most powerful nation on earth at that time.
2. Performed 42 miracles while Jesus performed 31-36 while on earth.
3. Saved a nation from a marauding army.
4. Delivered the LAW of God (10 commandments).
5. Left a congregation of about two million.
6. Was the leader of a nation for 40 years.

YET, according to the writer of the book of Hebrews

The only ONE who can truly say **'I AM THE GREATEST'**

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

1. OF ALL HE DID IN PROVIDING SALVATION.

Heb 3:1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling...

Lesson in understanding the Bible. Whenever you get a "Therefore" there must be a "Wherefore" or "What went on Before." Over the last three weeks we have seen why Jesus should be given all the GLORY.

1.1. Jesus RESTORED our CREATION DESTINY.

1.2. Jesus REDEEMED us for a SALVATION DESTINY.

1.3. Jesus AROSE after dying as our REPRESENTATIVE in our place, JUSTIFYING US to be ADOPTED AS GOD'S CHILDREN

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

2. HE is a greater MESSENGER than Moses.

v1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

The word "apostle" simply means "One who was sent." This is the only reference to Jesus as an apostle in the bible, although the task of being an apostle is spoken of in **John 17:3** – "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."

Moses is also spoken of as one who was sent. We read in **Exodus 3:10** – "So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

There are a number of verses in John's Gospel about Jesus being SENT:

John 5:36-37 "I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me. v37 And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form,

John 6:44 "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me.

John 12:49 For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.

John 17:25 "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.

John 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

3. **HE is a greater REPRESENTATIVE than Moses.**

v1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

While Moses was initially the contact person between God and the Nation of Israel, there came a point where Aaron, became the High Priest, in order to represent Israel before God. The bible describes an incredible relationship between Moses and God.

Moses and the Glory of the LORD *Exodus 33:21-23 Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. v22 When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. v23 Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."*

Jesus and the Glory of the LORD *John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 6:46 No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father.

John 8:38 I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father."

In John 17 we have the true "LORD'S PRAYER." He prays for Himself, then the Disciples, then he prays for all those who would believe in HIM, without ever seeing him. AND THAT IS US.

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

4. **HE is a greater EXAMPLE than Moses.**

v1 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. v2 He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.

MOSES was a great servant of God, yet he failed in many ways:

1. He did not trust in God's ability to overcome his speech problem.
2. He did not follow all of God's instructions.

*Numbers 20:8-11 "Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. **Speak to that rock** before their eyes and it will pour out its water. ... v11 Then Moses raised his arm and **struck the rock** twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank.*

JESUS never failed in obedience:

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

Matthew 26:39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

John 4:34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

5. HE is a greater BUILDER than Moses.

v3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honour than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honour than the house itself. v4 For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.

Moses took a group of broken slaves and turned them into a nation. A nation which lasts even to this day, in spite of many attempts to destroy the nation of Israel. He gave them God's laws. Established a priesthood, a government and a system of Judges.

Yet, Jesus, who only spent about 30 years on earth, 3 of which were in office, TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDEDOWN. He took 12 ordinary men, with a group of about 120 other committed followers and established a way of life that has revolutionised our world. About one-third of the world claim to follow Him in one way or another. His teachings have influenced every facet of life, even those fields that reject HIM today.

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

6. HE is a greater PROPHET than Moses.

*v5 Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, **testifying to what would be said in the future.** v6 But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.*

Moses spoke about the future, Jesus IS THE FUTURE

Moses was a servant, Jesus is A SON

ONLY JESUS CAN TRULY SAY, 'I AM THE GREATEST', BECAUSE:

7. HE is a greater DELIVERER than Moses.

*v1 Therefore, holy brothers, **who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus,***

Moses pointed to the PROMISED LAND,

JESUS IS THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND

CONCLUSION

SO, v1 FIX YOUR THOUGHTS ON JESUS

v3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honour than Moses

Miracles by Moses (Ex 7:10)

