

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

Robert K. Spradling

Test 70

94-100 = A
88-93 = B
78-87 = C
70-77 = D

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS Mid-Term Exam

- 15 - 1. According to 6:1, what is the theme of the Book of Hebrews? Explain how the theme relates to the whole book. Also, what is the key word?
- 10 - 2. How is Christ superior or "better" than the angels? (There are 5 specific ways mentioned in the class notes.)
- 15 - 3. There are two different views regarding the ministry of angels today. State and describe in detail these two views.
- 10 - 4. The word perfect is used with reference to Christ in 2:10. Since He was already morally perfect, what does this word mean? (Explain)
- 15 - 5. Hebrews 4:15 speaks of the Impeccability of Christ. What does this term mean and why is it important?
- 5 - 6. The outline of chapter 5 shows that Christ is superior to Aaron in 3 areas. (Each key word begins with the letter "O". List them.)
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- 10 - 7. Identify some of the signs of spiritual immaturity according to 5:11-14.
- 10 - 8. How would you answer those who maintain that Heb. 6:4-6 proves that a saved person may be lost?
- 5 - 9. List the three references to impossibilities recorded in Hebrews.
- 5 - 10. Circle the correct answer:
- a. Chapter 2:1-4 speaks of the danger of drifting or running.
- b. Jesus is a High Priest or a Holy Pope.
- c. Our Lord tasted death or every man or some men.
- d. The word succour (2:18) means to comfort or confuse.
- e. The author of Hebrews was the Apostle Paul or Anonymous.

"Better" = (κρείσσον)

Trans.

- more useful
- conducive to good
- Superior
- more Excellent
- of a higher nature
- More Valuable

(Bagster's GK Lexicon)

Hebrews

1:4

6:9

7:7, 19, 22

8:6

9:23

10:34

11:16, 35, 40

12:24

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

COURSE PROCEDURE

◆ TEXTS:

The Book of Hebrews--Will use KJV in class.

Be Confident, Warren W. Wiersbe, David C. Cook, 1982.

◆ COLLATERAL READING:

The Epistle to the Hebrews, Homer A. Kent, Jr., BMH Books, 1983.

Hebrews, Clifford Marquardt, Tri-State Bible College

*478 pages
8/24/5
General arguments to
Key Passage*

◆ CLASSROOM:

(1) Participate in class discussion.

(2) Read each chapter prior to class and be prepared to discuss the questions at the end of the class notes.

(3) Memorize one verse in each chapter. Class recitation will be requested.

(4) Keep a class notebook to be handed in at the time of the final exam. *(Dec. 15)*

◆ TERM PAPER:

Write a term paper on one of the following subjects: - *(Dec. 15)*

The Priesthood of Christ

The Doctrines of Salvation and Sanctification in Hebrews

The Usage of O.T. Passages in Hebrews

The Ministry of Angels

The Blood of Christ

An Analysis of the Heroes of the Faith listed in Hebrews 11

Note: Grades will be based on length, accuracy, neatness and evidence of careful study and preparation.

◆ GRADING:

Will be based on:

- (1) Class participation
- (2) Completion of assignments of both reading and written.
- (3) Exams

◆ TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE:

Hebrews 1

Hebrews 2

Hebrews 3

Hebrews 4

Hebrews 5

Hebrews 6

MID-TERM EXAM

Hebrews 7

Hebrews 8

Hebrews 9

Hebrews 10

Hebrews 11

Hebrews 12

Hebrews 13

FINAL EXAM

OUTLINE:

- I. A SUPERIOR Person - Ch. 1-6 = (Christ)
- II. A Superior Priesthood - Ch. 7-10 (Melchizedek)
- III. A Superior Principle - Ch. 11-13 (Faith)
(Hab 2:14)

4 Key Questions:

- 1. "Who is Jesus CHRIST?" - His Person (1:1-3)
- 2. "What is CHRIST like?" - His OFFICE (5:1-9) "perfect"
- 3. "What did He Do For Us?" - His Ministry (7:25 | 8:1-2)
- 4. "How should WE Serve Him?" - His Example - (12:1-2
(13:13))

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

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Introduction:

The Book of Hebrews is not widely understood even among believers. Many commentators agree that it is one of the most difficult books to read and comprehend. A certain knowledge of the Old Testament and the Hebrew sacrificial system is required. "It was difficult for the people to whom it was written; it will be still more difficult for us today" (Wm. Barclay). However, it does present Jesus Christ in a wonderful way in all of His humanity, deity and majesty. So let us be diligent in our efforts to study Hebrews.

Salient Facts: "The Epistle to the Hebrews was written especially to Christian believers in the nation of Israel." (A. J. McClain)

- **Anonymous authorship**--"The search for the author of Hebrews has been going on for centuries, and is no nearer solution than when it began" (Homer Kent). Suggested authors: Paul, Barnabas, Apollos, plus several lesser known persons. The recipients of the letter seemed to know (Heb. 13:18-19).
- **"Better"** is the key word. Everything about Jesus Christ and His ministry is "better" than the Hebrew religious system. "Better" appears 13 times in Hebrews. It has various meanings such as excellent, valuable, useful, higher quality and more conducive for good. The word is also used to describe better gifts, hope, testament, covenant, promises, sacrifices, country and resurrection.
- **Maturity is the theme** and Heb. 6:1 is the key verse.
- The book of Hebrews presents the truth of the third part of Habakkuk 2:4 "by his faith". (Explain) Roman - He just said, shall come - Heb. 11:6
- **"More fully than any New Testament writing, Hebrews reveals the present high-priestly ministry of the Man in the glory, the Lord Jesus Christ"** (Oxford NIV Scofield Study Bible). 2:20
- It is through the high-priestly ministry of Christ that the believer has access to God. (Rom. 5:2)
- **Purpose:** "To present CHRIST AS GOD'S LAST WORD TO MAN."
1 (A. J. McClain)
- **Designation:** Jewish Christians - weak.
(3:1, 14 - 5:11-14)

"God" = a person NOT AN impersonal force.

"Spoken" aorist tense suggests:

1. Occurred at a point in time - specific
2. Complete revelation of God.
3. Final - No ~~more~~ more to come.

SPEECHES:

Lincoln - Gettysburg Address
P. Henry - Give me... Liberty or Death
Martin L. King - "I have a dream"..
J. Kennedy - Ask NOT..
R. Reagan - Challenger Exp.
"Slipped the surly bonds of earth
to touch the face of God"
Mr. G. tear down this wall!
Churchill - Eton -
Never... give up!

(1) "Heir" = legal right to possession... based
on sonship. Extent of the inheritance
is "all things"!

Hebrews Explains:

- ① who He is
- ② where He is
- ③ what He is doing

OUTLINE

I. A SUPERIOR PERSON--CHRIST--CHAPTERS 1-6

Priesthood - (7-10)
Principle - (11-13)

Chapter One--Better than the Fathers and the Prophets--1:1-2

Aorist Tense. cf. Abraham? Moses? Revelation

God = (8 Gods)
Not a revelation
of or from men.
(cf. Gal. 1:11-12)

This letter begins by telling men how God speaks or communicates with people. **God has spoken to us.** How? God's revelation to man did not come all at once in completed form but rather over a long period of time, i.e., by progressive revelation. The process is described as "sundry times" and "divers manners". (No reference to newspapers or a swimmer's social graces!) Divine revelation in the O.T. came in portions, bits and pieces or piecemeal. Examples: (1) Direct voice of God--Exo. 33:11; (2) Direct writing--Exo. 31:18; (3) Dreams--Gen. 40; (4) Visions--Ezek. 1:1; Forces of nature--Psa. 19:1; (6) Historical events--1 Cor. 10:6. The fathers were patriarchs like Abraham and prophets as Isaiah and Ezekiel. Each group received more truth from and about God. God's revelation to us is two-fold: (1) To the fathers and prophets (1:1) and (2) in and through His Son (1:2-4).

Fragmentary =
more information
added to the
previous
revelation

No piece was
complete --
more information
was added to the
(5) previous
one.

without change
of the word.

CHRIST = God's final Revelation -- never to be another.
The phrase "last days" is usually associated with eschatology, but Kent (McClain) suggests "last days" have been inaugurated with the coming of Messiah. (1 John 2:18). Our times have also been characterized as "the last hour" or the "whole Christian dispensation". (Acts 2:17) (Isa. 2:2)

A. Christ Is Better Than The Patriarchs and Prophets--1:1

(Fathers)

God's Son is the supreme and superior revelation of God to men. There is none greater. Note the seven-fold description of Christ:

(1) "heir of all things"--The language of Psalm 2 assures us that (Deut & Exod. Notes) Messiah will have the earth and its inhabitants as His inheritance. (Psa. 2:2-8) (Dan. 7:13-14). Heir = a legal right based on sonship. the extent of His possessions = "all things"

(2) "maker of the ages"--The mind is hard-pressed to grasp the vastness of the physical universe. But equally overwhelming is the thought of times and ages...through which the purpose of God is gradually unfolding, i.e., God's purpose through the ages. He only can guide the universe

"He" = Excludes an evolutionary process. God is the God of history.

"a sea" = the container of
all things

Point: the movement of God's plan or purpose
thru the ages. (cf. Marcus Dods)

(αἰώνας) - indeterminate period of time. - endless.
or a segment of time... specific period.

"He upheld the spikes that pinned him
To the Cross" (McClain)

(5) "upholding all things" = idea of guiding toward a goal.

"Jesus is holding everything up
so it won't fall (down). He is
holding everything together so it
won't fall apart." Scientists
know about atoms etc... but they
cannot explain what holds it
all together." (Pg 6 - lets go.)

All with a specific goal in mind
and orderly arrangement... not victims
of chance

"A flood of radiant light!" (Webster)

POINT: Every attribute in Christ is exactly the same as it is in the Father

to its fit end. (Marcus Dods--Expositor's Greek Testament). There is an orderly arrangement, a plan in the midst of seeming chaos and confusion. The great periods of history were not ushered in by chance nor are they wound up by the will of men. The Son of God is the Maker of the ages...the God of history" (A. J. McClain).

(Matt. 17:14)

(1:2-3)

(3) "the brightness of His Glory"--"Effulgence" (ASV) which means to shine or flood with light--the idea of radiance. As the sun and its rays of light are inseparable, so Christ is the essence and fulness of God's glory.

Everything in the Father is in the Son. (McClain) (See Notes - Attributes)

(4) "express image"--An exact likeness or imprint. The Son is the same essence and substance as the Father. (John 14:9) "EXACT REPRODUCTION" OR "SAMENESS" (Nicea-325.)

(5) "upholding all things"--This term means to sustain but also to move toward a goal (Col. 1:16-17). (NOT AS ATLAS--but holding up & guiding toward a goal. (Notes of track))

(6) "purged our sins"--Refers to His finished and redemptive work at Calvary. -- T = central point. "By Himself" -- No one else helped Him!

(7) "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high"--The right hand--place of honor and authority. There was no seat in the tabernacle because the high priest's work was never done. It was repeated over and over again, year after year. Not so with our Risen Lord!

B. Christ is Better Than The Angels--1:4-14

(V. 4.) (1) "a more excellent name"--No angel can compare with Christ. He is God incarnate, Jesus, the Savior of the world (Matt. 1:21).

(V. 5) (2) "the Son of God"--A unique title regarding Christ. In the O.T., the term "son" was applied to angels in a collective sense but not individually -- (Job 38:7). The NIV translates "sons of God" as angels. ("Sons of me, you are")

(V. 6) (3) "the firstborn...worship"--The word "firstborn" refers to rank or position in the family. Examples: Jacob and Solomon received the status of firstborn without being the oldest or the one born first. Angels do not accept worship. This act is reserved for God alone. Angels bow before God and men are rebuked when they attempt to worship angels (Rev. 5:14; 22:9).

(V. 8) (4) "thy throne, O God"--The Son is addressed as God! His superiority is designated by the usage of "thy kingdom". for angels have no kingdom where righteousness is a primary characteristic. Also, they carry no sceptre but rather are servants, not sovereigns (vs. 14).

POINT: The Son is Superior! ³
The Church Age and Christ is greater than the Mosiac dispensation because it was given to human kind via God's Son, the Law was given by angels. (Act 7:53) (Taken from FBM)

Name: refers to everything that person represents (stands for) -- Geo Washington, P. Lincoln, etc.

