

P.T. BIBLE SURVEY

The Letter to the Hebrews

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

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- ◎ Who wrote it?
 - Authorship of Hebrews is unknown. Paul, Luke, Barnabas, and Apollos have all been suggested as possible authors, but there has never been enough evidence to attribute with certainty the authorship of this book.

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

- ◉ Date of writing:
 - Around A.D. 66

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- ◉ Surrounding Circumstances:

- Written to Jewish Christians (hence the name “Hebrews”), this long letter emphasizes the superiority of Christianity to Old Testament Judaism. It is not known where Hebrews was written, or where it was sent. The author does refer to “those from Italy” sending greetings.

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◎ Key Term: **Better**

- This book repeatedly makes the case that Christ and Christianity are better or superior to the old way of the old covenant. The word “better” (Greek, kreitton or kreisson) appears 12 times.

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◎ Location of Events:

- The location of writing is unknown.

THE OUTLINE OF HEBREWS

- ◎ I. The Superiority of Christ's Person (1-4:13)
 - Superiority over the Prophets (1:1-3)
 - Superiority over the Angels (1:4-2:18)
 - Superiority over Moses (3:1-4:13)

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- ◎ II. The Superiority of Christ's Work (4:14-10:18)
 - Christ's Priesthood (4:14-7:28)
 - Christ's Covenant (8:1-13)
 - Christ's Sanctuary and Sacrifice (9:1-10:18)

THE OUTLINE OF HEBREWS

- ◎ III. The Superiority of the Christian's Walk of Faith (10:19-13:25)
 - Exhortation to Full Assurance of Faith (10:19-11:40)
 - Endurance of Faith (12:1-29)
 - Exhortation to Love (13:1-17)
 - Conclusion (13:18-25)

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◎ Summary in one sentence:

- Jesus Christ, who is better than the angels, Moses, Joshua, and the Hebrew high priests, made a better sacrifice and established a better covenant, ensuring that the old way is obsolete and that faith is the better way to live.

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◎ Summary in 10 words or less:

- Jesus is better than any Old Testament person or sacrifice.

THE BOOK OF 2 CORINTHIANS

◉ Cast of Characters:

- **Jesus:** the High Priest after the order of Melchizedek
- **The unnamed author:** sends this letter of love and instruction to the Jewish Christians
- **Angels:** servants of God; less than Jesus
- **Timothy:** newly released and may be visiting the Hebrews soon

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

Verse to Remember

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

(Hebrews 11:1)

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◉ Interesting Facts:

- Hebrews is one of only two New Testament letters (the other being 1 John) that includes no greeting or hint of its author.
- There are nearly 100 Old Testament references in the Book of Hebrews, all of which are from the Septuagint version. The Septuagint is a Greek translation of the Hebrew bible.
- Prominent words in the Book of Hebrews include: “Better”, “Heavenly”, “Perfect”, “By faith”

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◉ Interesting Facts:

- The basic theme of Hebrews is found in the word “better” in describing the superiority of Christ in both His person and His work. Christ provides:
 - Better revelation. 1:1-2
 - Better expectation. 6:9
 - Better priesthood. 7:7-11, 20-28
 - Better hope. 7:19
 - Better testament, covenant. 7:22, 8:6
 - Better promises. 8:6
 - Better sacrifices. 8:6

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◉ Interesting Facts:

■ Christ provides:

- Better possessions. 10:34
- Better country. 11:16
- Better resurrection. 11;35
- Better things. 11:40; 12:24

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

- What is my take away?
 - Jesus came to give us a new and abundant life, but we have to be willing to release our old lives in order to fully embrace the new.

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

◉ Home Study

- Read the book of James this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.