

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....2

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK.....4

CHAPTER ONE7

CHAPTER TWO11

CHAPTER THREE15

CHAPTER FOUR.....20

QUIZ 1 CHAPTERS 1-426

CHAPTER FIVE.....28

CHAPTER SIX31

CHAPTER SEVEN.....35

CHAPTER EIGHT36

CHAPTER NINE37

CHAPTER TEN.....38

CHAPTER ELEVEN.....39

CHAPTER TWELVE.....40

CHAPTER THIRTEEN41

FINAL EXAM FOR HEBREWS.....42

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A Note Concerning the Cork Bible Institute

This study course is intended to be used in conjunction with the Cork Bible Institute and contains Chapter Quizzes and a Final Exam that can be applied towards credit in the Institute. If you want your participation in this course to be part of an overall course accreditation, please inform Pastor Ledbetter and he will make sure your records are retained. Your attendance will be recorded, and there will be a class project for you to complete by the end of the eleven week course.

Class Projects:

To pass this course, you will need to complete the following:

- 1. Read through Hebrews twice*
- 2. Fill-in all the following notes*
- 3. Attend 80% of the classes*
- 4. Write a 3 page Report on one of the following subjects*
 - a. The Authorship of the Book of Hebrews – Who wrote this Book?*
 - b. A summary description of all the “better things” in Hebrews*
 - c. A study of any one of the chapters in Hebrews – explaining things verse by verse*
 - d. A Study of all the differences between the first and second covenants*
- 5. Memorize the thirteen suggested Scripture verses that are key verses for each chapter. Or, you can memorise another verse from each chapter, just as long as it is only one verse for each, and you memorize 13 in total.*

The Book of Hebrews Introduction to the Book

I. Introduction

- A. The Letter to the Hebrews is an amazing book -- nothing like anything you see in the rest of the New Testament.
- B. It's filled with high-grade nuggets of Christian truth that will stay with you all your life!
- C. Hebrews is certainly a book for disciples. It stirs our faith and nips at our heels when we get lazy in our walk. It helps us see Jesus in a new way. And it enables us to understand the role of suffering to discipline and train us up as Jesus' disciples. Though
- D. This Book is very “_____”
 1. Throughout this Book you will wade through various tabernacle-related sacrificial rituals from the book of Leviticus. But as you take the time to understand what is being said, you'll be staggered by the present-tense implications.
 2. Even though Hebrews discusses at length the Old Testament themes of sacrifice, forgiveness, and Israel's high priest, it isn't about these things.
 3. Ultimately, the Letter to Hebrews ultimately focuses all our attention on Jesus Christ -- who he is in both his humanity and divinity, and what he has done for us now and forever.

II. Background to the Book of Hebrews

A. Author

1. All manuscripts with the title heading on them have the apostle _____ as the author.
2. But because Paul's customary _____ so common to his other works is missing from the letter (see 2Thes 3:17), people have questioned his authorship.
3. Some think _____ is its writer (because of the long-winded style)
4. Others suggest Hebrews may have been written by Apollos, Barnabas, Silas, Philip, or Aquila.
5. But the best guess is Paul because of the way chapter 13 is written – it is Paul through and through. Probably the reason why Paul refused to put his name to the letter was so that the Hebrew speaking people would read it instead of dismissing it because of Paul's traitorous conversion from Judaism. For a Jew to read a letter from a heretical Jew would be incomprehensible.

B. Date of Writing

The early church father Clement quoted from the Book of Hebrews in 95 A.D., and the fact that Timothy was alive at the time to epistle was written and the absence of any evidence showing the end of the Old Testament sacrificial system that occurred with Jerusalem's destruction in 70 A.D. indicates the book was written between ____ and ____ A.D.

C. Purpose of Writing

1. The late Dr. Walter Martin, founder of the Christian Research Institute and writer of the best selling Kingdom of the Cults, quipped in his usual tongue-in-cheek manner that the Book of Hebrews was written by a Hebrew to other Hebrews telling the Hebrews to stop acting like Hebrews.
2. Many of the early Jewish believers were slipping back into the rites and rituals of Judaism in order to escape the mounting persecution. This letter, is an exhortation for these persecuted believers to trust in the grace of Jesus Christ alone, and not turn back to a completed system of Old Testament faith. Remember, the New Testament was just being written so most everything Christian Jews knew was from the Old Testament, and without clear, strong preaching and teaching, they would easily slip back into Judaism.

3. Hebrews is also written to make sure people don't forget the link that exists between the Old Testament pattern and the New Testament reality. There is no New Testament without the Old Testament!

D. Brief Summary:

1. This is Paul's Letter to *his people* proving Jesus Christ is Better than all things Old – it is the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Jews!
2. The writer of Hebrews continually makes mention of the superiority of Christ in both His personage and in His ministering work. In the writings of the Old Testament, we understand the rituals and ceremonies of Judaism symbolically pointed to the coming of Messiah--in other words, the rites of Judaism were but shadows of things to come. Hebrews tells us that Christ Jesus is better than anything mere religion has to offer. All the pomp and circumstance of religion (just take a look at Catholicism, and Hinduism, and Buddhism) pales in comparison to the person, work, and ministry of the Messiah Jesus. It is the superiority of our Lord Jesus, then, that remains the theme of this perfectly written epistle!
3. The book of Hebrews is _____ in character – it teaches truth.
4. It contains ____ chapters and 303 verses.
5. The emphasis of Hebrews is Jesus Christ who is someone better than, and his work something better than anything in Judaism.
6. The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to prove that the change from the Levitical to the Christian system was predicted by the Old Testament, particularly the change to a new priesthood, a new covenant, a new sacrifice and a new sanctuary.