Jehovah Testament
Jehovah

God called angels sons of God -- never "my Son!"

See McClain
HP
+ Wines
in 60

Seat of
authority
Finish
Redemption

Priority of
positioning
if not
Time!

= Creatures

(5) The Son is the Creator--Angels were the creation of His hand (v.10). Kent says concerning 1:14, "Thus the verse means that God uses angels as His instruments to carry out His will, just as the winds and flaming fire are the agents of swift destruction (cf. Rev. 7:1)...although the most exalted of creatures, are nevertheless subordinate servants to the divine will."

Supplementary Material on Chapter 1:14

Two different views on the ministry of angels:

(1) *J. Vernon McGee*--Thru the Bible Commentary--"Angel ministry is not connected with the church. Angel ministry is not for our day." He says the reason is that our Saviour is living and active in the believer's behalf, plus the indwelling Holy Spirit indicates that no such ministry of angels is required. (See Vol. V, Page 510 for his detailed argument.)

(2) *Warren Wiersbe* presents another view. He says that angels give special care to children (Matt. 18:10); special help to God's servants (Acts 12:1-10); escort believers, who die, to glory (Luke 16:22); accompany Christ when He returns (Matt. 25:31). This view is the position of many commentators and seems to have substantial confirmation in Scripture.

Conclusion: The church age is an age of faith and angels no longer appear to men as they did in the O.T. However, this does not prohibit the possibility of a veiled ministry today (I Cor. 11:10). Angels will have significant work in future events as is recorded in the Book of Revelation (Rev. 7:1-3; 16:1-12).

Discussion Questions

- Where do angels come from and what do they look like?
- Name the two classes of angels and identify their destiny.
- What would be your reply to someone who said, "I saw an angel standing at the foot of my bed last night"?

⇒ Practical Suggestion: Develop an outline for a Bible message based on this chapter. (Note Book)

Additional Material - Chapter One

God does not speak to us in an audible voice today as He did in ancient times. He could do so if He chose to but that is not His method during this dispensation. God has sent His message to mankind through His Son. Listen to Him! (Mark 1:11-"...a voice from heaven..." Matt. 17:5-"...hear ye him." The text in Hebrews 1:1-3 declares that God has spoken. (Compare Gen. 1:3ff, 3:1) Question: What did He say specifically about angels and His Son?

- (1:5) 1. He said: Angels do not have the same relationship to the Father as does the Son--1:5 The question in this verse is rhetorical, that is, not intended to elicit an answer--the answer is obvious! Point: In Scripture, angels are said to be "sons of God". They are spoken of, in this fashion, collectively but never individually. (Job 38:7 NIV, where "sons of God" is translated "angels". Jesus Christ is God's unique Son. Acts 13:33 links this event to the resurrection of Christ.
- (1:6) 2. He said: Angels worship God and are not to be worshipped--1:6 (Rev. 22:9). Col. 2:18 warns of the danger and heresy in worshipping intermediaries such as angels. Man's worship is restricted to and reserved for God alone.
- (1:7) 3. He said: Angels are servant-spirits, not sons--1:7, 14 Angels are agents of God who carry out His will just as wind and fire are used to accomplish God's program. (Rev. 7:1)
- (1:10-13) 4. He said: His Son is both Creator and King--1:10-13 Jesus Christ is Creator of the heavens and earth and that includes angels. No angel sits on a throne. They are pictured around the throne of God but they do not sit there.
- (1:14) 5. He said: Angels serve the heirs of salvation--1:14 Salvation is both a present possession and a promised inheritance. (Rom. 13:11; Eph. 1:14, 18; 1 Peter 1:4) (m. 5:24 "hell")

Summary



(Heb 2:7)

The plan of God = Set man over the works of his hands. (Gen. 1:27-30) MAN to EXERCISE Full Supremacy - But never realized - man sinned & that plan has not been realized - God would not trust the world to a sinful race.

The plan is to be fulfilled however. It will be

Eph 3:10

Accomplished thru Christ who dealt w. the man's sin AT CROSS. The plan will be fulfilled in a future

age i.e. the millennial kgdm. This great plan with its great problem - man's sin is the argument

of this chapter! Point here: Christ's Humiliation. (A.J. McClain)

Gen. 1:26

"radah" = same word to describe messiah's rule! (Psa 110:2)

2:2 "word spoken thru angels" (A.S.U.) =

1. STEADFAST = inflexible, unyielding - "no iffy" stuff - black/white = nature of the law. Sin = specific punishment.

"Every"

2. Transgression = a willful stepping over the line prescribed by law. A overt act.

3. Disobedience - the spirit in which a sin is carried out - set of the will - "kick my feet" attitude. Men may let this slip - not and.

(NOTE) "While men may pick out the outstanding sins and deal with them and overlook minor ones, God cannot do this for his holiness and righteousness are as much at stake in the small sin as in the great one. ... error creeps into systems of thinking because of a low view of sin than any other way". (A.J. McClain)

4. a just recompense of reward.

Punishment as the law demands. Pay back or wage for sin just a wage for work done

2:3

"Salvation" - No greater subject... for sinners.

"If we neglect" - consider lightly with no regard for consequences. "How shall we escape?" never.

letter story
See Ser. notes (7th 2)

Warning: Gern - ATN -
You said "let light clean" -
Came to mind - sudden
can not reject -! Warning! may have
soul - live!

Summary: Christ in the
Redemption of the
Human Race. (5-18)

Chapter Two--Better than the Angels--2:1-18

Chapter Two is a continuation of the theme--the superiority of Jesus Christ to angels. However, the first four verses are parenthetical. They are the first of five warnings along the Hebrews highway.

A. The Danger of Neglect--Warning #1--2:1-4

(ACTS 27:31)

"Therefore" - a ref. to all that
has been revealed in chapter one.

"we ought" = moral responsibility.

2:1 - "We" suggests that the writer includes himself in the admonition. This matter requires careful and prayerful consideration--pay attention! "He is not encouraging sinners to become Christians, rather, he is encouraging Christians to pay attention to the great salvation they have received from the Lord" (Wiersbe). Drifting away from God's truth is a serious matter.

usage of nautical a ship not permitted to drift, so come
let us drift - let them slip away. "Keep the mind to"
(preclaim)

2:2 - In the giving of the Law, angels warned of the penalties for sin. These warnings were carried out exactly. The announcement that Sodom would be destroyed happened just as the angels predicted. Men ignore God's warnings to their peril whether given by men or angels. (ACTS 7:53)

Rapids
below.
"let us
drift away
from them."
(ASU)

(Gen. 19:13)

(Psa. 68:17)

2:3 - Men are warned that the Gospel of Christ is so important that those who neglect it cannot escape eternal consequences.

does not say Reject. Neglect = danger of drifting

2:4 - The greatness of our salvation was confirmed by: (1) Jesus Christ; (2) apostolic eye-witnesses--some of those witnesses were still alive to testify what they had seen; (3) apostolic miracles--Acts 2:43. All display of supernatural acts and events were manifestations of God's power.

Summary: Drifting for both saint and sinner is easy and dangerous. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a serious matter. Carelessness in hearing and obeying God's Word is a warning for all.

B. Christ's Humanity Did Not Nullify His Superiority to Angels-2:5-9

When Christ became a man, it did not change or lessen His superiority to angels. It might appear to the Hebrews that angels' ministry in the affairs of earth and Heaven would place them in higher authority during the

His
Humanity = Every essential characteristic of true human nature but no sin.
Sin = abnormality - NOT an essential of human nature.
He hungry, thirsty, weary,
sleep, wept - suffered - all marks of human
- looked like, acted like a person.
And became a man in order to experience death!

* His Humanity Enabled Him To: (Wimber) (pg. 283)

- 1.
- 2
- 3
- 4.

2:6-8 (A. McClain material)

"little lower ... angels"

Man's inferiority to angels extends to authority for a little while that will change — when man finally realizes the purpose for which he was formed. It will be fulfilled in the future.

2:9. "Taste death" = He drained the cup to its dregs!

"The Son bent over to shield man from the death blow, and it fell on Him" (illustrate)

Every man means every man. (illustrate)

1. Sufficient for all
2. Deficient for none
3. Effective for only those who believe.

"For" = ($\Upsilon \Pi \epsilon \rho$) = Preposition of substitution "in behalf of Every man" "install or" (paper)

"Every" = ($\pi \alpha \nu \tau \omicron \varsigma$) "all" In ancient business documents — a man too ignorant to write for himself... someone else had to do it for him. (scribe)

V. 8 (all things ($\pi \alpha \nu \tau \alpha$))
i.e. Nothing left unsubjected!

No person can ever say to Jesus Christ —
"You didn't die for me!!"

He stood in the place where we should have stood.
(He took our place)

Dan. 7:9-10 - the plural "thrones" suggests associate judges - NOT NAMED. They are NOT Angels... who are servants + stand before the throne - NOT sit upon them. (McClain)

"Only the church... will enjoy these special privileges... and also sit with Him in judgment of the world" (McClain) (pg. 470)

incarnation of Christ. One might assume this to be correct in that angels ministered to Jesus in the days of His flesh (Matt. 4:11). However, the fallacy of this thinking is proven by the resurrection of Christ. As a matter of fact, believers will have part in the judging of angels (1 Cor. 6:1-3; Rev. 20:6).

2:5-8 - Psalm 8:6-8 is not referring to Messiah. The phrase "son of man" is used often in the O.T. to refer to men (Ezek. 21:2; 30:2). The Psalm states that God designed man to be the crowning glory of His creation. The first man, Adam, was to preside over creation (Gen. 1:26-31). What the first Adam lost in a garden, the last Adam regained on the Cross (1. Cor. 15:45). The ASV (1901) translates the word "angels" Elohim. Homer Kent has an excellent detailed explanation in which he states: "Elohim, many times, is used in a lesser sense of angels and even men (Psa. 97:7; 82:6; John 10:34-35)." (Psa. 8:4-6) Points to man's future i.e. accomplishes God's original purpose for them.

2:9 - Christ's humiliation was for a "little time" for the purpose of dealing with man's sin and death. The word "taste" means to experience. Angels do not die; therefore, could not experience death for sinners. Jesus was God's answer for man's sin and failure. He became a man and experienced death for man's redemption.

C. His Suffering Did Not Nullify His Superiority to Angels--2:10-13

2:10 - The word "captain" refers to a person who blazes a trail for others to follow--a pioneer. Jesus was our forerunner in Heaven; He paved the way for us (6:20). The word "perfect" is not about moral perfection, which He already possessed, but rather refers to leading to a specific goal. Jesus accomplished the purpose or goal in God's eternal plan of redemption. The word for perfect is the Greek word "teleios" which means to complete or achieve a specified goal or target. The words "many sons unto glory" is highly significant. "If he had not died, he would have been the solitary man in the glory (Jn. 12:24)." (A.J. McClain)

Summary: Verse 10 refers not to Jesus overcoming a weakness or defect, but by gaining experience as a man and all the conditions of life as a man, He could perfectly sympathize with men in their trials of life. It was through

2:18 Idea of Priesthood - a idea existing early in human history. MAN universally feel the need to give account to a deity whom they have offended. Someone on earth to act on their behalf. (1) Family = father - Noah, Abraham, Job offered priestly sacrifices. (2) NATION - To a family or tribe. Levi to function in such capacity - father of sacrifices (3) Sovereign - (Jesus 3 fold office) 2 primary functions of a priest: (1) Make sacrifice (2) make Intercession - Jesus did & does for us.

suffering that Jesus as God could identify with men. No angel or person had the ability to accomplish such a task.

D. Christ's Victory Over Satan and Death Was Impossible for Angels--2:14-18

2:14 - Satan does not have the power to arbitrarily inflict death at his will. However, death does serve his purpose. Satan brought sin and subsequently death to the human race through Adam's transgression (Rom. 5:12). The word "*destroy*" means to render inoperative and ineffective. Satan is potentially a defeated foe. (Gen 3:4)

2:15 - Being "*in Christ*" releases the believer from the bondage of fear that sin and death bring. "Satan uses the fear of death as a terrible weapon to gain control over the lives of people." (Wiersbe) (How?)

2:18 - "*Succour*" means to comfort or help. Jesus feels our difficulties because He suffered as a man (1 Tim. 2:5). A person who has suffered little cannot fully sympathize with those who have. The Lord knows our needs and He can and will meet them. Angels know how to serve but they cannot succour.

