

HEBREWS: STAYING TRUE TO JESUS

A. Author: Unknown

B. Title: Named after the ancestors of Abraham

C. Theme: Since Jesus is superior to the old covenant in every way, we should stay true to Him.

D. History: Hebrews is a difficult book to date, though it probably was written sometime before A.D. 70 because that was the date of the temple's destruction by Rome in Jerusalem.

E. Outline:

1. THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST'S PERSON (1:1-4:13)

a. Superiority of Christ to the Prophets (1:1-3)

b. Superiority of Christ to Angels (1:4-2:18)

c. Superiority of Christ's nature (1:4-14)

- A warning against neglecting Christ (2:1-4)
- The value of Christ's incarnation (2:5-18)
- Superiority of Christ to Moses & Joshua (3:1-4:13)
- Superiority of Jesus to Moses (3:1-6)
- Failure of God's People under Moses (3:7-19)
- Superiority of Jesus to Joshua (4:1-8)
- The Urgency of Seeking God's Rest (4:9-13)

2. THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST'S WORK (4:14-10:18)

a. The Superior Priesthood Demonstrated in Christ (4:14-7:28)

- The value of Christ's high Priesthood (4:14-16)
- The comparison of Christ and Aaron (5:1-10)
- The warning against falling away (5:11-6:20)
- Melchizedek and Christ's Priesthood (7:1-28)

b. The Superior Covenant Introduced by Christ (8:1-13)

c. The Superior Sacrifice Offered by Christ (9:1-10:18)

- Cleanses the conscience (9:1-14)
- Removes sin (9:15-22)
- Affects heavenly realities (9:23-28)
- A voluntary sacrifice (10:1-10)
- An unrepeatable sacrifice (10:11-18)

3. THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST'S POWER (10:19-13:25)

a. An Appeal for Endurance (10:19-39)

- By approaching God through Christ (10:19-25)
- By fearing the living God (10:26-31)
- By considering past experiences (10:32-39)

b. The Experience of Faith (11:1-40)

c. The Experience of Discipline (12:1-13)

d. Warning against Rejecting God (12:14-29)

e. Final exhortations and conclusions (13:1-25)

- For social life (13:1-3)
- For home life (13:4-6)
- For religious life (13:7-9)
- Sacrifices that Please God (13:10-16)
- Obedience to leaders (13:17)
- Benediction and conclusion (13:18-25)

F. Real Life Lessons from Hebrews

1. Jesus is superior in every way to the Old Testament.
2. Christ's work completes the work started in the Old Testament.
3. Christ's power is greater than any other power at work in the world.
4. We should hold fast to Christ in all that we do.