E. Just WHO are the “Hebrews”?

1. Not “spiritual Israel” as some say (Cf Rom 9:6; 2:28,29; Gal 6:16). Not necessarily all born again believers
2. These HEBREWS are the Jewish nation – Hebrew speakers (read Rom 9:1-5)!
3. From _____ in Gen 10:21-25, Eber being the root word for the Eberews, Hebrews!
4. The Book of Hebrews is written to all Hebrew speaking Jews who believe in the God of the Old Testament, but were still stuck in the Old Testament

F. Key Words in the Book of Hebrews:

1. “_____” occurs thirteen times
2. “_____” or “_____” occurs fifteen times
3. “_____” or “_____” occurs nine times

G. All the *Better Things* listed in Hebrews!

1. Better Revelation 1:1-4
2. Better Rest 4:9
3. Better Things 6:9; 11:40
4. Better Hope 7:19
5. Better Covenant 7:22; 8:6
6. Better Priesthood 7:23-28
7. Better Promises 8:6
8. Better Sacrifice 9:23
9. Better Substance 10:34; 12:24
10. Better Country 11:16
11. Better Resurrection 11:35

H. In Summary – Jesus will be proven to be better than:

1. Angels – Jesus CANNOT be an angel and be better than angels!!!
2. All Old Testament Prophets

3. The Entire Old Testament
4. The Aaronic Priesthood
5. All Old Testament Promises and Covenants
6. All Old Testament Sacrifices
7. All Old Testament Resurrections
8. Life itself (Philp 3:10)
9. Solomon (Lk 11:31)
10. Jonah (Lk 11:32)
11. The Sabbath
12. Abraham (John 9:53)
13. Jacob (John 4:12)
14. Moses (Heb 3:3)

I. Old Testament References in Hebrews:

1. Thou art my son (1:5 / Psalm 2:7)
2. Let all the angels worship him (1:6 / Psalm 97:7)
3. Who maketh his angels spirits (1:7 / Psalm 104:4)
4. What is man (2:6-8 / Psalm 8:4-6)
5. I will declare thy name (2:12 / Psalm 22:22)
6. Today if you will hear his voice (3:7-11 / Psalm 95:7-11)
7. God rested on the seventy day (4:4 / Genesis 2:2)
8. Thou art my son (5:5 / Psalm 2:7)
9. Make all things according to the pattern (8:5 / Exodus 25:40)
10. To make a new covenant (8:8-12 / Jeremiah 31:31-34)
11. Sacrifice and offerings thou wouldest not (10:5-7 / Psalm 40:6-8)
12. Vengeance belongs to the lord (10:30 / Deuteronomy 32:35-36)
13. The just shall live by faith (10:38 / Habakkuk 2:4)
14. Despise not God's chastening (12:5-6 / Proverbs 3:11-12)
15. I will never leave thee nor forsake thee (13:5 / Deuteronomy 31:6)

J. The writer of Hebrews gives much encouragement to believers, but there are five solemn warnings we must heed:

1. Do not neglect spiritual things (Hebrews 2:1-4),
2. The danger of unbelief (Hebrews 3:7-4:13),
3. The danger of spiritual immaturity (Hebrews 5:11-6:20),
4. The danger of failing to endure (Hebrews 10:26-39),
5. And the inherent danger of refusing/resisting God (Hebrews 12:25-29).

K. Suggested Memory Verses:

1. Hebrews 1:8
2. Hebrews 2:3
3. Hebrews 3:12
4. Hebrews 4:12
5. Hebrews 5:9
6. Hebrews 6:19
7. Hebrews 7:19
8. Hebrews 8:1
9. Hebrews 9:27,28
10. Hebrews 10:10
11. Hebrews 11:6
12. Hebrews 12:2
13. Hebrews 13:5

The Book of Hebrews Chapter One

Better Than Angels

I. Chapter One Memory Verse:

Hebrews 1:8 “*But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.*”

II. Lesson – Chapter One

A. God is Still There (Heb 1:1)

1. Starts just like Genesis, with God being there!
2. Starts with all sorts of presuppositions
 - a. That there is a God – that He exists
 - b. That the audience believes in the God of the Old Testament
 - c. That the audience knows about _____ – this Book is not for pagans!
3. Only the _____ says there is no God. The Book of Hebrews is NOT for a fool!
4. So, 4,000 years after Genesis 1:1, the same God who created everything just by the word of His mouth, is still there, and speaking!

B. God’s _____ – God has spoken (Heb 1:1,2)

1. To _____ Hebrews (Rom 3:2; Acts 7:38)
2. Give to us at various times... throughout history. Not constant!
3. In various ways
4. To the fathers – Israel’s ancestors – previous generations
5. In the past, by _____ mainly
6. Most recently God has spoken to us Hebrews by _____
7. Ultimately, Gentiles usually hear God’s words from a _____ (John 4:22)
 - a. Nineveh heard from Jonah
 - b. Sheba heard via Solomon
 - c. The scattering of the Jews enabled the Old Testament to be scattered as well
 - d. Same with Christians (Acts 8:1-4; 11:19; 14:2-7) – our persecutions push the Gospel into areas it wouldn’t get into otherwise!

C. God’s _____ – His Pre-eminence (Heb 1:2,3)

1. Here is the Jewish Messiah – the perfect Man
2. The appointed heir of _____ things!
 - a. Just as Adam was. Adam blew his dominion
 - b. Jesus gained it back (Mt 28:18)
3. The Creator of all things
 - a. All _____
 - b. Gen 1:3 – creative Word
 - c. This word is *aeon* – eons, or times! Same in Heb 11:3
 - d. Same as Matthew 28:20 “*even to the end of the ...*” New bibles say “age”
 - e. But HERE it can’t be AGES, but WORLDS – _____!
 - f. The new bibles are very hypocritical!
 - g. Jesus is not just creator, but _____ – glue, holding everything together (Col 1:17)

4. The *Express Image* of God
 - a. Again – a very tough concept for a Jew
 - 1) Man was initially made in the image of God (1Cor 11:7)
 - 2) That image was marred, ruined by sin
 - 3) A believer is being changed BACK into the right image of God (2Cor 3:18; Rom 8:29)
 - 4) We have a new man in us (Col 3:10) that is the image of God
 - b. _____ IS the image of God (John 14:6-9; 2Cor 4:4; Col 1:15)
 - 1) Jesus is simply what God Almighty is like
 - 2) Jesus IS the same God of the Old Testament
 - 3) Only now, in the flesh – bodily
 - c. Jesus is the _____ image you can bow before (Philp 2:10)
 - 1) Not a picture of Him, but the thought of Him
 - 2) Compare with people bowing to images and thoughts of Baal (Rom 11:4)
5. The _____ of our Sins (Heb 1:3)
 - a. As the Lamb AND as the High Priest at the same time
 - b. This was the primary purpose of the first coming of the Messiah
 - c. Jesus accomplished what no other High Priest could do in the entire Old Testament – remove all sin for all time for anybody! EVEN GENTILE sins!
 - d. The purging is stated as an accomplished fact – not *on-going* as with Catholicism
 - e. Sins were not just “forgiven” but purged – REMOVED – burned out
 - 1) Like the burning of the sacrificial lamb
 - 2) Even the ashes were dumped
 - 3) There was to be no more remembrance of sins
 - 4) At least until NEXT year under the Law
 - f. Jesus is currently _____
 - 1) PROOF that Jesus accomplished the Atonement
 - 2) There were no _____ in the Old Testament Tabernacle/Temple – because the priest’s work was NEVER done
 - g. At the Right hand of God...
 - 1) Was a place of _____ (Ps 16:11)
 - 2) A place of _____ (Ps 63:8)
 - 3) A source of _____ (Dt 33:2)
 - 4) A place of _____ (Ps 17:7; 20:6)
 - 5) A place of _____ (Ps 48:10)

D. Jesus is Greater than _____ (Heb 1:4-14)

1. As a Man He was better than ALL angels
 - a. Jesus was made a little lower than the angels
 - b. And yet was made BETTER than the angels!
 - c. Jesus was NO angel – not _____
 - 1) Yet the JW’s say Jesus is the arch-angel Michael
 - 2) Many Seventh day Adventists say Jesus was Michael. “*The man Christ Jesus was not the Lord God Almighty.*” SOURCE: Ellen G. White (1903, ms 150, SDA; Commentary V, p. 1129)

2. Jesus Christ is said to be four things (Heb 1:5):
 - a. _____ – not that God had a Son in heaven, but was the WORD of God before he became the Son of God (1John 5:7)
 - b. _____ of God (Ps 2:7; 1Chr 22:10; 17:11-14; 2Sam 7:12-14; Pr 30:4)
 - c. The _____ of God.
 - 1) What is the significance of the word "first-begotten"?
 - 2) More sons will be begotten of the Father and Christ will have pre-eminence among them.
 - d. Worthy of _____ – this is the clincher!
 - 1) No angel was ever worthy of worship. Whoever this is, he is worthy even of ANGELIC worship!
 - 2) No MAN was ever worthy of worship
 - 3) ONLY GOD is worthy of worship
 - 4) SO... Jesus must be what? _____

3. Question: On what "day" was Christ begotten as the Son of God?
 - a. _____ (Luke 1:35)
 - b. _____ (Luke 3:22)
 - c. _____ (Romans 1:4).

4. Angels, with all their power and greatness (flames of fire) are... (1:7,14)
 - a. _____, ministers – that's all!
 - b. Taking care of people who are the heirs of salvation (1:14)
 - c. Yet, they are might beings (1Thes 1:7; 2Pet 2:11)
 - 1) Created by Jesus (Col 1:16)
 - 2) More powerful than any human being!
 - 3) One can kill 185,000 men in one night (2Chr 32:21)
 - 4) They are quite able to wage war and win it in heaven (Rev 12:7)

5. Yet Paul goes further (Heb 1:8-13)!
 - a. Paul quotes God the Father calling Jesus, not just His Son, but _____!
 - 1) God calling His Son, GOD! Only possible in a TRINITY!
 - 2) There are no other 'gods' beside GOD (Isa 44:6,8; Hos 13:4)
 - 3) The new world translation: *"But with reference to the Son: God is your throne forever and ever, and [the] sceptre of your kingdom is the sceptre of uprightness"*
 - b. Jesus the SON, as GOD has an ETERNAL THRONE
 - c. His sceptre is His right to rule, His rightful authority to take over!
 - d. Jesus _____ this place (even though he possessed it at first) as a MAN (1:9)
 - e. Paul quotes a creation verse and labels it as Jesus (1:10-12)
 - 1) As creator of all things
 - 2) As eternal himself
 - f. The Bible teaches the Laws of Thermodynamics
 - 1) _____ – that matter and energy cannot now be created or destroyed (John 1:3 – there is nothing now being created)
 - 2) _____ – that everything is wearing out, not improving or getting more organised and more powerful!

- g. No angel ever had a promise made to him except Lucifer! Which is that he will be destroyed!!!
- 6. When Christ is through using the earth and the heavens, notice what he will do with them... He will discard them as "_____." He Himself is eternal. He will remain fresh and bright. If you are in Him you also will remain fresh and bright throughout eternity!

III. Questions from Chapter One

- A. God "*spake in time past to the fathers*" by WHOM? _____
- B. By whom has God spoken to us in "these last days"? _____
- C. Who has been appointed "heir of all things"? _____.
- D. By whom did God make the worlds? _____
- E. What force upholds the universe? _____
- F. Name THREE ways has Christ been made "so much better than the angels"?
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
- G. On what "day" was Christ begotten as the Son of God? _____
- H. What is the significance of the word "first-begotten"? _____
- I. Explain the expression, "they all will grow old as doth a garment."

- J. Where is Christ seated today? _____
- K. What is the role of angels under the new covenant? _____

The Book of Hebrews Chapter Two

Better Than Angels – Part 2

I. Chapter Two Memory Verse:

Hebrews 2:3 *“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him”*

II. Lesson – Chapter Two

A. Warnings to the Hebrews (2:1-4)

1. If God has spoken, especially through His own Son, WE Jews had better listen!
2. Don't let God's words “_____” (1Sam 3:19)
 - a. Be careful that we do not at any time drift away from them.
3. Take EARNEST heed
4. God's expectations in the Old Testament
 - a. Were _____
 - b. Every disobedience was punished (Dt 32:35,36). No one escaped then!
5. How then shall “WE” Hebrews escape NOW?
 - a. The “WE” is referring to the Hebrew people – the Jewish nation – not individuals
6. God was warning of coming righteous punishment. (Heb 3:11,13,17,19; 4:1,11; 6:8; 10:27,39; 12:17,25).
 - a. All anyone ever has to do is _____ to obey – put it off – not make it a priority
 - b. Applies to both salvation, and to doing the will of God
7. We Hebrews HAVE the Messiah's words now
 - a. He has spoken
 - 1) To us first – and then to the Gentiles
 - 2) He confirmed his word
 - a) With signs and wonders and miracles (1Cor 1:21) – all for the JEWS
 - b) Done by the apostolic witnesses (2Cor 12:12)
 - c) Gifts of the Holy Ghost
 - 3) Difference between the Holy Ghost and the Holy Spirit
 - a) The Holy Ghost (5 times in Hebrews) refers to His _____ (Mt 28:19). This is His name, like Jehovah is the Father's name
 - b) The Holy Spirit (2 times in Hebrews) refers to his _____ (Rom 8:16) – His ministry is a spiritual work
 - b. He will speak again – just before the kingdom comes – premillennial (Heb 12:25-28)

B. The Authority of the Messiah (2:5-9)

1. No _____ has been given authority over the world to come – the kingdom of heaven on earth (the Millennial kingdom)
2. No _____ can rule it

- a. What is man? We are a joke!
- b. Why is God mindful of man, and why does God "visit" him?
 - 1) Because we were made to fellowship with God – angels weren't
 - 2) Because we are made like God – in His image – angels aren't
 - 3) Because we can be the habitation of God – angels can't be
3. ALL of God's creation has been placed under subjection to mankind by the Word of God (2:8). Mankind is to rule right now, not Satan!
4. To whom or to what is the Christian to be in subjection?
 - a. Only to God through Christ.
 - b. No creature or thing is to have dominion over a member of the Body of Christ.
 - c. Much of our Christian experience is occupied with the freeing of us from the dominion of creatures, things, and circumstances.
 - d. God has placed all things in subjection under mankind. God has left nothing that has not been placed under mankind.
 - e. However, in the present hour, all things are not under man. But God calls circumstances that are not, as though they were. God creates in a timeless vision. All things are finished in the sight of God. We now are in the working out of them.
 - f. God sees the end from the beginning. We have been predestined, according to the foreknowledge of God, to be in the image of Christ. Yet we are never to take an attitude of passivity or inevitability. We still must make godly choices if we are to obtain our inheritance.
5. But we see Jesus! What He accomplished, and what He earned (Philp 2:7)
 - a. He was made lower than the angels – Made into a Man
 - b. Why?
 - 1) So that He could _____ – God could not suffer as we do
 - 2) So that He could experience death, tasting death for every person. Jesus suffered and tasted death for EVERY man Jesus had to experience the pain that we experience so He could become the author of our salvation and our elder Brother.
 - 3) So that He could Die in man's place under righteous wrath – God cannot die
 - 4) So that He could _____
 - 5) So that He could be _____
 - a) Jesus now possesses all authority and power in Heaven.
 - b) Jesus now possesses all authority and power on the earth.
 - c) Jesus now possesses all authority and power over all creatures in Heaven, in Hell, those who are dead, those who are alive, those yet to be born.
 - 6) So that He could be _____
 - 7) So that all of creation could be under the power and authority of mankind again – as it was designed to be from the garden of Eden
6. God formed a Perfect MAN out of Jesus (2:10)
 - a. Not just at birth – without sin
 - b. But perfected through _____
 - c. God made Jesus into our _____ – our leader in our realm
 - 1) Generals never fight in the trenches or on the battlefield
 - 2) Only Captains fight alongside their fellow soldiers, risking their lives alongside everyone else!
 - d. God made himself into a perfect man to SAVE us

- e. He did it so that we could be part of His family – to have many brethren!

C. The Family of God (2:10-18)

1. GOD did everything needed to save us and restore us!
2. He makes sinful men, into brethren – and Jesus is NOT ashamed to call us His brothers (Rom 8:29)
3. Why is Christ not ashamed to call of us "brothers"?
 - a. Because he actually repaired our record PERFECTLY – we can grieve Him, but not discourage Him – so he always proudly rejoices in his relationship to US (see Jesus with publicans and sinners).
 - b. He has birthed us into His family – we didn't earn this place!
 - c. Because He has made us holy.
4. Notice who sings praises to God in the midst of the church: _____ (Ps 22:22; Isa 8:17,18)
 - a. When we sing hymns to God and praise God, Christ sings with us, His brothers. As we all sing praises there is satisfaction in the heart of God.
5. The Destruction of Satan's Power
 - a. It was necessary for God to become flesh and blood, so that _____ He could render powerless the one who possessed the power, the dominion, of death
 - b. That is, the devil.
 - c. Satan does not now control death anymore!
6. What fear keeps mankind in bondage? _____
 - a. The fear of death keeps mankind in slavery.
 - b. But now the saint does not fear death at all because Christ holds the keys of Hell and death.
7. Whom did Christ choose to resemble? _____
 - a. Not a gentile, an American, an Italian, etc!
 - b. But a descendant of Abraham. A JEW!
8. Why did Christ come to earth as a man?
 - a. Christ chose to be made like His brothers so He could be our merciful and faithful High Priest in the Presence of God.
9. How did Jesus make "reconciliation for the sins of the people"?
 - a. He paid the price for our sins by the offering of His own body and blood on the cross. This was possible only by becoming a human being.
10. Why is Jesus able to "succour _____ them that are tempted"?
 - a. Because Christ Himself was tested severely in the things He suffered on the earth He is able to come to the aid of each of us when we are going through a period of testing and suffering. Christ was tested and experienced suffering just as we are tested and experience suffering. Christ knows our pain. Therefore He is able to help us and to make intercession for us before the throne of His Father in Heaven.

III. Questions from Chapter Two

- A. From what are we warned to escape? _____
- B. How did God bear witness of His Word under the old covenant? _____

- C. How did God bear witness of his Word under the new covenant? _____

- D. Who has been given dominion over the world to come? _____
- E. _____
- F. Why is God mindful of man, and why does God "visit" him?

- G. Who has been crowned with glory and honour by the Lord God, right now? _____
- H. Who has been given dominion over the works of God's hands, right now? _____
- I. What part of God's creation has NOT been placed under subjection to mankind? _____
- J. To whom or to what is the Christian to be in subjection? _____
- K. Why was the Lord Jesus made a little lower than the angels?

- L. How was Christ made perfect? _____
- M. Why is Christ not ashamed to call of us "brothers"?

- N. Who sings praises to God in the midst of the church? _____
- O. Why was it necessary for Christ to become flesh and blood? _____

- P. What fear keeps mankind in bondage? _____
- Q. With whom did Christ choose to associate, whom did He choose to resemble? _____
- R. Why did Christ come to earth as a man? _____

- S. Why is Jesus able to "succour [help] them that are tempted"?

The Book of Hebrews

Chapter Three

Better Than Moses

I. Chapter Two Memory Verse:

Hebrews 3:12 *“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.”*

II. Lesson – Chapter Three

A. Holy Brethren (3:1)

1. Those in the Jewish Nation who fear and believe God
2. Partakers of the _____ (Cf 2 pet 1:4)
 - a. A calling to follow God like Abraham was called
 - b. Partakers of the Holy Ghost (Cf Acts 10:44-47)
 - c. What is the "heavenly calling"?
 - 1) To follow Jesus Christ, just like the Jews followed Moses!
 - 2) In general, the calling is for people to be sons of God, heirs of salvation, brothers of Christ.
 - 3) We are called to be partakers of the Person, image, and Glory of God Almighty.
3. Consider...
 - a. This is the purpose of the entire Book of Hebrews!
 - b. To get us to examine, search out, test and decide whether all these things are true!

B. Jesus Christ is Greater than _____ (3:1-6)

1. Moses was the greatest teacher, greatest Levite, greatest man of the Old Testament
2. Paul presents Jesus as far greater!
3. Jesus is THE Apostle
 - a. The “_____” from God
 - b. God’s Ambassador (Jn 20:21) – spokesman for God
 - c. Just as Moses was!
4. Jesus is THE _____ of a Jew’s profession – of what a Jew is supposed to believe (Heb 7:25)
5. Jesus was faithful just as Moses was
 - a. To doing God’s will (Ex 40:16; John 8:29)
 - b. In all his house – that which he was responsible for – like a steward is responsible
6. Jesus earned more glory and honour than Moses
 - a. Because the Messiah _____ the house (nation) that Moses only served and wrote about – the HOUSE of Israel
 - b. Compared with building an actual house
 - 1) Not there by accident, but designed and built by someone
 - 2) A great house is awesome
 - 3) But the BUILDER is greater than the house he built!
 - 4) So, Christ, and GOD especially is greater than Moses
7. Moses was a faithful servant – earned the Jew’s trust
8. Moses pointed forward, to the coming Messiah (Dt 18:18)

- a. The coming Messiah was referred to as “One like unto me”
 - b. Called the Prophet
 - c. Everything in the Old Testament Law and in the Temple was about the Messiah
 - d. They were all only shadows of the true (Heb 10:1; 8:5; 9:9)
9. The Messiah is the Head of our NEW house... IF...
- a. We Jews must hold fast, hold firm – don’t stop believing, not letting go of what we are supposed to believe (Heb 4:14)
 - b. The confidence – that the Jews are supposed to have in God’s _____
 - c. Of the hope (Acts 26:6,7; 28:20) – a better hope than offered in the Old Testament (Heb 7:19)
 - d. Unto the end, NOT of an age, or of time itself!
 - e. NONE of the above is about the GOSPEL
 - 1) It is possible to forget the Gospel (2Pet 1:9) and still be saved
 - 2) No one could by works OBTAIN eternal life (Eph 2:8,9)
 - 3) And no one by works can KEEP eternal life
 - f. This “end” is referring to following the truths of the NEW Covenant to their end, to their conclusions, even if they demolish all the Old Testament sacrifices and traditions that the Jews were used to!

C. Losing Our Way – Coming Short (3:7-19)

- 1. The author of Scripture is the Holy Ghost
- 2. The application of Old Testament Scripture (Rom 15:4)
 - a. Today – not just way back THEN
 - b. If YE will hear His voice – the Jews who were reading this Scripture
 - c. Notice the FREE WILL
 - d. Whose voice are we to be hearing today?
 - 1) The voice of the Holy Spirit.
 - 2) How difficult it is for humans to wait on the voice of the Spirit of God! How much more would we prefer to take hold of the program and make it work!
 - e. A serious warning – _____!
- 3. So, What BIG THING is the Christian NOT supposed to do?
 - a. _____.
 - b. He is not to provoke God to anger by murmuring, _____, and returning to the filthy, fruitless ways of the world.
 - c. He is not to keep testing God by saying that God cannot solve this problem, God cannot solve that problem.
 - d. God has solved all our problems in the past when we have prayed about them. Let us have faith in the present and in the future that what Christ has begun in our life He will finish gloriously.
- 4. The Results of Hard Hearts (3:7-19)
 - a. Effect on Israel Back Then (3:7-11)
 - 1) In The provocation – the day of temptation
 - a) 2 years of testings
 - b) Total of 40 years in the wilderness
 - c) A test for Israel as a nation

- d) It was a temptation for GOD too! Their actions provoked God to wrath and to the point of wanting to destroy them!
- 2) The proving time
- a) Their constant disobedience only proved God’s faithfulness to His covenants
 - b) Q: How faithful are YOU to those who offend YOU?
 - c) They experienced some hardships
 - (i) Lack of water
 - (ii) Lack of food
 - (iii) Hard time just travelling
 - d) Yet, they saw God’s faithfulness for 40 years
 - (i) Fed them
 - (ii) Gave them water from a Rock
 - (iii) Cleansed poisoned waters
 - (iv) Kept their clothes from growing old
 - (v) Kept their shoes from wearing out
 - (vi) Fought for them and defended them
 - (vii) Gave them clear directions
 - (viii) Gave them purpose and goals
 - (ix) Blessed them with children
 - (x) Gave them Moses to teach them
 - e) But they never accepted God’s faithfulness – never admitted that He was good to them
 - f) They ALWAYS found _____ with God
 - g) They became like the Pharaoh that they had been freed from!
 - h) THAT is a Satanic attitude!
- 3) The Results of a Hard Heart
- a) It grieved God – God has serious emotions (see Gen 6)
 - b) It was a heart problem – not food problem, or foot problem – they erred, sinned in and from their hearts
 - c) It was a stubbornness problem – never wanting to learn GOD’S ways
 - d) So, God repented – _____!
 - (i) God’s will was for that generation to get into the Promised Land
 - (ii) But not anymore!
 - (iii) They lost their place in God’s will, not their salvation
 - (iv) Their salvation was by the blood of the lamb back in Egypt
 - (v) God backed away from them, and left them to wander, and ultimately to die out of the perfect will of God – just like MOST Christians today!!!
- b. The Effect of Hard Hearts on US Today (3:12-19)
- 1) Paul speaks to his “brethren” the Jews as a group – saved and lost
 - 2) Used the same warnings given to Israel 1,500 years earlier
 - 3) Warns them to not blow THIS chance at “getting in”
 - 4) The “evil heart”
 - a) Is hard towards God – did not want to even hear Him speak to them
 - b) Is hard towards people
 - c) Is hard towards spiritual leaders – as they were towards Moses
 - d) Is an unbelieving heart

- e) Is a departing heart – constantly wanting to go back to “Egypt” – back to the old life you had before the Passover Lamb!
- c. In what way can a Christian "harden" his or her heart?
 - 1) By not allowing the Holy Spirit to lead him to spiritual maturity according to what is written in the Scriptures.
 - 2) By thinking God’s way is wrong, and choosing to go our own way
 - 3) THAT always leads to a harder and harder heart
- 5. How Not to Fail to Get Into the New Covenant
 - a. _____ one another
 - 1) To exhort is to “_____”
 - 2) Make it your ministry to keep others from getting hard hearts
 - 3) Allow others to exhort YOU
 - b. Hear God’s voice
 - 1) This is still a very Jewish context
 - 2) Asking them to listen for GOD’S voice – not Jesus’ like Christians are supposed to
 - 3) Read Psalms 95:7,8; Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 20:1-3; Deuteronomy 6:16.
 - c. Trust God’s will and His word to you
 - 1) God’s will is to get you somewhere – not just heaven
 - 2) His word should be enough for you to rely on
 - d. NOTE: there is great devotional, and practical application to all of this, but only after you have known the doctrinal application!!!
 - 1) How not to fail as a Christian
 - 2) How not to fail the will of God for your life
 - 3) Etc.
- 6. The Hebrew Nation Can be “Partakers” of Christ, IF... (3:14)
 - a. “WE” (not Christians, but the Hebrews)
 - b. Are made partakers (in 3:1, it sounded like they all were saved, but it was a generalisation, not a fact)
 - c. The conditions for Israel getting into the New Covenant
 - 1) Hold to – firmly believe
 - 2) The beginning of our confidence – what was promised in the Law
 - 3) Steadfastly – not giving up like Israel did in the wilderness
 - 4) Unto the end – to the conclusion – that a New Covenant had to be entered into
 - 5) As a nation – not just individuals
 - d. This will ultimately happen, DURING the _____, but unfortunately not before (Rom 11:26; Isa 45:17; 66:8; Jer 23:5,6)
- 7. The example of only Joshua and Caleb holding to their confidence (3:15,16)
 - a. Holding to your confidence means believing EVERY word, every promise God makes – not thinking some are too tough to accept!
 - b. The entire nation of Israel failed to believe God enough to go forward into the Promised Land
 - c. God had made promises
 - d. But only Moses, Joshua and Caleb believed those first promises

- e. And they were willing to go forward, and fight to the death to obtain those promises
 - f. Notice how WRONG the new translations are in correcting this verse (3:16)!!!
 - g. So, Who was it who heard God and then rebelled? Was it REALLY “all those who were led out of Egypt by Moses?”
8. Just as it was with Old Testament (Old Covenant) Israel, so is it with New Testament Israel
- a. They rejected God’s work in their midst in Christ
 - b. They hardened their hearts towards God’s Son, and His followers
 - c. They provoked God to kill them
 - d. They grieved God for extended periods of time
 - e. All of this was SIN! God calls their heart attitude a DEALY sin
 - f. They did not believe God (not that they didn’t believe IN God), but they didn’t believe His ways were/are perfect! They always thought they knew better!
9. In summary, their problem in their heart was _____!
10. But chapter 4 proves that Jesus CAN and will succeed to get the Jews into the New Covenant, and into the Millennium!

III. Questions from Chapter Three

- A. What is the "heavenly calling"? _____
- B. Who "appointed" Christ? _____.
- C. In what ways did Christ demonstrate His faithfulness to God the Father? _____
- D. Why is Christ "counted worthy of more glory than Moses"? _____.
- E. Whose voice are we to be hearing today? _____.
- F. What BIG THING is the Christian NOT supposed to do? _____
- G. In what way can a Christian "harden" his or her heart? _____
- H. In what ways did the "fathers" tempt God? _____
- I. What is the "rest" of God? _____
- J. What will an evil heart of unbelief cause us to do? _____.
- K. Who is directed to exhort whom each day? _____

The Book of Hebrews Chapter Four

The Future Rest

I. Chapter Four Memory Verse:

Hebrews 4:12 *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

II. Lesson – Chapter Four

A. Let us Fear (Heb 4:1)

1. Proper fear is “to be very worried and concerned about something of importance”
2. Paul wants the Jews to fear that they, as a nation might come short _____ of God’s invitation. He declares “We might miss our second opportunity to enter into rest – this is serious!”
3. If this worry is wrongly applied to Gentiles Christians, it would teach the loss of salvation. How?
 - a. It would be teaching that a sinner who has only believed on the finished work of Jesus _____
 - b. That is a damnable heresy!

B. The Promised Rest (Heb 4:1-8)

1. Entering into HIS Rest (Heb 4:1)
 - a. What it is NOT
 - 1) God’s rest is NOT only _____!!! Different than salvation (Mt 11:28-30)
 - 2) Different than the “rest” of the Old Testament. God’s rest is LIKE the Old Testament promise of the Promised Land, but it is not referring to the Promised Land rest
 - b. What God’s Rest IS:
 - 1) This rest is a promise left to the entire nation of Israel – not just to individuals. That’s why Paul states that “_____” Hebrews can fail to enter into that rest as a nation – we can come short of achieving that goal
 - 2) It is _____ rest – the promised rest brought about by the Messiah
 - 3) It is the _____, the Millennial kingdom, with Christ as its head (Ezek 34:22-34)
 - c. In summary, God’s rest is the enactment of the New Covenant in Israel as a nation, which includes:
 - 1) Forgiveness at the Messiah’s expense
 - 2) Inclusion of the Gentiles in the blessings upon Israel
 - 3) Israel restored to the head nation of the world in the Millennium
 - 4) It is getting into Christ’s earthly millennial kingdom
 - d. Specifically, it is referring to the Millennial rest – _____ (Josh 21:44; 22:4; 2Chron 20:30)
2. Notice how the Gospel was preached both in the Old Testament and the New (Heb 4:2)

- a. "Unto us was the gospel preached" – by Jesus Christ (Mt 4:23; 9:35; 11:5) – a very JEWISH Gospel! NOT the same Gospel that we preach.
 - 1) There are TWO Gospels in the Bible
 - 2) The Gospel of _____ – Specific Jewish Gospel
 - a) Is referred to as the Everlasting Gospel (Rev 14:6,7) preached just before Armageddon
 - b) Is the most preached Gospel throughout the Bible
 - 3) The Gospel of _____ (Acts 20:24) – the kingdom of God
 - a) Preached also to the Jews
 - b) But believed on more by the Gentiles
 - b. Unto them (Old Testament Jews) was the Gospel preached – by angels, Moses, and the prophets (see 1:1-2). Note that in THIS current modern dispensation, angels don't preach any Gospel!
 - c. What was the "gospel" that was preached to the Israelis who were wandering about in the wilderness?
 - 1) That they were going to be brought into a land where there were springs of water, plenty of rain, an abundance of minerals, and rich soil for grazing and for growing crops.
 - 2) More importantly, that a Messiah would come one day (Gen 3:15)
 - 3) This is the Gospel of the Kingdom of heaven
 - d. Note that the Gospel is no good unless mixed with _____ – does not profit or benefit (Heb 4:2; Cf Heb 11:6)
3. "We which have believed" – referring to believing Jews
- a. Obviously not all Jews are believers in the Gospel
 - b. The important word is _____. Those who will not believe God shall never enter the rest of God.
 - c. This involves believing God _____ – beyond the Old Covenant, through to the conclusion of the Scriptures – which is Jesus Christ!
 - 1) He is the end of the law (Rom 10:4)
 - 2) He is the end of all prophecy (Rev 19:10)
 - 3) He is the end focus of all Scripture (John 5:39; Lk 24:27)
 - d. We Jewish believers do enter into rest (Heb 4:3)
4. This "Rest" was prophesied and foreshadowed in the Old Testament
- a. Quote from Psalm 95:11; Num 14:23, 28-30
 - b. Repeated again in Deut 1:34,35
 - c. _____ rest (Gen 2:2,3; Isa 58:13,14)
 - 1) The Jews had to live this way once a week
 - 2) This is the way Christians are to live at all times. We are to cease seeking our own pleasure. We are to take pleasure in finding and doing the Lord's will. We are to honour God always, not following our own path, not finding our own pleasure, not speaking our own words.
 - 3) You cannot have rest until God is our focus, not ourselves
 - d. _____ rest

- 1) You cannot have rest until God's enemy is driven from the land
 - 2) God's enemies occupied Canaan – for Christians, it is Satan
 - 3) Those enemies had to be met head on and defeated – wrestling (Eph 6:12). Satan is entrenched in our hearts and minds
 - 4) The land had to be filled with work and worship
 - 5) The people had to stay right with God, or would be kicked out of their land
 - 6) You enter into rest one step at a time (Deut 7:22,23)
- e. _____ rest – salvation
 - f. _____ rest
 - g. Applies to the rest found only in doing the will of God
5. Evidently, there is STILL a rest for the Jews
- a. The question of 4:5-8 implies there is still another rest
 - b. The argument is that if the possession of Canaan, the land of promise, was the true rest of God, then David in the Book of Psalms—hundreds of years after Israel entered Canaan—would not have spoken of "another day."
 - c. Even though Israel was IN their *promised land*, some Jews had not entered into the *promised rest* in Paul's day
 - d. Israel as a nation had rejected their promised Messiah
 - e. Paul is trying to sway them back to following Jesus just as they as a nation had followed MOSES
 - f. Some MUST enter – imperative
 - g. The Book of Hebrews is an exhortation to the Hebrew people to enter the "rest of God."
 - h. God spoke "in David" – holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost!
 - i. Notice the profound and exacting manner in which the Holy Spirit guides the writer of the Book of Hebrews to interpret and apply the Old Testament Scriptures. The science of scriptural interpretation is termed hermeneutics. We can learn much about the discipline of hermeneutics by observing how the writers of the New Testament employed passages from the Old Testament.
 - j. Notice the free will, "harden NOT your hearts"
 - 1) Unbelievers freely harden and soften their own hearts
 - 2) As do believers!
 - 3) Cooperate with the Holy Spirit in the step-by-step accomplishment of what God has declared to be a fact.
6. It is provided by JESUS, or is it JOSHUA (4:8)?
- a. Greek "ει γαρ αυτους ιησους κατεπαυσεν ουκ αν περι αλλης ελαλει μετα ταυτα ημερας"
 - b. The word in Hebrew is "Jehoshua, Joshua, Hosea, Osea"
 - c. The new "bibles" correct the Greek and make it say _____
 - d. The Greek presents a unique way of connecting Joshua with JESUS
 - 1) Moses and the LAW could NOT bring Israel into the Promised Land
 - 2) Only JOSHUA/JESUS could do it (CAN do it)!
7. Even the Psalms speaks of another rest than just the LAND that they were living in
8. Therefore, there remains a rest unto the people of God
- a. To the unbelieving Jew
 - b. To the unbelieving Gentile
 - c. If they would just follow JESUS into that rest

C. The Concept of the _____ Rest (Heb 4:9-16)

1. Comparison with God's Rest after Creation (Gen 2:2,3; Ex 20:8-11)
 - a. God laboured, and then rested
 - b. We Jews also have laboured, and need to enter into THAT rest
 - 1) Rest as an attitude – of no more effort
 - 2) Rest as a time – like the 7th day Sabbath
 - 3) Rest as in permanence – staying at rest
 - c. It takes effort to enter into this kind of rest
 - 1) It doesn't happen naturally, any more than it did in the Old Testament – they all had to go by faith, obeying Moses to get to the Promised Land that they had not seen before
 - 2) Labour as JEWS
 - a) They knew about the double effort on Friday so that there was no labour on Saturday
 - b) They had to have twice the food to last them
 - 3) We Jews can fail again if not determined
 - d. _____ ruins God's promises – limits His abilities
 - e. The hardest work is to stay trusting, stay full of faith
 - 1) Israel had a very hard time in the wilderness with unbelief
 - 2) In spite of all of God's constant provisions and miracles
2. The Source of Our Confidence – the Word of God
 - a. It is Quick – means “alive” or “_____” (1Pet 4:5; Eph 2:1), but more than that! It means to act swiftly as well. So the Bible is swift acting in making us alive! Not slow and drawn out!
 - b. Powerful
 - 1) As powerful today as it was in the Old Testament
 - 2) As powerful as when first spoken By God in the beginning – created everything
 - c. Sharp – like a scalpel (Cf Eph 6:17) – it cuts deep and fast
 - d. Cutting, divides, lays out its “victim” like a surgeon
 - 1) Divides the soul and spirit – hard to discern each without the Bible
 - 2) Divides the joints and marrow – the body
 - 3) Notice the trichotomy of man
 - e. Discerning
 - 1) It Examines us
 - 2) It Knows us
 - a) Our thoughts
 - b) Our intentions
 - c) The secrets of the HEART
 - f. Judging
 - 1) It Exposes us
 - 2) It Deals with us – we cannot escape its judgments against us

D. Summary of all the Causes of Spiritual Failure.

1. Not mixing what we hear with faith – believing the Gospel
2. Not following Jesus like Israel followed Moses
3. Unbelief ruins God’s promises
4. Ignoring the word of God
5. The concept that the Christian needs to develop is that of **OVERCOMING** – not just believing, but overcoming unbelief, and anything that would hinder our success in doing God’s will by faith. Loads and loads of Christians fall away out of laziness!

E. The Best High Priest (Heb 4:14-16)

1. How could Jesus be better than any man?
 - a. He was (and is) the living **WORD** of God
 - b. He was a Man – the Son of Man
 - c. He was the Son of God
2. He is the fulfilment of our _____ (Cf 10:23) – of everything we believe
 - a. The office of the High Priest pointed to the future coming Messiah
 - b. But the Messiah would not come to just offer a sacrifice, he would **BE** the sacrifice. Jesus was **BOTH** the sacrificial lamb **AND** the High Priest at the same time
 - c. If Jesus is ever living, then there is no need for a replacement like there constantly was in the Old Covenant
3. The Messiah is better because He is touchable, reachable, moveable
 - a. Not only does Jesus right now know how we feel
 - 1) Because **HE** has felt what we feel
 - 2) **GOD** could never say that!
 - b. He also has dealt with temptation – he knows what it is to struggle
 - 1) He has felt the pull, the attractiveness of sin
 - 2) But thankfully he always won – and shows us how to win too!
 - c. He never sinned (2Cor 5:21)!
 - 1) The Process of Sin (Cf James 1:14,15)
 - a) _____ – a temptation is presented to someone
 - b) _____ – understanding
 - c) _____ – debate
 - d) _____ – decision to act
 - e) _____ – does the wrong
 - 2) Jesus **NEVER** debated, and so never sinned!
 - 3) Once you are debating, you are already on the wrong side of temptation!
4. All of the above makes Jesus the best High Priest
5. Every Jew (and gentile as well) needs to go to **HIM** as your High Priest
 - a. Let **US** Jews come boldly unto Him
 - 1) You couldn’t go boldly to the Old Testament High Priest
 - a) They were completely separate from sinners
 - b) **AND**, they were nullified by God in 70 AD
 - 2) There were many walls dividing us from God and from the priests even:

- a) Couldn't approach them unless you were a Levite
 - b) Couldn't approach them unless you had a perfect sacrifice
 - c) Couldn't approach them except through layers of mediators – lower priests
- b. Come to His THRONE – Not to His ALTAR
- 1) He not only is priest, but KING
 - 2) We can come to His throne
 - a) A throne not just of justice
 - b) But of GRACE
- c. Jesus gives both:
- 1) MERCY – compassion on our failures
 - 2) And GRACE – the supply of our needs

III. Questions from Chapter Four

- A. What is the "rest" of God? _____

- B. Name one way can a believer in Christ come short of the rest of God? _____

- C. What was the "gospel" that was preached to the Israelis who were wandering about in the wilderness? _____

- D. Where is our "great high priest"? _____
- E. How can it be true that Christ understands all of our weaknesses? _____

- F. List The Process of Sin in order:
- 1. _____ – a temptation is presented to someone
 - 2. _____ – understanding
 - 3. _____ – debate
 - 4. _____ – decision to act
 - 5. _____ – does the wrong
- G. Give a Cause of Spiritual Failure. _____

- H. In what manner are we to approach the throne of the almighty God, the throne of grace?
