



Investigating the Word of God

Hebrews



The Temple Mount in Jerusalem

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Gene Taylor

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An Introduction to Hebrews

The Author of the Book

There is a great deal of uncertainty as to who wrote the book of Hebrews. Many different people have been suggested as possible authors.

Some think Luke wrote this book. Luke, though, was a Gentile while the author of the book of Hebrews was most definitely a Hebrew himself.

Some people have suggested that Barnabas wrote it. He was a Levite who had been born in Cyprus but lived in the city of Jerusalem so he would have been familiar with the Jewish religion and lifestyle. But, there is no evidence to support the view that he is the author of the book of Hebrews.

There are those who think Apollos is the author. They suggest that because he was such an eloquent speaker and that he had been taught by Aquila and Priscilla that he could have written this book. Apollos was a Jew but he was from the city of Alexandria in Egypt. The author of this book was a Jew who had great knowledge of the city of Jerusalem, the temple and the Jewish Christians there.

Many of the early writers of church history, some almost dating back to the first century, name the apostle Paul as the author of this book. Most of the evidence on record points to him as the writer of the book of Hebrews. Consider the following evidence:

- The author was in prison (10:34). Paul had been imprisoned many times (2 Cor. 11:23).
- The declaration of the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk that “the just shall live by faith” is quoted only three times in the New Testament—twice in Paul’s epistles and once in the book of Hebrews (Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38).
- The close companionship the author had with Timothy (13:23).
- The deep spiritual concern the author had for Israel. Compare it to the concern of the apostle Paul for them in Romans 9:1-5 and Romans 10:1-4.
- The writing style, though somewhat different from Paul’s epistles, does bear resemblance to his in several points.
- The closing of the book of Hebrews seems to point to no one but Paul.

In reality, there would be no one more qualified to write such a book as Hebrews than Paul. He had been a “Hebrew of the Hebrews” (Phil. 3:5) who had advanced beyond his contemporaries (Gal. 1:14), who became fully recognized apostle of Christ (2 Cor. 12:11). His training at the feet of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3) provided him with a thorough knowledge of Judaism and the temple. He was always concerned with the spiritual well-being of the Jews. Remember, on his preaching trips wherever he went to a new city he always went to the Jews first.

With all of the above said, though, we still cannot firmly state who the author of the book of Hebrews was. We must agree with noted historian Origen who said, “Who wrote the Epistle God only knows certainly.”

Those to Whom the Book Was Written

It is plain that this book was written to Christians. They are referred to as “brethren” (3:1, 12); “beloved” (6:9); “partakers of the heavenly calling” (3:1); and “partakers of Christ” (3:14).

They were Jewish Christians who were being tempted to turn from Christ and go back to their former religion under the Old Law. They had endured persecutions but they had grown tired of them and had failed to trust God as they once had (10:32-38). Though they had been saved for some time, they were immature as children of God because they had failed to grow spiritually (5:11-14).

Apparently they were well-known to the author and he to them. He planned to visit them upon his release from prison (13:23).

Most scholars suggest they lived in either Rome or Palestine but, as with authorship, no one can be sure where those who received this book lived.

The Date of the Book

Most scholars date the book of Hebrews somewhere around 66 to 68 A.D. just prior to the destruction of the city of Jerusalem (70 A.D.). Timothy was still alive (13:23). Those who received the book were to patiently endure the persecutions anticipated by the destruction of Jerusalem (10:22-25). When you think about it, the real focus of the book would be lost if Jerusalem and the temple were already destroyed.

Why This Book Was Written

This book was written to show the superiority of Jesus and His way of faith to the Old Law and its system of religion. This fact is seen in the fact that the keyword in the book is “better.” It is used thirteen times. Everything connected with Jesus Christ is better than anything that preceded Him.