Acts 16:9 (Come out) (Bon Thieu) (Bon Thieu) (Heb. 4:16) (Acts 27:17)

Discussion Questions

- How can Jesus be God and also be God's Son? - (1 Tim. 3:16)
- Does the warning in this section have any application for evangelism?
- In the light of the text regarding angels, would you rather be an angel or a man? (Usage of "man" only in the generic sense!)

Succour

POINT. "in the direction of"
Run To or Sensitive To
the cry of the Believer
for help.

Mat 17:3 STATUS.

Moses brought God's Revelation To man (3:5)
Ide = human agent - OT.
Christ = divine agent in N.T.

Chapter Three--Better than Moses--3:1-19

The sustained idea in the previous chapters of Hebrews is Christ is the superior person concerning man's access to God. He is superior to the prophets, angels and Moses. Moses differed from all other mediatorial rulers in Hebrew history because Moses dealt with God on a face-to-face basis. He received the Ten Commandments at Sinai in addition to other aspects of the entire Levitical system. It would be difficult to think of anyone with higher standing before God than Moses. It is to this point that the writer of Hebrews makes the claim of Christ's superiority.

Jn 9:28

you are his disciple, we are not disciples

Hebrews focuses on Jesus!

Moses Higher than Jesus

A. Christ Is Superior In Who He Is--3:1-2

Family terms!

A Seal of

1. Apostle - Sent from God... Men

2. H. Priest - man's rep to God

3:1-2 - The words "holy brethren" and "heavenly calling" are terms describing believers. This strengthens the argument that the letter was written to believers and not just to professors. "Consider"--to fix one's attention on something rather than just a quick glance. The subject to be discussed requires a person's concentration and effort in setting the mind. "Apostle"--designates Jesus as no other apostle in Scripture. The term means "sent one" but Jesus is unique as the Son of God. As such, Jesus was God's highest messenger and this included Moses (Jn. 3:34). "High priest"--Moses was never a high priest, therefore, he could not engage in priestly functions.

No A quick glance

(ἀπόστολος) highest messenger to men

"Faithful"--Moses was called faithful in his service to God, but he was not without faults. By contrast, Jesus was sinless. For example, Moses' temper caused him to disobey God and strike the rock and not speak to it (Num. 20:8-11). Moses was a very special leader but still a man with human frailties. What seemed to be a minor infraction in the desert of Zin was a failure in leadership on Moses' part. A word was enough and no other effort was necessary; also, God wanted to preserve the type signified in the rock (cf. 1 Cor. 10:4). Jesus Christ did not ever disobey His Heavenly Father.

The higher the leadership the greater the accountability

John 8:29 "Always"!!!

B. Christ Is Superior In What He Does--3:3-6

He Ministers

Said of no other person.

3:3-6 - The usage of the word "house" is a reference to the people of Israel in contrast to Christ and the Church. Point: "Christ stands in a higher plane and deserves to be considered as the builder of the house rather than a

6 refs here! = people not a bldg!

Moses = a servant of the house
 Christ = a Son over the house.

mere part of it" (Kent). Christ holds a vastly different place in God's house of believers. The contrast continues by showing Moses as a servant but Christ a Son. Moses was part of the house but Christ was the architect and builder. In this respect, Christ was above the structure of the house. For example, Moses did not create the Law, he only received it. Moses knew about God in a very special relationship, but Jesus was God! In verse 6, believers are told to "hold fast the confidence...firm until the end". To forsake Christ in favor of old Judaism would prove that they never were believers. Wiersbe points out that going back to Judaism would in effect be the exchange of types and shadows for reality. (cf. photo to real person)

C. Christ Is Superior In What He Gives--3:7-11

3:8 - "Harden not your hearts"--this reference to Israel's wilderness experience reveals that in spite of God's presence among them, the children of Israel complained and acted as if God had abandoned them. To abandon Christ and return to Judaism is called apostasy. A genuine believer is one who believes now and does not cease to believe. He manifests a complete trust in Christ that had a beginning and continues.

(Mt. 11:28)

(2 John 5:4)

Sub. on the

There are at least five rests mentioned in Scripture: (1) Creation rest; (2) Canaan rest; (3) Salvation rest; (4) Submission rest; (5) Eternal rest.

Historical events are often used in the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. God's will for Israel was their exodus from Egyptian bondage into the blessings of Canaan rest. Their unbelief and disobedience kept them in the wilderness for a generation. Joshua and Caleb encouraged the people to go forward in faith. The ten spies maintained that the nation could not do so successfully. Canaan is not a type or picture of Heaven as some hymns suggest. It is instead a picture of the victorious Christian life. 11:28--the burden bearer a common sight in Palestine, a person struggling under the heavy load often seen. Point Sin is a heavy load, too much for men to carry--look at the cross. (P. 29)

D. The Danger of Hardheartedness--Warning #2--3:12-19

The reference to Psalm 95:7-11 has to do with Israel's wilderness experience. From that experience, the readers of this epistle learn how God feels about unbelief, i.e., those who fail to "trust and obey" Him. The word "departing" in verse 12, has been used by some to suggest the possibility of a

(apostasy) = "to stand away"
 to turn from Christ to Judaism = an unbelieving heart that did not really know God!

Hudson Taylor (China)

Rev. 14:13
 www
 P. 51
 Our Text
 P. 29

(idea from WWW - RKS upgrade)
Why the sin of unbelief is so evil. (cf. Number 14)

- ① It implies that God can do lies - His word not dependable.
- ② Questioning God is not an option but the result of "an evil heart of unbelief" (Heb. 3:12)
- ③ Unbelief is a waste of time and effort. (An eleven day journey ~~stretch~~ extended to 40 years of hardship and failure)
- ④ Unbelief keeps us from God's best. Unbelief is a wilderness wasteland.

Corinthian Corrupting?

believer losing his salvation. This idea is based on the meaning of the word "departing" which, in the Greek, is apostasy or to deny or turn away from Christ. To reject Christ demonstrates an unbelieving heart that does not know God and the term apostasy fits such a condition. Apparently it is possible for true believers to not enter into the blessings of the Christian experience. They remain in the wilderness, short of Canaan, but have not returned to Egypt. Many churches have members who claim to be delivered from the bondage of sin but live in a place of unrest and dissatisfaction. The Israelites refused to follow God's leadership, even after their miraculous deliverance from Egypt. The closing emphasis of the chapter is on the danger of unbelief.

(a true believer will continue in faith not unbelief)
1 Jn. 5:4
Peter!

NOT a life TO sleeping!

Discussion Questions

SITTING = SITUATION!

- Comment on the term rest as it is used in this chapter in contrast to the repose that characterizes so many churches today.
- What part of this chapter is most difficult for you to interpret?

3:12

"ἀσθενός" / evil heart of unbelief (ἀπίστια)

The "hard hearted" know the truth but choose and refuse to obey it. They think they can sin and get away with it! "Heavenly" either ~~hard~~ "lead" or harden their hearts. (sin of unbelief)

Joshua = Ok. form of Heb. Name = Jesus.

Ex. 17:13
"Month of the sword"

1st. mentioned in Exodus 17:9 - Rephidim = Israel's first battle in the wilderness. Joshua = 45 yrs. old responsible for molding untutored civilian into a skilled fighting force. A very unusual battle - it was won by prayer! Moses, Aaron, then on the mt. praying. Joshua in the valley fighting. (Comment re Amalek - Hebrew of Esau's son a concubine!) (1 Sam. 15)

Judges: A Summary of

of Joshua's ministry - 2:6-8 / 21, 23

(Joshua mentioned in every chapter of the Book of Joshua - except 16 (only 10 verses))

Summary:

1. Skilled Soldier - Military campaigns to conquer Canaan, Ex. 17:13 illus
2. Loyal servant to Moses
3. Man of faith (Num 13 - Joshua & Caleb)
Minority Report = faith
Majority Report = fear = the advice of cowards!
4. Reluctant Successor to Moses -
Need assurance from God. (Josh. 1)
5. Work only partially fulfilled.
Reason: Failure to obey God - idolatry.
Disobedience led to defeat.

The Replacement of Leaders (Sanders "Spiritual Leadership") (pg. 132)

the test of a work = continues or survives after leader leaves. God ordained work will - maybe even thrive under new leadership. Change need not be fatal. The timing of Moses' death seemed critical - just prior to Canaan. Who could replace him? God had been preparing Joshua for the task. God's work is not dependent on person no matter how gifted. (See Sanders' conclusion - pg. 134!)

MOSES' ROD = Symbol of Authority

1. Ex. 4:2-6 - Rod to serpent
2. Ex. 9:23 - Hail from heaven
3. Ex. 10:13 - Locusts
4. Ex. 14:16 - Red Sea
5. 3+ Rod.

Chapter Four--Better Than Joshua--4:1-16

4:8

Josh. 1:13

Chapter Four continues the subject of rest as it related to Israel's challenge and failure to enter Canaan. Who was Joshua? Joshua served in the Tabernacle as a young man. He rose to prominence as one of the spies who brought back a favorable report for Israel to enter Canaan and possess the land as God had promised. Both Israel and Moses failed to enter the land. The leadership in the conquest of Canaan fell to Joshua, Moses' successor. Occupation of the land was partially successful but, ultimately, the nation's disobedience to God led to defeat. To prove that Joshua was not superior to Jesus, the text of Joshua 5:13-15 provides conclusive evidence. Joshua's call to service was similar to that of Moses. The reference to "holy ground" is reminiscent of Moses at the burning bush. It appeared to Israel that Joshua was now fully in charge of the march into the promised land. However, a mysterious person appeared at the edge of the camp. When Joshua asked the person to identify himself, he was surprised at the answer. The person in question was none other than the pre-incarnate Christ! Joshua's reaction confirmed the person's divine origin. J. Vernon McGee makes the following comment: "Joshua learned that headquarters was not in his tent after all. It was the throne of God. God was leading them." Someone other than Joshua was giving the orders to March forward into the land. Joshua was not the person in charge, his orders came from God. "Joshua discovered that he was second in command" (Wiersbe). Though Joshua was a great general and the Book of Joshua is the first in the Bible to bear an individual's name, he was still a secondary figure. His response to the heavenly visitor attests to the superiority of Jesus.

Josh. 5:15
a spiritual
midnight!

Judge 5:13
The Heavenly
Commander -
His Plan for
Jericho. God's
Reserve =
His Plan!
(Hab. 1:13)

in
Heaven!

Key

A. Christ Is Superior To Joshua--4:1-16

Point: Man failed in the past to
enter God's Rest. Let us not
fail! (Phillips
Tong)

The recurring words, "let us", provide a natural outline of this chapter:

a "left us" sandwich where the fear, plagues, works,
and plagues,
spare
with
plenty!

4:1-8 - Let Us Fear:

The word "fear" is a solemn reminder of the proper attitude toward God. There should be reverence and respect to God concerning the danger of missing the rest God advocates. The blessing of God did not lie in returning to the religious ritual of the O.T. system. The word "today" in Psa. 95, repeated in this text, indicates the opportunity for God's rest was still available. In verse 2, the writer reminds his readers how

Point: For Israel a whole generation
failed to enter Canaan
unbelief - unbelief is
still a danger - let us
fear

1. Not a fear that Runs away.
- 11 2. Not a fear that starts paralysed in place - unable to move.
3. A fear that moves forward & possesses what God says is ours!

"JESUS, I Am Resting"

4:12

the hearing that matters is that which listens attentively, eagerly & obediently! We can stake our all on such promises!

a person should hear the Word of God. How one hears is very important. The greatest message in the world is to no avail if the hearer pays little or no attention. The hearing that counts is the kind that responds favorably to what is said. The text calls such hearing, "mixed with faith". Disinterested, indifferent hearing is not the way to hear what God has said. The word "Jesus" in verse 8 has been translated "Joshua" in the ASV. "Jesus" is the Greek equivalent for the Hebrew "Joshua". Point: If Joshua had led Israel into the rest spoken of here, it would not have been mentioned as available in Psa. 95. That rest currently exists in the rest the believer receives from his own works, just as God did His on the Sabbath. *(8 ref to "rest" in v. 1-10!)*

II. **4:11-15 - Let Us Labor:** The word "labor" means to "give diligence" (ASV), to be eager or, as translated in II Tim. 2:15, "study". The admonition is for believers to know this rest in personal experience. Be diligent not to miss out as Israel did through unbelief. Two areas for careful consideration are mentioned in the text: The Word of God and prayer.