1. Moses' rod turned into a serpent (Ex 4:2-3).
2. The serpent was transformed into a rod (Ex 4:4).
3. Moses' hand was turned leprous (Ex 4:6).
4. Moses' hand was healed of leprosy (Ex 4:7).
5. The rod was turned into a serpent (Ex 4:30).
6. The serpent was turned into a rod (Ex 4:30).
7. Moses' hand was made leprous (Ex 4:30).
8. Moses' hand was healed of leprosy (Ex 4:30).
9. Moses' rod was turned into a serpent (Ex 7:9-10; magicians also did so, Ex 7:11-12).
10. Moses' rod swallowed the others (Ex 7:12).
11. The Nile River was changed into blood: first plague (Ex 7:14-25; the Egyptian magicians also did so, Ex 7:22).
12. He created frogs: second plague (Ex 8:1-7; the magicians also did so, Ex 8:7).
13. He caused the frogs to die (Ex 8:8-15).
14. He converted the dust to lice: third plague (Ex 8:16-19; the magicians could not do this, Ex 8:18-19).
15. He created flies: fourth plague (Ex 8:20-24).
16. He made Goshen exempt from flies (Ex 8:22).
17. He removed the flies from Egypt (Ex 8:29-32).
18. The murrain disease was imposed on Egyptian stock: fifth plague (Ex 9:1-7).
19. The stock of Israel was exempt (Ex 9:4-7).
20. He made boils from ashes: sixth plague (Ex 9:8-12).
21. Hail and fire came: seventh plague (Ex 9:13-35).
22. Goshen was exempt from the hail and fire (Ex 9:26).
23. Moses stopped the hail and fire (Ex 9:28-35).
24. Locusts descended: eighth plague (Ex 10:1-15).
25. The locusts were removed (Ex 10:16-20).
26. Darkness came: ninth plague (Ex 10:21-29).
27. Goshen was exempt from the total darkness (Ex 10:23).
28. Death came to Egypt's firstborn: tenth plague (Ex 11-12).
29. Israel's firstborn were exempt from death (Ex 11:7-10).
30. Moses made a path through the Red Sea, congealing the water (Ex 14:21-22).
31. He melted the ice of Red Sea (Ex 14:26-28).
32. The healing waters of Marah (Ex 15:23-26).
33. Bread from heaven (Ex 16:4-35; Num 11).
34. Quail to eat (Ex 16:8-13).
35. Water from the rock (Ex 17:1-7).
36. His victory over Midian (Ex 17:11-13).
37. He quenched the fire of death (Num 11:2).
38. The healing of Miriam (Num 12:13-16).
39. The earth swallowed the rebels (Num 16:28-33).
40. Moses stopped the plague (Num 16:44-50).
41. Water from the rock (Num 20:10-13).
42. The healing of Israel (Num 21:5-9; John 3:14).

Sixteen other miracles that God performed when Moses was present (Ex 7:10)

1. God's glory filling tabernacle (Ex 40:34).
2. Fire consuming sacrifices (Lev 9:24).
3. Fire killing priests (Lev 10:2).
4. The Fire which consumed some people (Num 11:2).
5. The fire was quenched (Num 11:2).
6. A month's supply of quails for about 6,000,000 people (Num 11:19-35).
7. The leprosy that was fixed upon Miriam (Num 12:10).
8. The healing of Miriam (Num 12:13-16).
9. The plague upon ten spies (Num 14:37).
10. The earth swallowed the rebels (Num 16:32).
11. The fire which consumed some people (Num 16:35).
12. The plague which killed 14,700 people (Num 16:49).
13. Aaron's rod that bore almonds (Num 17:8).
14. Water from the rock (Num 20:11).
15. The healing of Israel (Num 21:5-9).
16. The plague which killed 24,000 people (Num 25:9).

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Miracles by Jesus

Control of Nature

1. Calming the storm – Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:37-41; Luke 8:22-25
2. Feeding 5,000 - Matthew 14:14-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14
3. Walking on water - Matthew 14:22-32; Mark 6:47-52; John 6:16-21
4. Feeding 4,000 – Matthew 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-9
5. Fish with coin – Matthew 17:24-27
6. Fig tree withers – Matthew 21:18-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-25
7. Huge catch of fish – Luke 5:4-11; John 21:1-11
8. Water into wine – John 2:1-11

Healing of Individuals

1. Man with leprosy – Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-44; Luke 5:12-14
2. Roman centurion's servant – Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10
3. Peter's mother-in-law – Matthew 8:14-15; Mark 1:30-31; Luke 4:38-39
4. Two men possessed with devils – Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-15; Luke 8:27-39
5. Man with palsy – Matthew 9:2-7; Mark 2:3-12; Luke 5:18-26
6. Woman with bleeding – Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48
7. Two blind men – Matthew 9:27-31
8. Dumb, devil-possessed man - Matthew 9:32-33
9. Canaanite woman's daughter – Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30
10. Boy with devil - Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:17-29; Luke 9:38-43
11. Two blind men – including Bartimaeus - Matthew 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43
12. Demon-possessed man in synagogue – Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37
13. Blind man at Bethsaida – Mark 8:22-26
14. Crippled woman – Luke 13:10-17
15. Man with dropsy – Luke 14:1-4
16. Ten men with leprosy – Luke 17:11-19
17. The high priest's servant – Luke 22:50-51
18. Nobleman's son at Capernaum – John 4:46-54
19. Sick man at the pool of Bethsaida – John 5:1-15
20. Man born blind – John 9:1-41

Raising the Dead

1. Jairus' daughter – Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56
2. Widow's son at Nain – Luke 7:11-17
3. Lazarus – John 11:1-44

(From <https://www.sharefaith.com/guide/christian-ministries/ministry-of-jesus/miracles-of-jesus/miracles-of-jesus---the-list.html>)