Showing Christ and His way to be superior to anything that went before was meant to:

- Keep those who received the book from going back to the religion of the Old Law (2:1-4; 10:19-25).
- Provoke the recipients to grow as Christians (5:11-14; 10:32-39).
- Comfort the recipients in their persecutions (11:1 - 12:13).
- Enlighten those who received the book about the chastening [discipline] of the Lord (6:3-12; 10:26-31; 12:3-13).
- Alert its readers to the dangers of false teaching (13:9).
- Encourage the recipients to pray for the author (13:18-25). so? (Gromacki, 315-316)

An Outline of Hebrews

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

- A. Jesus is the complete and final revelation of God. (1-2a)
- B. Jesus is the Son of God. (2b-3)

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

- A. In name: "My Son." (1:4-5)
- B. In worship: "Worship Him." (1:6-7)
- C. In universal rule. (1:8 - 2:4)
- D. In that the world to come is subject to Him because by becoming lower than the angels He proved Himself worthy to have all things in subjection to Him. (2:5-18)

III. The Superiority of Christ to Moses (3:1-19)

- A. In respect to greatness and glory. (1-6)
- B. Warnings against the unbelief which characterized those who followed Moses. (7-19)

IV. The Superiority of the Rest Given by Christ to That Given by Joshua (4:1-13)

- A. The danger of losing the heavenly rest through unbelief and rebellion. (1-3)
- B. This heavenly rest in type. (4-10)
 - 1. The seventh day. (4-5)
 - 2. Canaan. (6-8)
 - 3. The heavenly rest. (9-10)
- C. Exhortations and warnings concerning the heavenly rest. (11-13)

V. The Superiority of Christ as High Priest (4:14 - 7:28)

- A. The purpose of His priesthood and His fitness for it. (4:14 - 5:10)
- B. The necessity of growth in knowledge in order to realize the hope of priesthood. (5:11 - 6:20)
- C. Proofs of the superiority of Christ's priesthood. (7:1-28) He is:
 - 1. A priest after a higher order than Aaron's. (1-19)
 - 2. A priest made with an oath. (20-22)
 - 3. An unchangeable priest. (23-25)
 - 4. A sinless priest. (26-28)
- D. Christ is a priest of a better covenant. (8:1-13)
- E. Christ is a priest of a better tabernacle. (9:1-28)
- F. Christ is a priest of a better sacrifice. (10:1-39)

VI. The Nature, Importance and Duties of Faith (11:1 - 13:25)

- A. The nature of faith. (11:1-3)
- B. The importance of faith as seen in the lives of the worthies of old. (11:4-40)
- C. The challenge to live by faith. (12:1-29)
- D. A final exhortation regarding responsibilities in response to Christ and His way. (13:1-25)

Hebrews Chapter One

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 1-2

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.”

Key Words

Brightness

Glory

Express

Image

Purged

Majesty

Inheritance

Firstborn

Scepter

Righteousness

Cloak

Ministering

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Through whom did God speak in times past?
2. Through whom does God now speak?
3. Name the things that are said of the Son in verses two and three.
4. According to verse four, what has Jesus that is more excellent than angels?
5. According to verse five, what did God never say to any angel?
6. According to verse six, who are angels to worship?
7. Who is sitting on the throne of heaven?
8. According to verse ten, what did the Son do “at the beginning?”
9. To whom did God say, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool?”
10. According to verse 14, what are angels?

Fill in the Blank

Fill in the blank in front of each statement with either “The Son” or “angels” having determined to which the statement better applies.

Example: The Son Through whom God speaks today.

1. _____ Sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
2. _____ Has obtained a more excellent name.
3. _____ Today I have begotten You.
4. _____ Told to worship the firstborn.
5. _____ Made spirits and a flame of fire.
6. _____ Your throne is forever.
7. _____ Laid the foundation of the earth.
8. _____ Sit at my right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.
9. _____ Ministering spirits.
10. _____ Sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation.

Discussion Question

How are angels ministering servants today? What do they do?

Hebrews Chapter Two

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 2-3

“For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.”