4:12--The Power of Words. In history, words have had great power to accomplish great things. "A leader coins a phrase and that phrase becomes a trumpet-call and battle-cry which kindles men to crusades or to crime" (Wm. Barclay). (Suggestion: Reflect on great speeches in human history.) The Power of God's Word. The word "quick" means living, operative, powerful, energetic. The Word of God has penetrating power into the innermost parts of the human soul. When people take heed to the Word of God, great things happen. (The experience regarding The Bounty) *(See RKS Sam on Job. 2:1 ff.)*

4:13--"Naked" means all exterior coverings are stripped away and men are "compelled to meet God's eyes" (cf. Judge Judy). History suggests that the original terms in literature to describe this condition was used by wrestlers in seizing an opponent by the throat in such a way that he was unable to move, or of animals that were skinned and their hides hung up to dry, or of criminals who bow their heads in shame in an attempt not to face sentencing. All of these illustrations point to the fact that men cannot escape God's grasp on their lives. All men will be compelled to look at their eternal Judge, face-to-face. "There comes a time to every man when he has to meet God from whose eyes nothing is and nothing can ever be concealed" (Barclay).

*4:12 "a leader coins a phrase = a trumpet-call - a battle cry leads men to crusades or crime." (Barclay)
God's Word
(1) Effective (Powerful)
(2) Penetrating*

4:14 "great" - NOT by External Trapping of men -
great in His essential being -
in His own right - not assumed or
attained - infinite! Hebrews excels
with this idea!

"high priest" - does not resonate with Gentile
believers - Jews = different.

Day of Atonement - (Lev. 16)

1. Garments -
2. Sacrifices

3. Ritual - Blood on tip of ^{TIP} right ear
"Thumb of right hand
Great Toe of right
foot"

(EX. 29:30)

- Totally under the
blood.

4:15 Jesus was tempted as we are - yet
far beyond anything to human kind.
Satan's assault was beyond human
ability to withstand - yet Jesus did.

1. God is not untouchable - He understands (HE KNOWS)
Every human need... unlike pagan gods.
(Complete detachment)

2. We can have been there - it makes a big difference
- (Explain) Every human experience = "I've been there!"
the best person to help in life's difficulties
is someone who has had the ~~same~~ same
experience. No person can say to Him "you
don't understand - He does. Perfect God
Perfect Man"

Bill
Reid

Bill
Reid!

"Jesus was tempted and it proved
that NOT ONLY that He did NOT
SIN - but could NOT.

(wrong has no "shelf-life"
it is forever wrong!)

+ Perfect

4:14--"Great high priest". No high priest in the O.T. was ever called "great" before Jesus. This title was not conferred upon Him by men. He was great in His own person. Our great High Priest is in Heaven, working on the believer's behalf. In that capacity, He is able to touch men and God.

4:15--"Without sin". Jesus was sinless. Contrary to every other human being, He had no sinful nature or disposition. There was nothing in Him that would respond positively to temptation and sin (In. 14:30). This verse refers to the Impeccability of Christ, that is, He was free from fault, sin or error. The Phillips translation says, "...He himself has shared fully in all our experience of temptation, except that He never sinned".

4:16 - **Let Us Pray:** The words "come boldly" mean to draw near with boldness (ASV). Under the O.T. system, such boldness was never permitted. Beginning at Sinai and continuing through Tabernacle worship, the whole nature of the worship experience involved staying away from prohibitive areas. Access to God in the Holy of Holies was forbidden to ordinary worshipers and limited to the high priest. The throne of God today is a throne of grace and not judgment. That will change in the future (Rev. 4:2-6). The believer has access and freedom to speak to God because our High Priest lives to make intercession for us.

Throne = Grace
NOW
Throne then = Judgment - Rev. 20.

Discussion Topics

Two Thrones:
now 1. Grace - Open for forgiveness!
then - 2. Great (white) (Rev. 20:11-15)

- What is meant by the Impeccability of Christ?
- Why is prayer so difficult and so neglected?
- What are your thoughts about eternal rest? Rev. 14:13

Impeccable - "NOT to error or sin. Free from fault, error, faultless." (Webster)

John 14:30

Strong - "The tree on the edge of the precipice... fiercely blown by the winds... But the roots hold."

1. Doctor does not need to have been sick with cancer before he can diagnose & deal with it for a patient
2. Not necessary to be an alcoholic in order to help drunkards.

3. Rowboat - ATTACK AN 13
Aircraft Carrier - outcome sure
but ATTACK real!

4. Railroad bridge - NOT TO see if...
but to re-assure the public it wouldn't.

2 Ways to know:
(1) Descriptive
(2) Experimental

①

Aaron -

"Brother Buzale"
List of "Bible brothers" (Secular)

SUMMARY
of Aaron's
life!

Adam
Isaac

Cain - Abel

Jacob - Esau

James - John

Peter - Andrew

Jesus - (Mk. 6:3)

David

Abraham

Isaac

Samuel

Solomon

Ausallona

Isaac

Samuel

Kennedy

Bush - Rev. W. (Jen)

Isaac

Samuel

Nadab / Abihu

1. His Parents -

(Ex. 6:20)

Ammam + Jochebed
Miriam - older sister.
(Ex. 2:4/7)

2. His Partnership -

(Ex. 4:16) Pharaoh

Moses's spokesman also able
to perform miracles. (Ex. 7:9-10)

Brothers
"Moses and Aaron"
(over + over)

3. His Prayers -

(Ex. 17:10-12)

4. His Priesthood -

(Lev. 8)

(Lev. 16:2)

5. His Protests -

(Num. 12)

(12-14)

EXPLAIN Act 7:22!

Egyptian culture:

1. Math

2. Chemistry - Embalming

3. Astronomy - Pyramids

4. Engineering

5. Architecture

B.D. degree = "Bakside of Desert!" (McBee)

His excellent
academic
education not
enough to do
the task before
him.

Highly
Developed
Culture

As a leader, Moses got criticism from all sides - including
his family. Miriam + Aaron seemed to be jealous of Moses' authority.
Leopony settled the matter!

6. His Passing -

(Num. 33:38-39)

7. His Progeny

(Lev. 10)

(See WNW on Lev. 10 "Lev. 10")

Nadab + Abihu - Privileged sons... no fidelity
Eliab + Ithamar To duty.
(Num. 20:28) 2 Sons

8. The Plagues (3)

(Exod. 11:1)

a part in their
Execution

"Everything they did was wrong!"

"Moses, the man who died in

(Sweden) and here... So did Aaron!

Chaper Five--Better Than Aaron--5:1-14

5:4

Aaron was the first high priest (Exo. 28). Gesenius suggests that the name means "enlightened", "fluent", "rich" or even "mountaineer"! Three years older than his brother Moses, he was involved in the dialogue of Moses with Pharoah and assisted Moses in many administrative duties following the exodus. The early priesthood that bore his name involved those who served in the system of sacrifices and offerings where the people of Israel worshipped God. Only men who were Aaron's descendants, and also who were from the tribe of Levi, could act as priests. This service had to do with the care of the Tabernacle and offering of daily sacrifices. How was Christ superior?

Day of Atonement (Lev. 16)

A. A Superior Order--5:1-6^{OR} - OFFICE -

Since Christ was from the tribe of Judah, He could not belong to the Aaronic priesthood. Christ was from another greater order--Melchizedek. 14:18-20; Psa. 110:4). Christ's deity, perfection and ministry put Him in a different category. He is a priest forever. This could not be said of any O.T. priest. They all died, including Aaron (Heb. 7:25). Christ was also superior in sacrifice. On the Day of Atonement, the high priest first offered sacrifice for his own sin and then for the sins of the people (Lev. 16). Christ was sinless and, therefore, offered no sacrifice for personal sins. He was the perfect sacrifice for the sins of mankind.

(1st. 1:19)

NOTE
Must have a
Human v. 1
Nature
+ Experience
Human Need.
v. 2

Sin's Categories
(See Numbers
15:27-30)
Nko. 10:26

B. A Superior Obedience--5:7-9

v. 4 God only can
make a man a
priest

v. 7 "out of" not "from"
The resurrection in v. 11!

ATTO -
EK

Aaron manifested character weaknesses on several occasions. One of the most offensive had to do with the moral breakdown of the people when they made the golden calf. Aaron compromised his integrity by participating in that event (Exo. 32:24). He also showed a lack of loyalty and support to Moses regarding Moses' leadership of the nation (Num. 12:1-2). Christ was the perfect Son with no character flaws or failures in His relationship with the Father. The word "perfect" in verse 9 is not about moral perfection. Jesus already possessed moral perfection. It relates to the qualifications of our High Priest. He completed the task designed for Him by the Father and

"he was brought
to maturity in
his humility."
(McClain)

Lessons:

1. Easy to do wrong, hard to do right. How could they do this after all God had done for them? - Back to paganism! They came out of Egypt but Egypt hadn't come out of them! Then did not know how to live any further!

Aaron: Golden calf - Egyptian

1. Compromiser - did not resist wrong - a moral weakness!
2. Excused himself - v. 21 ff. They made me do it?

EX. 32:19-25
MAY

OFFERING

4:7 He experienced human

Need:

1. prayers
2. tears
3. death
4. fear

Hebrews: 5:11-14 Marks of Immaturity:

What's maturity? "The ability to meet the demands and emergencies of life in a "grown up" and not a childish way. (Sorder + alteration) Don't blow-up! Maturity a desired goal. (10yr. old doctor, lawyer, pilot???) So why spiritual babies in church leadership? (1 Cor. 3:1)

Jesus in every life situation acted in a mature manner - even at 12 yrs old!

V. 11 "dull" = (Dull STUDENTS) "dim w. t. h. d" spiritually "live in a spiritual cool climate - no fever!"

V. 12 A case of arrested development - spiritually retarded. "playpen" low level of learning - spiritual babies - play in the nursery, crib (Toys) not classroom!

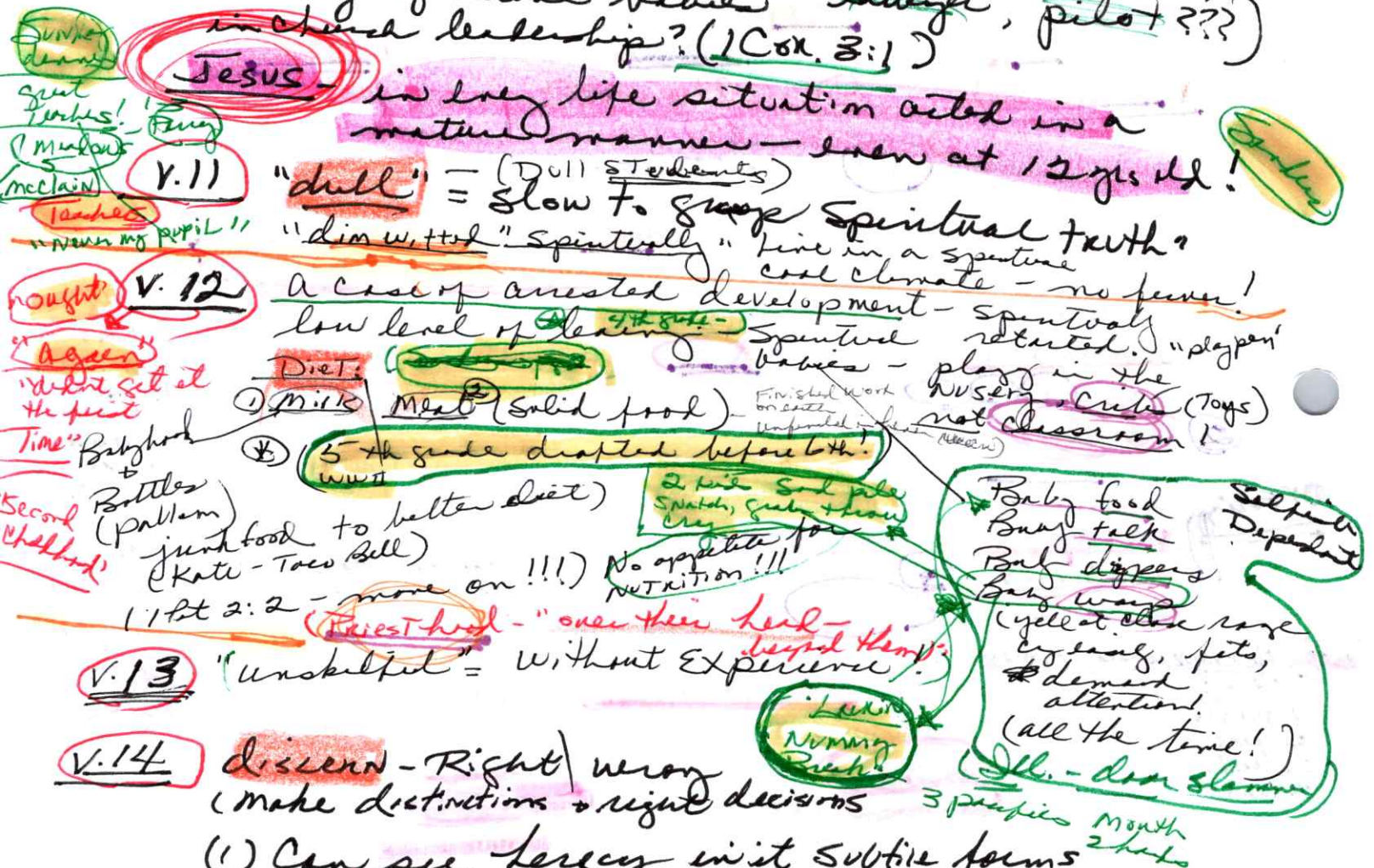
Diet: ① Milk ② Meat (Solid food) ③ 5th grade drafted before 6th.

Second "challenging" Bottles (pallam) junk food to better diet (Kate - Taco Bell) 1st 2:2 - move on!!! (No appetite for nutrition!!!)

V. 13 "unskilled" = without Experience! (Lack of Nursing Practice)

V. 14 discern - Right/Wrong (make distinctions + right decisions) (1) Can see heresy in it subtle forms (2) Neigher - Can't decide - need help! (Clothes) (3) 57 year old - What should I do? go? hay? (4) Manege (cow rope)

Babies - puts anything in its mouth - immature believes believe best person they looks to!



human suffering was part of the divine plan. **Question:** How could God learn obedience? A.H. Strong suggests that Christ was subject to the ordinary laws of human development and was perfect at every level of that process.

C. A Superior Offering - 5:1,9

Purpose: = Substitution or to shield men from sin's penalty.

The priests of Aaron's order offered different sacrifices. The people brought various sacrifices to the Tabernacle as an act of worship and obedience to God. Gifts were distinguished from sacrifices since the latter term referred to blood and burnt offerings. Wiersbe's summary of these verses is on target: "We must conclude with the writer that Jesus Christ, the High Priest, is superior to Aaron. It would be foolish for anyone to return to the inferiorities of the old Law when he could enjoy the superiorities of Jesus Christ. Then why were the Hebrew believers tempted to go back into legalism? Because they were not going on to maturity in Christ."

The Dangers of Immaturity--Warning #3--5:11-14

The readers of this letter were in danger of doing exactly what their ancestors had done when they longed to return to Egypt. An entire generation perished in the wilderness for failure to obey God's instructions. These readers were not immune from such unbelief. The writer lists signs of spiritual immaturity:

- Dull of Hearing - v. 11: The term "dull" describes one who had been eager to hear and heed God's Word but had cooled in fervor. Sheer laziness and carelessness concerning the Word of God was an acute danger.
- Spiritual Babies - v. 13: The spiritual diet of these believers had never advanced beyond the milk stage. These "doctrinal dummies" should have been teachers of the Word by now.
- Lack of Discernment - v. 14: They lacked "spiritual common sense". It was difficult for them to distinguish between good and evil in their spiritual experience. A common problem for ignorance of God's Word.

Their sin was 2 fold:

1. Stagnation - failure to make progress in the Christian life
2. Insensitivity - not dealing with their sins (Heb. 12:1) (McClain)

2

1. The first step is to identify the problem.

2. The second step is to define the problem.

3. The third step is to analyze the problem.

4. The fourth step is to develop a plan.

5. The fifth step is to implement the plan.

And
the
the
the

The first step is to identify the problem.
The second step is to define the problem.
The third step is to analyze the problem.
The fourth step is to develop a plan.
The fifth step is to implement the plan.

For the first step, you need to identify the problem.

1. The first step is to identify the problem.

2. The second step is to define the problem.

3. The third step is to analyze the problem.

4

For the first step, you need to identify the problem.

*I remember
if you*

William Barclay has summed up this chapter with these pertinent remarks: "...the world is full of people whose religious development has been arrested. They refuse to grow up. They stopped learning years ago; their thought is still the thought of a child, their conduct...Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up, makes a charming play on the stage...but makes a tragedy in real life."

Maturity Ser. Outline

Discussion Questions

- Why do churches have pastors instead of priests?
- What are some other characteristics of an immature Christian?
- What stage in the Christian life is "full age"? Is this a reference to old people?

↓ a pastor is NOT a go-between for the Believer and God. He is a teacher, leader - needs a priest like all / any Believers do. No official priesthood in the church. (1 Tim. 2:5, 1 Pet. 2:5) ("Two Fives")

⇒ Supplementary Material:

6 Marks of Maturity

As suggested by A. W. Tozer, the mature Christian...

- (1) ...is occupied with holiness and not happiness. Holiness is attractive only to the mature Christian. The immature is afraid of it. A mark of babyhood or childishness is the desire to be happy above being good. Society seems to be obsessed with happiness above everything else.
- (2) ...is more interested in giving than receiving. A child must be taught the joy of giving and sharing with others because this sentiment is contrary to selfish motives.
- (3) ...is more interested in serving than being served. Immaturity desires the spotlight and is unwilling to share it with anyone else.
- (4) ...manifests a cheerful and joyful personality. A gloomy, moody person reveals the evidence of his own inner conflicts.
- (5) ...will be fruitful, not barren.
- (6) ...will accept chastening from the Lord, knowing it is for his well-being.

6:1-3

Six Foundational Truths

Twins
Truths

Acts
20:21

1. Truths that relate to Salvation
 - a. Repentance from dead works
 - b. Faith in God *changing the mind re sin/christ*
2. Truth that relates to Obedience After Conversion
 - a. Baptism - submission to a command
 - B... Parks -
3. Truth that relates to Future Judgments of God.
 - Responsibility Before God.
 - a. Resurrection
 - b. Judgments

6:1

"let us be borne" = "carried forward"

φέρω = "he brought forward"

Acts 27:15 = "let her drive"

19

"driven"

or we borne along by the storm!

MATT. 14:11 ... "head was brought in a charge."

ACTS 2:2

"rushing mighty wind"

6:1

Point:

Only those who were saved could be challenged to maturity in growth and development.

Ⓐ The ABCs of the Christian Experience are necessary ~~not~~ as a launching pad and not a parking lot (Wiersbe)

"From Basics To Better Things"

Root Word

Luke 2: 43 = "filled"

John 17: 4 = "finished"

Acts 20: 24 = "finish my course"

Chapter Six--Perfection Is A Process--6:1-20

Our Goal!!!

Only the saved avoid do so

Perfection:

Should be the goal of every believer... our duty & responsibility to do so!

The word "perfection" in verse 1 does not mean moral perfection. It is used to describe the completion of a designated goal, moving toward maturity or full growth. This is the purpose or goal which God desires for every believer. Just as the desire of mature parents is to see their children move through the stages of human development until they reach full growth, so it is true of God and His children.

Wescott, "Let us be honest" (etc.)

"So on" = "Poured" not just a charge to personal effort but to personal surrender... Submit to God's power to accomplish the task. Present tense of the verb = continuous movement toward perfection. Up & down spirits won't do. (idea McClain)

A. The Process--6:1-6

"Go on to maturity" (NIV) (only saved could do this)

Begin with the basics and move on to better things is the challenge of this chapter. Certain fundamental doctrines are important, just as a building must begin with a solid foundation. The instruction is to move beyond foundational truths but is not suggesting the idea of forsaking or abandoning these truths. After the foundation is laid, there are other steps until the structure is completed. It is not possible to make good progress if one continues to lay the foundation over and over again. To say it another way, is after one has learned the ABCs, the reason for learning them is to move on to words, sentences, paragraphs and books. The writer lists some of the basic or foundational doctrines: the first principles of Christian living... the beginnings... of the beginning (Lk) elementary or first teachings.

6:1 - Repentance from dead works - a reference to changing one's mind about sin and Christ. The change of one's mind-set about God is part of the conversion experience and enables the believer to understand that all efforts for God's acceptance and approval, short of genuine conversion, are simply dead works. Faith toward God - accepting God's grace provided in Christ. Christ is the object of the believer's faith (Eph. 1:15) = EV

6:2 - Baptisms - a reference to the washings of ceremonial ablutions (cleansing and rites). Laying on of hands - a symbolic act denoting transference of a blessing. Those ordained to office were often set apart ceremonially by the laying on of hands. Resurrection of the dead - a hope that Christ provides. Eternal judgment - The fact that men must face God in the future was an early teaching that new believers should have learned.

Contrast "Works"

Math 5:16 - "good works" - "doings"
23:5 - "their works"

17

Emp. on works.

Revelation 2 = "I know thy works"

2
5
6 - "deeds"
9
13
14
22 - "deeds"
23
26

i.e. the results of spiritually dead = spiritual deadness
"Dead Works" Church

ok.
6:1 +
5:14 =
(τέλειος)

Words Sentences Books

So. W. V. foundation NOT SUPER-STRUCTURE

See None

Efforts of the Spiritually Dead!

9:14

"Works" (ἔργων)
ἔργον

3 theories re the danger of apostasy:

1. Unsaved - mere profession .. not really born again
2. Almost Saved - maybe .. but in bad condition
3. A Supposed or hypothetical

(The passage does not say there was an actual falling away!)

that shows the fully of apostasy

1. Their status:

"Enlightened" - 1 Cor. 10:32

"Tasted" - 1 Cor. 2:9, 1 Pt. 2:3

"Partakers" - 1 Cor. 2:14

all terms that describe true Christian Experience.

2. The tense of verbs.

all in past tense. Ref. to a Valid Experience - something that really happened. (theoretically)

3. The hypothetical supposition is indicated

by the word "if" = a conditional participle - "the sentence is conditional or it makes no sense." (A & M.)

4. "If" Such a situation could exist it would be impossible ... to renew them.

"It is logically impossible to think that the first administration of repentance failed that another would succeed." (A & M.)
Why would someone decide against the Lord then change back after such a radical move?

5. Conclusion.

Is such a condition possible for a believer? No. This admonition - move on to perfection. If these Jews had turned back to their old ritual and abandoned Christ - they feared loss of salvation.

Key (v9) Shows that the writer did not think his readers had become apostates. "Better thing" = and evidence of a new nature & new life. (See N.I.V. (Scoopell))

NOT LOSS - can't have what never had

(APOSTASY)

Denials

1. Trinity - 1 Jn. 2:22
2. Incarnation - 1 Jn. 2:22, 18:3
3. Sec. Com. - 2 Pt. 2:14

Deny + Desert

agree with the Anti-Christ + his acceptance

"Passing over to unbelief"

"To rebel, revolt, abandon faith in Christ"



Apostate will welcome the man of Sin! (2 Thess 2:3)

(See Kent
Pg 107)

6:3-5 - These verses are among the most disputed and difficult in the Book of Hebrews. It is an area where Bible scholars disagree. Our purpose is to present several views with the strongest and most Scriptural interpretation.

(4:5) See A.J.M.
Commentary 1 km.
Pg. 412

(1) Some teach that a saved person may be lost. They also teach that if lost, he is doomed forever. Great emphasis is placed on the word "impossible". If this passage teaches the possibility of losing one's salvation, it also teaches that it would be impossible to regain it again according to verse 6! This is a conclusion very few would be willing to accept. A difficult passage, such as this one, should not be a primary reference on the subject of security while ignoring the simple, clear teachings elsewhere in Scripture. Delitzsch has suggested that these verses are a pillow of carnal security for some but a rack of despair for others.

(2) The second view is that the persons described are professors of salvation but not possessors. The persons to whom the Book of Hebrews is addressed were like the "mixed multitude" that came out of Egypt, or the wheat and tares of Matt. 13:24-30.

(3) The third position teaches that the persons in question may be in a back-slidden condition--genuine believers, but immature. This writer's seminary professor believed that this is a hypothetical case, not a case in fact. The assumption of the possibility of apostasy was false but, if it were possible, this would be the logical conclusion. In other words, he begins with their false assumption and proceeds to a logical conclusion. Some scholars suggest that "if" in verse 6 is a conditional particle which would strengthen the idea of a supposed situation. W.H. Griffith Thomas says: "The passage is apparently a supposed case to correct their wrong ideas and the argument seems to be that if it were possible for those who have had experiences of verses 4-6 to fall away, it would be impossible to renew them unless Christ died a second time."

Westcott
Wiersbe
Kent
McClain ... makes the most sense!

This chapter begins with a call for spiritual maturity and ends with the promise of spiritual security (V. 13-20)

(1) God's Promise (V. 13-15)

Remember God's promise to Abraham
a son, blessing to the Nation (Gen. 12:1-7)
This Word = This Blessing (Rom. 4:1-5)

(2) God's Oath (V. 16-18)

"In oaths it was customary to refer to a higher power." (Courtroom procedure)
"So help me God!"

God swears by Himself - no higher power!
it is the very integrity of God.

He cannot lie!!

We cannot ^{always} tell the truth!!
(Dr. Pettigrew) "in my heart"

Nothing Surer
than this!

Incapable
of lies

(3) God's Son = our security (V. 19-20)

our hope in Christ is like a anchor
of the soul.

(Numbers 35:6, 9-32)

sure + firm
Our anchor in
the safest place
on the sea -
port of Heaven!

(Isaiah
illustration)

"forever"

↑
anchor
↓

⇒ Suggestion: Further detailed explanation of these views may be seen in the excellent works of Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe (our class text) and Dr. Homer Kent, Jr.

B. The Parable--6:7-8 — Progress brings FRUITFULNESS.

A field or farm is used to illustrate the truth of this passage. A field, properly cultivated, brings forth a bountiful harvest. Genuine believers do the same. They bring forth fruit as a sign of their response to God's cultivation. It is possible for a field to receive the same rain and sunshine, yet bring forth no worthwhile harvest. It is burned to keep the bad seed and the weeds from harming the good ground. One field is fruitful and the other is fallow (Matt. 13:3-23).

C. The Promises--6:9-20

Three times in these verses, the word "promise" is used to remind the readers that God always keeps His promises. Joshua and Caleb believed God's promise and entered the land. The rest of the children of Israel refused to believe God and paid the price for their unbelief. The word "slothful" in verse 12 is translated "sluggish" in the ASV. The sluggish are not just slow to obey, they are indifferent and inept concerning the promises of God. Abraham was the classic example of a man who believed God despite his weaknesses and failures. He believed God when what God promised seemed impossible.

⇒ Three impossibilities in Hebrews:

- (1) Impossible for God to lie - 6:18
- (2) Impossible for the blood of sheep and goats to take away sin - 10:4
- (3) Impossible to please God without faith - 11:6

Since God will not and cannot lie, not to believe Him is sin! Verses 18 through 20 conclude the chapter with hope. The term "refuge" brings to mind the cities of refuge as a place of protection (Num. 35:6,9-32). The last two verses use nautical terms to strengthen our hope in Christ.

Man said to Mooky: "I can't believe!"
Mooky - "Whom can't you believe?" — God... you don't believe?
— Then who?

Discussion Questions

- Did the television evangelists who committed adultery believe that such a sin endangered their eternal salvation? - *Several*
- How would you deal with "case studies" that are supposed to prove that a believer can be lost? (Example: I know someone who used to be saved, but isn't now.)
- Discuss the influence of our culture on the maturity or immaturity of Christians.

*Time — Too Busy
Fast Food Mentality — O. Guinness
Impatient
Rom. 12:12 — $\kappa\omicron\sigma\mu\omicron\varsigma$*

Gen. 14: 18-20

First War Mentioned in the Bible - i.e. 1st. Record.
(See Notes) Here = war on a small scale.
The Land of Canaan = subdivided ruled by small
kings - 12 yrs. reign of Chedorlaomer
City - states

Lot caught in conflict - living in Sodom & Gom. took his
possessions - prisoner of war.
Point: What had been pleasant to Lot's
eyes - now pleasant to the
invaders. Lot's supposed prosperity
and security - S/G = War & Danger!

A Coalition
of Kings

(See Bible Handbook)

Abraham = A man of principle - Lot sought advantage - Abraham
a pacifist either. His servants also armed & trained for
just such emergencies. A type of "National Guard"... or "Special Forces".
Lot returned to S/G once he was rescued - part of Lot's lifestyle.
Abraham's reaction to Two Kings.

1. King of Sodom - a materialist - low moral values - nothing
in common with Abraham. - Re Spoils -
"No Thank you." - He would take nothing
in the form of a reward. He was no mercenary.
Abraham's motive - free the captives & return the
property.

Abraham careful
to say that God
not the King of Sodom
made him rich!

Principle: Abraham would not be indebted to King of Sodom -
"He accepted with quiet grace the congratulations of a
heathen king but did not stoop to the tactics of
ordinary victors. (STRAHM)"

2. The King of Salem (Jerusalem)

a representative of the one true God... a monotheist!

1. Historical Person
2. Type of Christ
3. Priest of a better, God appointed priesthood.
4. A superior person even to the Father of the nation

①

Hebrews 7

INTRO: Please fasted you
Sent letters - Try to seat
upright position - cell phone
Ovarian Sanctuary Sacrifice
eign
fly
fast
off
good!
Fast - 520 mph.

The second major division of Hebrews
The Priesthood of Christ (7, 8, 9, 10) Priesthood in
general has to do with those who engage in
religious functions whether heathen or Biblical
N.T. = "heroes" - holy or the "holy".
GK

Biblical priesthood began during the time of the
Exodus - Aaron's order + Levi = assistants

Priestly
garments
Sacrifices
Intercession

Prior to this period test of families acted
in (as priests.) (1) Noah, Abraham, Job

Progression thru O.T. to N.T. and the
"Priesthood of the Believer" - (Rev. 1:6, 1 Pet. 2:5, 9)

One of the great "triangle of doctrine" that
spurred the Reformation: Drop of Scripture,

Justification By Faith, Priesthood of the Believer

Types of Christ are comparisons of
people, things (objects) events as an
object lesson to teach a spiritual truth.

1. Ark - Christ our shelter and security
in times of Divine Judgment

2. Tabernacle - John 1:14
Furniture - (Alter) lover -
approval to God -

3. Joseph, Joseph +

4. Loaf | Manna (Bread of Life) (1 Cor. 10:1-11)

5. Malchizedek How?

(A) Royal priesthood - King | Priest
Superior to Aaron - which came into place
Aaronic priesthood none to perfection!
Hence a change - a new order.

(B) Unrelated to ancestry - no record of
Ancestry - (Ezra. 2:61)

(C) Timeless - no recorded
being or doing

(D) A ruler, who blesses others - even
men like Abraham!

Authority
of
Scripture
(Supreme
Final
Practice)

Luther
Wittenberg
U.

death
+
Resurrection

- ① Beloved by Father
- ② Hated by brothers
- ③ Suffering the Righteousness
- ④ Superior to his People
- ⑤ Died before the Resurrection

II. A SUPERIOR PRIESTHOOD-MELCHIZEDEK--CHAPTERS 7-10

Chapter Seven--A Better Office or Order--7:5

The readers of the Book of Hebrews were familiar with the Aaronic priesthood and its functions in and for the Jewish people. Aaron was the first high priest, appointed by God to serve in the Tabernacle. Now they were being told that the O.T. priesthood was inadequate and superseded by something and someone better to take its place; thus, the priesthood of Melchizedek. This chapter reveals why the new order was necessary. There are three primary passages in Scripture dealing with Melchizedek:

(1) Gen. 14:18-20 (historical)--Like a mysterious meteor from the sky, Melchizedek appeared on the stage of human history. He was the king/priest of a city-state called Salem which some commentators say was an ancient name for Jerusalem. As "priest of the most high God", he was a representative of the one true God. The greatness of Melchizedek was the fact that he joined the dignity of kingship with the sanctity of priesthood and was thus a remarkable type of Christ. He was not a pre-incarnate manifestation of Christ but rather one of those persons who held the true faith which had been handed down from the time of Noah. He was an historical person who was a type of Christ. Hebrews 7:3 has puzzled some and led others to believe that Melchizedek was a theophany. The verse declares that Melchizedek had no genealogy. He arrived on the scene without an acceptable pedigree, extending back to Aaron. To the Jew, genealogy was a must. Apart from proper credentials, priesthood was out of the question. The Hebrew readers may have been shocked to read the differences between the Levitical and this new priesthood. The one required a proper genealogy, the other was based on moral and personal qualifications. Wiersbe has summed it up with this succinct statement: "Melchizedek was not an angel or some superhuman creature; nor was he an Old Testament appearance of Jesus Christ. He was a real man, a real king, and a real priest in a real city. But as far as the record is concerned, he was not born, nor did he die." Christ could not have been a Levitical priest because He was from the tribe of Judah and not from the tribe of Levi. One is surprised to meet a person like Melchizedek living in an evil land, yet maintaining a vital connection and

Gen. 14

of
Birth
text. =

Psa. 110:4

Tithing (First mentioned here in Bible) - Before the Law was given.
A Bible principle of giving back to God as He has promised
us - a richness of spiritual maturity. (cf. N.T. teaching)
Point: Too many want to live in Sodom not realizing it brings
a poor testimony and loss of blessing from God.
For Abraham - the spiritual took precedence over the
material.

Some people had knowledge
of the one true God - "they knew God"
(Rom. 1:21)

relationship with the one true God. When in the presence of Melchizedek, Abraham considered himself to be in the presence of a superior person. On this occasion, Melchizedek received tithes and gave a blessing as a king/priest.

Abraham's priesthood limited to one nation Israel.
Jesus' priesthood to the whole world (Joh 1:29)

(2) Psalm 110:4 (prophetic)--This Psalm is Messianic in nature. It does not apply to any historical, Jewish king. It is a prediction concerning Messiah, the coming King/Priest. It also affirms the deity of Christ. In verse one, the eternal God is called Jehovah who speaks to His Son, the Messiah, calling Him Adonai whom David then calls his Lord! Point: This Psalm cannot be by David and about him also! (Matt. 22:41-45). (Note: Adonai is a divine name for God that emphasizes sovereignty and corresponds to kurios in the N.T. "It was the personal name of God" (ISBE).

(3) Hebrews 7:1-28 (Hebrews 5:6)--Time and space will not permit a verse-by-verse consideration of this chapter. Let us examine five key words to understand the logical argument presented by the author of Hebrews:

There was no genealogical record which traced Melchizedek to the Levitical System. (Ezra 2:62) = No record!

- Tithes--7:4-6,9--The principle of tithing is a way of acknowledging God's ownership of all we have. It is giving back to God part of what He has given to us. This was not a mandatory, but rather a voluntary act by Abraham. It was his way of showing his belief in God as the source of his prosperity. In this act, Abraham recognized Melchizedek as God's representative and authority on earth. There is an amazing contrast in how Abraham treated two kings mentioned in Gen. 14. Abraham refused to share the riches of the king of Sodom, but shared generously with King Melchizedek. Unlike his nephew Lot, Abraham had no interest in the wealth and lifestyle of the city of Sodom. The writer of Hebrews concludes his argument by mentioning that Abraham's future seed (Levi) was required by Mosaic law to pay tithes and thus paid tithes via his great grandfather to someone greater than Levi! (Heb. 7:6-7.)

See
Gen 14

- Blessing--7:6-7--The act of a formal blessing by an authoritative figure was significant because it bestowed on the recipient a blessing from God. The fact that Melchizedek blessed Abraham and not the reverse, placed

What God blesses:
1. Nature - Gen. 1:22
2. Mankind - Gen. 1:28
3. Sabbath - Gen. 2:3
4. Nations - Gen. 33:12
5. Individuals - Gen. 24:1
ABRAHAM

22

O.T. godly men bestowed blessing on their progeny:
1. Noah - Gen. 9:26-27
2. Isaac - Gen. 27:27-29
3. Jacob - Gen. 49
4. Moses - Deut. 33
"Barak" - Esau

Melchizedek in the superior or greater position. Abraham was the founding father of the nation of Israel, yet, on this occasion, he was the "blessed" and not the "blessor".

- Death--7:23-25--Under the Levitical law, a priest's tenure of service was temporary, not permanent. It was terminated at his death and passed to another. (Josephus, the Jewish historian, reckoned there were 83 high priests from Aaron to the destruction of the Temple in A.D. 70--all of whom died!) Point: During this dispensation, the church has had only one High Priest who holds the position both now and forever. As a priest, He will never die or be replaced. This fact is elaborated upon in verse 25, the most familiar verse in Chapter 7. The emphasis is often on the depth of Christ's redemptive work; that is, to the lowest of mankind, or as some have said, "from the uttermost to the guttermost". This is true, but the emphasis is on the duration and completeness of our salvation made possible by Christ. It is "evermore" or "eternal", not temporary. Our High Priest never dies! (Compare Num. 35:28.) William Barclay presents an interesting conclusion to this chapter: "There is much in this argument which for us is difficult to understand. It speaks and thinks in terms of ritual and ceremony which are long since forgotten; but one eternal thing remains. Man seeks the presence of God; man's sin has erected a barrier between him and God; man is restless until he rests in God; and Jesus alone is the priest who can bring the only offering that can open the way back to God for men."

See
Barclay
Pg. 87

- Oath--7:20-22--No oath was required or used to usher priests into Levitical service. If they had proper credentials linked to both Aaron and Levi, they could assume office with no oath administered. Their service had little to do with personal morality and character, only ritual functions. Psalm 110:4, a reference to God's oath, adds validity and solemnity to the fact that God guarantees the permanency of Christ's priesthood by virtue of His oath.

See
Barclay
Pg. 88

Oath = an appeal to God to witness the truth of a statement or of the binding nature of a promise.

Oaths played an imp. part in legal + state affairs. Procedure: (1) Raising the hand toward heaven (Gen. 14:22) (2) Putting the hand under the thigh of the person to whom the oath taken (Gen. 24:2) (3) Slay an animal - divide in 2 parts + walk between the 2 pieces (Gen. 15: 8-18)

- Sacrifice--7:27--O.T. priests were required to offer sacrifice for their own sins before offering sacrifice for the people. (Lev. 16:11.) Jesus Christ offered Himself, the perfect sacrifice for man's sin. This was done once for all, never to be repeated.

Discussion Questions

- What is the significance of a civilization tithing offerings to God before the law was given to Moses? — *a way to know God before the law was given.*
- How does 7:18 relate to the law and sanctification? — *SDAS:*
- How does 7:25 and Christ's High Priestly ministry relate to the doctrine of security?

Point:
The Law CANNOT
SAVE — OR SANCTIFY!

See 7:19
Phillips Trans

The Better Covenant

1. Based on better promises (68)
the First Covenant based on the promise
of the people. (Ex. 19: 5-8) thus doomed
to fail. (Rom. 8: 3-4) the New Covenant
based on the promise of God. (Jer. 31: 31-34)
2. Needed Because the People Failed.
The weakness was the people not the law. (Ex
3. The New Covenant Had Pos.ive Help - (promise)
 - a. Regeneration - v. 10
 - b. Illumination - v. 11 (Internal not External)
 - c. Justification - v. 12 -
4. The New Covenant is Permanent v. 13
Explain app To Israel & Ch.
(See Kent)

Chapter Eight--A Better Covenant--8:1-13

NAME / How?

The writer of Hebrews has shown that Christ is superior to persons of the old order; now he shows that Christ is superior to the institutions of the Levitical system. (which?)

C8 - Better Covenant (8:6)
C9 - Better Sanctuary (9:11)
C10 - Better Sacrifice (10:12)

A covenant is an agreement or contract between parties and, in this case, between God and men. There are two types of covenants in the Bible:

(1) Conditional--is dependent upon man's responsibility and ability to execute his part of the contract. (Note the usage of "if" in Exo. 19:5ff.) (2)

Unconditional--a reference to the fact that the fulfillment of the covenant depended on God alone. (Gen. 12:1-3.)

① Salt
② She

• The Old Covenant--(Broken) 8:8-10 ③ Sacrifice

✓ The word "fault" in verse 8 is used to describe the Old Covenant and the need to replace it with a new covenant. The fault was not with the Covenant but with the people who failed to obey their part of the agreement. As a matter of record, the Old Covenant is described as holy, just and good in Rom. 7:12. The Law was like a mirror in that it revealed man's condition but could not remedy the condition (Rom. 3:20). The Law could make men aware of his sin but the capacity to deal with sin was beyond the Law's power. Also, the Law was given to shut man's mouth or, as the word "guilty" suggests, to place under judicial sentence; that is to say, to bring under the sentence of the Divine Judge with no appeal possible! (Rom. 3:19.) According to Gal. 3:24, another function of the Law was to act as a schoolmaster to bring men to Christ. The word "schoolmaster" refers to a person who exercised restraint and discipline over a child in the days of the Roman Empire until he reached the age and position of sonship in the family. The Law performed such a function by imposing restraint upon men until they could enjoy the freedom by faith found in Jesus Christ. (Compare the book Law and Grace by Alva J. McClain.)

✓ • The New Covenant--(Better) 8:1-6; 10-13

(1) A Better Priest (8:1)

The superiority of Christ's ministry over the Levitical system is revealed in several ways. He sits--There were no chairs in the Tabernacle, for the priest's work was never done. His work was repeated daily and

O.T.
Priest
"Stand"

8:7-13

Comparison Old / New

"The Law of Moses WAS given to the children of Israel AS A tutor to help them grow up and be prepared for their Messiah's coming. (Gal. 4:1-7) They were like children; God had to take them by the hand and lead them. But the New Covenant, with its heavenly priesthood leads us to spiritual maturity: God puts His word in our hearts and transforms our character.

(theme of Hebrews!)

No chair!

yearly. He sits on a throne--A symbol of rule and sovereignty. O.T. priests had no such throne. Where Christ is seated is of special significance because He is at the right hand of the Father--a royal Priest.

(2) A Better Place (8:1-5)

The location is "in the heavens" or the dwelling place of the Majesty on high. This could be said of no other high priest. The required place for O.T. sacrifices was in the sanctuary. The O.T. Tabernacle was a type or copy of the sanctuary in heaven but not made of the same material as the Tabernacle in the wilderness. Jesus Christ ministers in that heavenly sanctuary, not a copy of the original as was the Tabernacle on earth. Kent makes an interesting observation about this heavenly sanctuary. He says there does not seem to be any compelling reason to insist upon some sort of edifice in Heaven corresponding to each item in the Mosiac Tabernacle. Point: The question should be obvious to the Hebrews: Why return to an earthly ritual in a temporary structure when they could worship in the real sanctuary designed by God?

(3) A Better Promise (8:6)

Jeremiah spoke of a new covenant that would involve a spiritual change of heart. Ezekiel did the same. (Jer. 31:31-34, Ezek. 36:25-28) Both Jeremiah and Ezekiel wrote about a national restoration in the future under the guidelines of a new covenant. (Ezek. 37:11ff) Jeremiah spoke of the uniting of the nation (Israel and Judah) in a re-gathering in the land after the time of Jacob's trouble (Jer. 30:7,16-18). Though the primary reference of the New Covenant was to Israel, those who know Christ today enjoy the blessings of that Covenant through their union with Christ who is the Mediator of the Covenant. Homer Kent has a detailed account of how the Covenant is fulfilled eschatologically with Israel but participated in soteriologically by the church today.

Point:
If the first agreement had proven satisfactory there would have been no need for a second.

Explain

Discussion Questions

- Will there ever be a new, super covenant better than the New Covenant described in this chapter? Why? Why not?
- Why do church attenders refer to the auditorium as a sanctuary?

Tabernacle

The writer of Hebrews does not dwell on the details of the Tabernacle - his readers already knew.

Gospel of John = Christ

Ch. 1:29 - Sin offering = Altar

Ch. 6 - Bread of Life

Ch. 8 - Light of the World

~~Ch. 9 - The Good Shepherd~~

~~Ch. 10 - The True Vine~~

~~Ch. 11 - The Resurrection~~

Tabernacle

What

How does it remind men?

Reminds men that there is one way to God in worship - His way. All who come to God must come to by Christ - there is no other way to God!

Question Why is this Bible truth so offensive to so many today?

"Sanctuary" = "Holy place"

almost always a ref. to the Tabernacle or Temple.

It was the place where God chose to dwell among His people. A special ref. to the holy of holies. It was a place of asylum even among heathen religions, the horns of the altar a place of safety (1 King 2:28)

Tabernacle = a tent | Two rooms

① holy place - priest entered ea. morning

② holy of holies - once ea. yr. (Lev. 16)

③ A veil that separated the 2.

150' long
75' wide
H x H =
45 x 15

Sanctuary = "holy place"

TABERNACLE

"an earthly reproduction of heavenly realities"

9:23

(Phillips ITems)

Chapter Nine--A Better Sanctuary--9:1-28

A. The First Sanctuary--9:1-10

Intro

20

1/2 NT

in the

John 1:14

dwell

"Tabernacle"

"Pitched his Tent"

(60000)

A Tent
Temporary dwelling
abode

The first sanctuary describes the first structure designed by God and built by men, where God and men would meet. The structure was called the Tabernacle or "tent of meeting". The first ten verses describe the Tabernacle. There were three divisions: (1) The Outer Court--this contained the Brazen Altar and the Laver. (2) The Holy Place--the pieces of furniture in this section were the Golden Lampstand, the Table of Shewbread and the Altar of Incense, also called the Golden Altar. (3) The Holy of Holies--where the last two pieces of furniture were located, namely, the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat (the Mercy Seat was the top of the Ark but was considered a separate piece of furniture).

20
Chimney

OKing

8 square
5 ft high
D.C.

The Brazen Altar--It was the largest piece of furniture and was the first piece upon entering the gate into the outer court. This is the place where blood sacrifices were made. Application: The first step in man's approach to God was where the blood was shed.

= Justification - Salvation

= The whole Gospel System
To free us from sin - its atonement
and restoration of proper
relationship to God

=> The Laver--The Laver was where priests washed their hands and feet before entering the service of the Tabernacle. Application: Priests were not fit for service until they had washed at the Laver.

= Sanctification - Service

24,000 Gal. of Water
Sewer in Temple

- make of Brass of women.
no directions given.

=> The Table of Shewbread--A small table upon which twelve loaves of bread were placed--two rows of six each. The bread was changed every Sabbath morning. Old bread was removed to be eaten by priests during their service. This bread could not be eaten by anyone other than a priest. Application: Christ the Bread of Life.

3 ft. long
1 1/2 ft. wide
2 1/2 ft. high

H.P.

=> The Golden Candlestick or Lampstand--A lampstand with seven distinct lamps containing olive oil for the purpose of lighting the Holy Place because there was no natural light there. Application: Christ the Light of the World.

Gold in Holy Place (solid gold)

Always lit on burning.

"menorah"

(Exodus 25-31
35-40)

Symbalsm

1. Tent structure = God dwelling with His people (Ex. 25:8)
2. Ark of covenant = His forgiving love
3. Showbread - 12 Tribes in divine service
4. Candlesticks - Israel called to be children of light
5. Incense - prayer

The Tabernacle but a shadow of the true (better) in heaven: "An earthly reproduction of a heavenly reality!"

1. It was temporary / Superseded by the Temple
2. Not outwardly appealing. Glay on the outside (to them)
3. Place where God dwelt. & God & man met.
4. Center of Israel's religious life
5. Place where the law was present
6. " " Sacrifice & Offerings were made.
7. Place of worship
8. A single door - no back door!

Rom. 3:25 - O.T. Sins "covered" N.T. "Removal"

Propitiation = mercy seat

- the only reason God set aside judgment for a broken law - it was covered by the blood on the mercy seat. (Luke 18:13) Point: "The sins of the O.T. were never taken away until the Cross of Christ." (Acts 17:30) "went by" - kept silent did nothing about - "He passed over it... To be dealt with when He punished every sin that man has committed. And did not, does not forgive sin apart from the Cross. (See McClain Ex. Exp.)
- God did not forgive the sins of people in O.T. He "passed over" or "overlooked" them not smothering out immediate punishment. "The punishments that man so long escaped fell at last on the Son of Man." (Stoller)

Sacrifice of Christ was retroactive ↔ AD (Holge - "checks" O.T. Christ. "may in the back" N.T.)

Rev. 8:3-4

Burned every morning and evening.

⇒ The Altar of Incense or Golden Altar--A reference to a pan-shaped vessel called the Golden Censer in which coals of wood were taken from the Brazen Altar for burning incense. The incense was placed on the hot coals and the fragrance filled the Tabernacle. This was done morning and evening. Application: Incense in the Bible is a symbol of prayer. This Altar was typical of Christ our Intercessor.

⇒ The Ark of the Covenant--A wooden box that contained a pot of manna, Aaron's rod and the tables upon which the Ten Commandments were written. Two cherubim dwelt over the Ark, a symbol of God's presence. (Not for ordinary people to see!) - Seen only by the High Priest! Even in transport it was covered & wrapped by the High Priest in the veil & badger skins.

3'9" long
2'3" wide
+ 1 1/2"

Not a seat?

⇒ The Mercy Seat--The top of the Ark was called the Mercy Seat. It was considered a separate piece of furniture. The Ark was made of gold and was where the high priest sprinkled the blood on the Day of Atonement. The words "mercy seat" mean "a covering". Application: The mercy seat speaks of Christ, the believer's Substitute through propitiation toward God by fully satisfying every demand of God's absolute righteousness. This was the place where God and man met. Christ is our Mercy Seat.

The Sacrifice of Christ was retroactive (Rom. 3:25)
AA Hodge

V. 8-10

THE WAY TO GOD NOT YET OPEN!

(Ex. 25:22)

The beauty and glory of the Tabernacle and its ritual was not seen by ordinary people looking at the outside of the structure. The inside was reserved for priests as they discharged their service. The interior of the Holy of Holies was seen only by the high priest and that on a very limited basis. The Tabernacle was not constructed to be an assembly area for the children of Israel in public worship. The text of Chapter 9 suggests several ways in which the Old Covenant sanctuary was inferior to the Sanctuary in Heaven.

Covering for the broken Law!

(1) Its construction was of natural materials and by human hands. This is in contrast with verse 11 which states that the Heavenly Sanctuary was "not made with hands". Several commentators point to the idea that the Tabernacle needed regular repairs. It was also portable and not stationary.

(2) The earthly Tabernacle is described as a "shadow" of the reality. The implication is that there is a superior structure someplace else.

V. 9. Worshipers Not yet Perfect
no Workers Men Based On The Flesh - R. trial

Two Questions:

1. If the earthly Tabernacle was beautiful and the ritual moving to behold, what must worship in the true be like?
2. If the Tabernacle were only a shadow of the reality, how glorious must the reality be?

9:11 "But Christ" (Redemption)

9:12 ("By His own Blood"
"The blood of Christ" - 9:14)

9:24 "For Christ" (Intercession)

9:28 "So Christ" (Glorification)

3 Phrases to Describe
3 Phases of Christ's Ministry

NOTE

10:10: "are being sanctified"
the progressive action whereby the believer is being set aside from sin.

(3) The O.T. Tabernacle was limited in access (9:6-7). Only priests and Levites were permitted to enter. Ordinary worshippers were restricted

(4) The Tabernacle had more to do with ritual than redemption (9:9-10).

B. The Greater, More Perfect Tabernacle--9:11

The weaknesses of the Old Covenant sanctuary are exceeded by the New Covenant sanctuary in the following ways:

(1) The Superior Sanctuary is in Heaven, not on earth (9:11, 24). The phrase "not of this building" is translated "not of this creation". The Heavenly Tabernacle is not limited to the materials on planet earth. It is said to be in "heaven itself".

(2) The Superior Sanctuary sacrifice is redemptive and eternal in nature (9:12-15). O.T. sacrifices were repeated, whereas Christ, the Supreme Sacrifice, was once for all. His work cleanses the conscience, that is to say, it is an inward cleansing, not external and ritual in nature.

The superiority of the new Sanctuary may be summarized by the words "in heaven". God is in Heaven. Christ is in Heaven. The believer's sanctuary is in Heaven. Our citizenship, treasures, hope and eternal home are in Heaven.

3 Appearings of Christ

Verses 24-28 are the basis for the well-known message preached by many preachers on the subject of the three appearings of Christ. Someone has observed, regarding verse 28, that just as Aaron reappeared to bless the people on the Day of Atonement, having dealt with the sins of the people, so Christ will reappear to bless His people at His Second Coming.

- Second Coming*
1. a day of terror for the lost = *final judgement*
 2. a day of triumph for the saved = *future glory*

Discussion Questions

- Wiersbe speaks of sins being "covered" in the O.T. and "removed" in the N.T. What is the nature of this distinction? (A.A.Hodge suggests that O.T. sacrifices were similar to writing a check. A check is only worth what stands behind it--money. Animal sacrifices were "checks". Christ equals money in the bank!)
- What is the significance of the phrase "the blood of Christ" in verse 14?

A synonym for the death of Christ. It refers to the supreme sacrifice of the Saviour who gave his life that we may have eternal life. (Rev. 1:5, 5:9, 7:14)

Eph. 1:7, Rom. 5:9

This doctrine is absent from much of contemporary music, modern preaching.
Song: "What can wash away my sins?"

Outline: (1) Penal (2) Purchase (3) Purge

Sacrifice

Mexico - Pyramid of Sun.

Intro → Sacrifice to God
on a term in Hebrew!

"Sacrifice" = "a complex and comprehensive term."

O.S.B.C. - 20 pages (Small PRINT - Human Sacrifice to O.T. Ritual / Pagan - Covenantal) US.

Simplist form = "a gift to God." the presentation to a deity some material gift AS AN ACT of worship - to attain favor, even appease, or celebrate a friendly relationship with the deity.

Study: Gen. 4:4 (Cain / Abel - Noah, Abraham, Job, Isaac, Jacob, Israel in Egypt, Wilderness, Levitical offerings, Sin Tube prophets - Kings (See Leviticus) Guilt Burnt Peace Meal Drink Malachi - talks about them in 1st Chapter 1:7, 13 | 2:13 | 3:8

To us:

The Christian life = A life of Sacrifice

1. Rom. 12:1 (Phillips Trans)
2. Phil. 4:18 - A gift from the Philippian Church
3. Heb. 13:16 - Stewardship = Sacrifice
4. 1 Pet. 2:5 | ~~stone~~ | ~~living~~

all such "Sacrifices" are "well pleasing" a "sweet savor" - Sign of His approval.

→ O.T. = had a priesthood - now we a priesthood, we serve as priests!

"Spiritual Sacrifices" = OUR OFFERINGS

1. Bodies - Rom. 12:1
2. Goods - money + other material goods
3. Souls - Rom. 15:16

"me" or Him first - Col. 1:10 our work = offering to God!
First our worship = " " "

Intro Mexico
Rem. of the Sun
Jan Ryan

Chapter Ten--A Better Sacrifice--10:1-39

A Reminder of SINS
NOT A Remover.

The Levitical sacrificial system and its repetitive procedures was a daily reminder to keep alive man's sense of inadequacy regarding sin and the Law's inability to purify the soul. Animal sacrifices were ineffective other than providing men with the reminder that the offering did not remedy or erase the guilt of sin. In the early verses of this chapter, the writer speaks to the fact that animal sacrifices were inferior to Christ's work on the Cross and should not be continued. Christ's sacrifice made ample provision for dealing with man's sin.

Ans. =
for the same
reason water
Baptism does
NOT wash away
our sins.

A. The Efficacy of Christ's Sacrifice--10:1-10

- The Perfect Sacrifice
1. Sufficient - (ISA)
 2. Sinless - (SB)
 3. Set - (V.6) - Divine will
 4. Selfless - (V.7-9)

The word "efficacy" means "the power to produce effects" (Webster). The writer of Hebrews quotes Psa. 40:6-9 and designates it to be Messianic in nature. The point is to prove that God wants something from man other than sacrifices. He wants obedience to His will. Without doubt, some O.T. worshippers looked upon the ritual of animal sacrifices as a means of dodging divine penalties for sin. Point: What man could not do for himself, Jesus did for him. The Psalmist speaks of Christ offering His body for man's redemption. Christ was the perfect sacrifice who opened the way for sinners to have access to God. The believer's sanctification is also mentioned in verse 10 in the matter of Christ's offering Himself. Under the New Covenant, the believer's sacrifice is set apart fully and completely in Christ. (10:10) - In this progressive process the believer is being "set aside" from sin. The old disposition slowly diminishing. (after a time.)

(ISA. 1:11-18)
1 Sam.
15:22

(See Sin. Notes)

B. The Permanency of Christ's Sacrifice--10:11-18

Webster says that "permanent" means "to continue in the same state, not subject to alteration, permanent, abiding". There are several words and phrases in the text that attest to this fact:

- "...once for all..."--10:10--Someone has said that "once for all" does not mean once upon a time, but rather one time only. The death of Christ is irrevocable for time and eternity. It does not need to be repeated. The word "once" means it is not required or necessary--once is enough. !!!



Handwritten text in red ink, possibly a signature or a note.



- "...every priest standeth...this man...sat down..."--10:11-12--Levitical priests stood in the exercise of their ministry. Christ sat down at the right hand of God when His redemptive work was completed. The fact that He sits on a throne in Heaven refers to His royal position.
- "...forever..."--10:14--This word implies perpetuity or endless existence and duration. The point is Christ's position at the Father's right hand indicates endless time.
- "...until his enemies be made his footstool."--10:13--Jesus' enemies will be in complete submission to His sovereign rule and power--no exceptions. (Phil. 2:9-11) It is interesting to note that of the nine usages of the word "footstool" in Scripture, six are direct references to the enemies of Christ. This word literally means "under foot". (Josh. 10:24) (Ps. 2:6)

C. The Relevancy of Christ's Sacrifice--10:19-25

Something is relevant when "it applies to the point being made." Christ's work is relevant as follows:

(1) Believers may draw near rather than draw back from God--10:19-22. Christians now have a living way or access into the presence of God. No O.T. worshipper could boldly enter into the presence of God in the Holy of Holies. The veil was a "stop sign" that said only the high priest could pass beyond. That veil has been removed and our High Priest in Heaven bids us enter (v. 19).

(2) Believers are encouraged to hold fast to their faith and hope in Christ (v. 23). For those who were tempted to retreat to their old form of worship under the Old Covenant, the admonition was "don't do it". Don't look back, look forward in hope to Christ. Never lose your firm grip on what you believe.

(3) Believers are encouraged to exhort one another to good works (vs. 24-25).

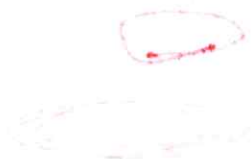


[Faint, illegible text]

[Faint, illegible text]



[Faint, illegible text]



NAME?

(10:29)
What about someone who looks upon Christ's blood as common or without value, who is insolent & scornful of the Holy Spirit?

The world is filled with messengers of discouragement--don't be one! The duty of a believer is to encourage other believers. Faithfulness in public worship not only helps the worshipper but others who worship with him.

D. The Danger of Willful Sin--Warning #4--10:2-31

26-
God warns his children so they will not be presumptuous but He comforts them so they will not be discouraged. (www)

There is wide difference of opinion concerning the identity of the persons warned in this passage. "I assume that the Hebrews to whom this epistle was written were saved" (J. Vernon McGee). "It should be understood that the readers are Christians" (Homer Kent). "His readers have given every evidence that they were true Christians" (Warren Wiersbe).

Question: Is it possible for genuine believers to be guilty of apostasy?

- Some say, yes, this passage is a description of saved people who have lost their salvation.
- Others say this is a reference to apostates who were mere professors but not possessors of true faith. (This is a widely held view by several commentators, not the least of which is W. R. Newell.)
- This is a hypothetical argument as was the case mentioned in Chapter 6. This view states that the warning to believers as to the outcome of persons who pursue the path of apostasy leads to eternal loss. The writer does not say that this had taken place; in fact, he thinks it had not. (Compare 10:39) It is meant to be a strong warning that would be the means of keeping saints true to Christ. Those who truly loved the Lord would heed His warning (Compare Acts 27:31). (See Homer Kent--The Epistle to the Hebrews, pages 205-209.) This is a passage where scholars disagree. Kent presents the most persuasive position.

Discussion Questions

- Discuss the meaning of "willful sin" and give modern examples.
- How difficult is it for us today to understand O.T. ritual?

Other than the Crucifixion, what great sacrifice comes to mind?

9/11 Todd Beamer

Faith is the Noun form of the verb Believe.

Faith = ~~πίστις~~

(ΠΙΣΤΙΣ) ