

Correspondence Bible Study

Lesson #46 – Hebrews

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, You are the High Priest who stands between me and the Father. You know my needs better than I do myself. I confess that there is nothing within me to deserve your forgiveness and love. I thank You for living the perfect life of obedience in my stead. Please give me the ability to follow the great examples of faith shown to me in this book of Hebrews. I pray always in Your name. Amen

Notes on Hebrews: The title would indicate that the people to whom the letter was sent were Christians of Jewish (Hebrew) heritage. For centuries, it was thought Paul wrote the letter. He may have. Missing are his usual references to himself and his authority and call by Jesus. Other real possibilities as authors are two prominent New Testament figures, Barnabas and Apollos. The thorough knowledge of the Old Testament and Jewish traditions would have been known by both. The many references in the letter to the temple using the present tense indicates the epistle was written before 70 AD when the temple was destroyed.

Hebrews goes into great detail to show how Jesus is the complete and final fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies – symbols – and promises. The Old Testament priesthood, sacrifices, and leaders – were to the forerunners of Jesus, who would be the once-and-for-all priest, sacrifice and leader. Perhaps the writer was trying to stop believers from returning to their former Jewish rituals and thoughts. We many not face the same temptations of returning to Jewish rituals but the book of Hebrews reminds us of the supremacy of Christ and the all-sufficient work of redemption He worked for us. We are taught to trust in no one other than Jesus Christ.

Favorite verse from Hebrews:

Questions on Hebrews:

1. Compare chapter 1:1-4 to John 1:1-5. What are some of the similar thoughts?
2. Chapter 1:5-14 – What is the main point being made in these Old Testament quotations?
3. Chapter 2:18 – What comfort do you find in this verse? (Also see chapter 4:14-16)
4. Chapter 3 compares Moses to Jesus. In what ways were they similar?

In what ways were they different?

5. One of the major themes of Hebrews is that Jesus is our ultimate High Priest. As you read chapter 2-8, make a list of at least 5 benefits we have because Jesus is our High Priest.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
6. Chapter 5:11-14 & 6:1-3 – How can we apply these words to our lives and to our congregation?
7. Chapters 6 & 7 make a point of comparing Jesus to Melchizedek. (See Genesis 14:18-20) Melchizedek was an historical person. Because no genealogy is given for him, the writer likens him to Christ who has no earthly father. What are some other ways Jesus and Melchizedek are compared?
8. Chapter 9 – Why did Jesus need to die for us in order for us to receive God's intended benefits? (See 9:16-17)
9. Chapter 10:25 – What does this verse tell us about regular attendance at worship?
10. Chapter 11 – The faith of Old Testament figures is highlighted in this chapter. The chapter highlights the gracious history of God and his people. What is the main point made in this chapter?
11. Chapter 13 – What are some helpful hints for Christian living given in this chapter?
12. Chapter 13:20-21 – Conclude your study of Hebrews with this beautiful benediction.

Your Questions on Hebrews...