Key Words

Earnest

Steadfast

Transgression

Subjection

Captain

Sanctifies

Bondage

Propitiation

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. To what were the Hebrews to give “the more earnest heed?” Why?
2. What had the word spoken through angels proven to be?
3. What is not to be neglected?
4. According to verse three, who first spoke of salvation?
5. Who confirmed the salvation?
6. How did God bear witness to the message of salvation?
7. According to verses seven and nine, whom was Jesus made “a little lower than?”
8. According to verse eight, what has been put in subjection to Jesus?
9. For whom did Jesus “taste death?”
10. For whom are all things? By whom are all things?
11. What, according to verse ten, made Jesus, the captain of salvation, perfect?
12. According to verse 14, of what did Jesus partake?
13. Whom did Jesus destroy through death?
14. To whom does the Son not give aid? To whom does He give aid?
15. In what things was Jesus made like His brethren? Why was He made like them?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. The word spoken through angels proved steadfast. |
| T | F | 2. The world to come is in subjection to angels. |
| T | F | 3. Because He suffered death, Jesus was crowned with glory and honor. |
| T | F | 4. Both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are one. |
| T | F | 5. Jesus released from bondage those who had no fear of death. |

Discussion Question

Who is the seed of Abraham? How does one become the seed of Abraham?

Hebrews Chapter Three

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 12

“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God”

Key People

Moses

Key Words

Apostle

Partakers

Harden

Rebellion

Exhort

Deceitfulness

Corpses

Unbelief

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who is the Apostle and High Priest of our confession?
2. To whom was Jesus faithful?
3. To whom was Jesus likened in His faithfulness?
4. Which has more honor, the house or the one who built the house?
5. Who was faithful as a servant in all his house?
6. Of what, according to verse 12, should Christians beware?
7. By what, according to verse 13, can Christians be hardened?
8. To be a partaker of Christ, what, according to verse 14, must one do?
9. What did those whom Moses led out of Egypt do?
10. Why could not those whom Moses led out of Egypt not enter His rest?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. Holy brethren are partakers of the heavenly calling. |
| T | F | 2. Jesus was one of the twelve apostles. |
| T | F | 3. Moses was unfaithful but Christ was faithful. |
| T | F | 4. Moses was counted worthy of more glory than anyone who ever lived. |
| T | F | 5. He who built all things is God. |
| T | F | 6. Jesus was faithful in His house as a servant. |
| T | F | 7. God wants people to test Him. |
| T | F | 8. An evil heart of unbelief causes a person to depart from the living God. |
| T | F | 9. Christians are to exhort one another monthly. |
| T | F | 10. Those who did not obey could not enter God's promised rest. |

Discussion Question

Name some ways in which sin is deceitful.

Hebrews Chapter Four

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 12

“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Key People

David

Joshua

Key Words

Designates

Piercing

Discerner

Intents

Account

Heavens

Confession

Weaknesses

Boldly

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What promise remains?
2. What did the writer fear for those to whom he wrote?
3. Why did the gospel not profit those to whom it was preached before?
4. Why did those to whom the word was first preached not enter the rest?
5. What, according to verse nine, remains for the people of God?
6. What should people be diligent to enter?
7. What is described in verse 12 as being living and powerful?
8. What is able to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart?
9. According to verse 13, what is hidden from God?
10. To whom must we give account?
11. Who is our High Priest?
12. Through what has our High Priest passed?
13. What are Christians to hold fast?
14. Can our High Priest sympathize with our weaknesses? Why?
15. In what was Jesus tempted?
16. Did Jesus ever sin?
17. To what are Christians to boldly come?
18. What can Christians find in time of need? Where can they find it?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. One can come short of entering God's rest. |
| T | F | 2. For the word of the gospel to be of profit to one who hears it, that one must have faith. |
| T | F | 3. God rested on the sixth day from all His works. |
| T | F | 4. Joshua gave people rest so there is no need to speak of another day. |
| T | F | 5. The word of God is sharper than a four-edged sword. |
| T | F | 6. No creature is hidden from God's sight. |
| T | F | 7. Our High Priest cannot sympathize with our weaknesses. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think Jesus was able to live without sin?

Hebrews Chapter Five

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 8-9

“Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.”

Key People

Aaron

Melchizedek

Key Words

Compassion

Glorify

Supplications

Vehement

Perfected

Principles

Oracles

Exercised

Discern

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What is the purpose of a high priest taken from men?
2. Upon whom can a high priest have compassion?
3. Why can a high priest taken from men have such a compassion?
4. For whom is a high priest taken from men to offer sacrifices for sin?
5. Can a man appoint himself a high priest? Who must call him to be one?
6. Did Christ glorify Himself to become High Priest? Who appointed Him High Priest?
7. What, according to verse seven, did Jesus offer up in the days of His flesh? Why were these heard?
8. Though He was a Son, what did Jesus learn? How did He learn it?
9. Of what is Jesus the author?
10. To whom is He author of it?
11. After what priestly order is Jesus High Priest?
12. Why was it hard for the writer to explain to his readers the many things he needed to tell them about Jesus?
13. By the time he was writing to them, what did the writer say his readers ought to be?
14. What, according to verse 12, did the Hebrews need someone to teach them?
15. Who, according to verse 13, partakes of “milk?” According to verse 14, for whom is “solid food” intended?

True - False

- T F 1. Aaron was called by God to be a high priest.
- T F 2. Jesus Christ is priest forever after the Levitical order.
- T F 3. In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications to the one who was able to save Him money.
- T F 4. Jesus became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.
- T F 5. Solid food is for babes.

Discussion Question

What does it mean in verse nine when it says that Jesus was “perfected?” Was He not always perfect?

Hebrews Chapter Six

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 4-6

“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”

Key People

Abraham

Key Words

Discussion

Elementary

Principles

Perfection

Enlightened

Crucify

Accompany

Immutability

Counsel

Immutable

Consolation

Anchor

Veil

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did the author intend to leave?
2. To what did the author want to go?
3. What did the author not want to lay again?
4. Who is it impossible to renew again to repentance?
5. What, according to verse six, have those who have fallen away done?
6. When does the earth receive blessing from God?
7. When is the earth rejected and near to being cursed by God?
8. What, according to verse ten, was God not going to forget about the Hebrews?
9. According to verse 11, what were the Hebrews to show?
10. Who were the Hebrews to imitate?
11. When God made a promise to Abraham, by whom did He swear?
12. According to verse 15, when did Abraham receive the promise?
13. What is it impossible for God to do?
14. According to verse 19, what is the anchor of the soul?
15. Where has Jesus, our forerunner and High Priest, entered?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. The writer encouraged the Hebrews to go on to perfection. |
| T | F | 2. Christians who fall away crucify the Son of God and put Him to an open shame. |
| T | F | 3. When the earth bears thorns and briers it receives a blessing from God. |
| T | F | 4. When God made a promise to Abraham He swore by the stars of heaven. |
| T | F | 5. God wanted to hide the immutability of His counsel. |

Discussion Question

Why is it hard, if not impossible, to get people to come back to Christ once they have fallen away from Him?

Hebrews Chapter Seven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 2

“For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.”

Key People

Melchizedek

Abraham

Levi

Aaron

Judah

Moses

Key Words

Slaughter

Genealogy

Patriarch

Spoils

Contradiction

Mortal

Tithes

Officiated

Annulling

Oath

Surety

Intercession

Covenant

Uttermost

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who met and blessed Abraham when he was returning from the slaughter of the kings?
2. What did Abraham give the man who met him?
3. According to verse two, of what was Melchizedek king?
4. How is Melchizedek described in verse three?
5. Who blesses the lesser?
6. Besides Abraham, who paid tithes to Melchizedek? Through whom did he pay them?
7. Was perfection possible through the Levitical priesthood?
8. Because the priesthood changed, what else had to change?
9. Of what tribe of Israel was Jesus? Could one from that tribe be a priest under the Old Law?
10. Of what order is Jesus a priest?
11. Could the Old Law make anyone perfect?
12. According to verse 22, of what is Jesus a surety?
13. How long will the priesthood of Jesus continue? Will it ever change?
14. To what extent is Jesus able to save?
15. Does Jesus need to offer daily sacrifices? How many sacrifices did He need to offer? When was this done?

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Melchizedek | A. The tribe of Jesus. |
| _____ 2. Abraham | B. Priestly tribe under the Old Law. |
| _____ 3. Levi | C. Spoke nothing concerning the tribe of Judah as to the priesthood. |
| _____ 4. Judah | D. King of Salem. |
| _____ 5. Moses | E. Paid tithes to the king of peace. |

Discussion Question

Since Jesus is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, how does one come to God through Jesus Christ?

Hebrews Chapter Eight

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 13

“In that He says, ‘A new covenant,’ He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.”

Key People

Moses

Key Words

Minister

Sanctuary

Copy

Shadow

Mediator

Obsolete

Vanish

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Where is the High Priest now seated?
2. Of what is the High Priest a minister?
3. According to verse three, why is every high priest appointed?
4. Could Jesus have been a priest on earth?
5. According to verses four and five, what purpose do the “gifts according to the law” serve?
6. What was Moses instructed to do when he was about to make the tabernacle?
7. Of what is Jesus a Mediator?
8. Was the first covenant faultless?
9. According to verse eight, what was God going to make with the houses of Israel and Judah?
10. According to verse ten, where was God going to put His laws? Where would He write them?
11. Of God’s people, who would know Him?
12. According to verse 12, in relation to His people, to what would God be merciful?
13. What will God no longer remember among His people?
14. What made the old covenant obsolete?
15. What was the old covenant ready to do?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. The High Priest is seated at the left hand of the throne of the Majesty on high. |
| T | F | 2. The High Priest is Minister of the Sanctuary and true tabernacle which the Lord built. |
| T | F | 3. In building the tabernacle, Moses was instructed to make all things according to the pattern. |
| T | F | 4. The first covenant was faultless. |
| T | F | 5. Under the new covenant, everyone is to teach his neighbor and brother. |

Discussion Question

How are the laws of God put in the minds and written on the hearts of His people?

Hebrews Chapter Nine

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 22

“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”

Key People

Aaron

Key Words

Ordinances

Sanctuary

Tabernacle

Showbread

Veil

Censer

Manna

Cherubim

Overshadowing

Mercy seat

Ignorance

Symbolic

Redemption

Heifer

Conscience

Testament

Testator

Remission

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What was in the first part of the tabernacle?
2. What was behind the second veil of the tabernacle?
3. What was the part of the tabernacle called the “Holiest of All?”
4. What was in the ark of the covenant?
5. What was above the ark of the covenant?
6. What overshadowed the mercy seat?
7. Who performed services in the first part of the tabernacle?
8. Who performed services in the second part of the tabernacle? How often did he go there?
9. What did the high priest offer for himself and for the people’s sins?
10. According to verse nine, of what were the gifts of the Old Law symbolic?
11. How is the tabernacle of the High Priest Jesus Christ described?
12. With what did Jesus enter the Most Holy Place? W?
13. According to verse 14, what does the blood of Christ cleanse?
14. What is required for a testament to be in force?
15. Without what was the first covenant not dedicated?
16. According to verse 22, what is impossible without the shedding of blood?
17. According to verse 24, why did Christ enter the holy places?
18. How often did Christ offer Himself to put away sin?
19. What is appointed for all men? What follows it?
20. For what purpose will Christ appear when He comes the second time?

Discussion Question

How did Christ obtain eternal redemption for sins?

Hebrews Chapter Ten

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 24-25

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Key Words

Shadow

Image

Purified

Consciousness

Sanctified

Wavering

Forsaking

Indignation

Vengeance

Recompense

Illuminated

Spectacle

Reproaches

Tribulation

Perdition

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. How is the Old Law described in verse one?
2. Could the yearly sacrifices of the Old Law make anyone perfect?
3. What was impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to do?
4. Why was the first law taken away?
5. By what are people sanctified?
6. How many sacrifices for sin did Jesus offer?
7. What will God no longer remember against His people?
8. According to verse 22, how are people to draw near to God?
9. To what are Christians to hold fast?
10. For what purpose are Christians to consider one another?
11. What are Christians not to forsake?
12. If we sin willfully, what no longer remains?
13. According to verse 29, who is worthy to receive a worse punishment?
14. To whom does vengeance belong?
15. What is a “fearful thing?”
16. What were the Hebrews not to cast away? Why?
17. What did the Hebrews need? Why?
18. By what are the just to live?
19. What happens if one “draws back?”
20. According to verse 39, what is the goal of those who believe?

Discussion Question

What are some ways in which Christians can stir up love and good works among one another?

Hebrews Chapter Eleven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 6

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Key People

Abel
Cain
Enoch
Noah
Abraham
Isaac
Jacob
Sarah
Esau
Joseph
Moses
Pharaoh
Rahab
Gideon
Barak
Samson
Jephthah
David Samuel

Key Words

Substance
Evidence
Testimony
Framed
Embraced
Passover
Quenched
Scourgings

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What is faith?
2. By what were the worlds framed?
3. Of what were the things which are seen made?
4. What is impossible to do without faith?
5. What must the one who comes to God believe?
6. According to verse 13, what did the faithful confess they were?
7. According to verse 16, what has God prepared for the faithful?
8. List the things stated in verses 33 through 38 that the faithful of old suffered?
9. According to verse 39, how did all the Old Testament worthies obtain a good testimony?
10. According to verse 40, what had God provided for us?

Matching

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Abel | A. Blessed each of the sons of Joseph. |
| _____ 2. Enoch | B. Received the spies. |
| _____ 3. Noah | C. Offered up Isaac. |
| _____ 4. Abraham | D. Though dead still speaks. |
| _____ 5. Isaac | E. Chose to suffer affliction with the people of God. |
| _____ 6. Jacob | F. Did not see death. |
| _____ 7. Joseph | G. Blessed Jacob. |
| _____ 8. Sarah | H. Prepared an ark. |
| _____ 9. Moses | I. Gave instructions concerning his bones. |
| _____ 10. Rahab | J. Bore a child when she was past the age. |

Discussion Question

How does this chapter emphasize the importance of having faith in God?

Hebrews Chapter Twelve

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 28

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”

Key People

Esau

Moses

Abel

Key Places

Mount Zion

Jerusalem

Key Words

Surrounded

Cloud

Witnesses

Weight

Ensnarers

Author

Hostility

Chastens

Chastening

Illegitimate

Yields

Feeble

Bitterness

Profane

Birthright

Registered

Consuming

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What were the Hebrews to lay aside? What were they then to do?
2. To whom were the Hebrews to look?
3. How is Jesus described in verse two?
4. According to verse four, what would considering Jesus keep the Hebrews from becoming?
5. To what had the Hebrews not resisted?
6. Whom does the Lord chasten?
7. If the Hebrews were without chastening, what would that make them?
8. What does chastening seem to be for the present?
9. What does chastening yield after it is over?
10. What are Christians to pursue with all people? What will no one see without it?
11. How is Esau described in verse 16? What did he do to be described in that way?
12. Why, when he afterward wanted to inherit the blessing, could Esau not inherit it?
13. According to verse 22, to what city had the Hebrew Christians come?
14. To whom had the Hebrew Christians come?
15. What does the blood of Jesus (“the blood of sprinkling”) speak?
16. What were the Hebrews not to refuse?
17. What were the Hebrews receiving?
18. What were the Hebrews to have?
19. How were the Hebrews to serve God?
20. How is God described in verse 29?

Discussion Question

What race is being referred to in verse one? How does one run in that race?

Hebrews Chapter Thirteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 14

“For here we have no continuing city, but we seek for the one to come.”

Key People

Timothy

Key Places

Italy

Key Words

Entertain

Strangers

Unwittingly

Fornicators

Adulterers

Conduct

Covetousness

Content

Sanctified

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What was to continue among the Hebrew Christians?
2. Who were the Hebrews commanded to entertain?
3. Who had some unwittingly entertained?
4. According to verse three, who were the Hebrews to remember? Why?
5. What is to be considered honorable among all people?
6. According to verse four, who will God judge?
7. What was not to be a part of the Hebrews' conduct?
8. With what were the Hebrews to be content? Why?
9. According to verse seven, who were the Hebrews to remember?
10. How is Jesus described in verse eight?
11. By what were the Hebrews not to “be carried about?”
12. According to verse 12, by what are people sanctified?
13. What do we not have here (on the earth)?
14. According to verse 15, what should be continually offered to God?
15. According to verse 16, what should not be forgotten? Why?
16. Who were the Hebrews encouraged to obey? Why?
17. What, according to verse 17, would have been “unprofitable” for the Hebrews?
18. For whom did the writer want the Hebrews to pray?
19. What did the writer want “the God of peace” to do for the Hebrews?
20. Who had been set free from prison?

Discussion Question

How is Jesus Christ “the same yesterday, today, and forever?”

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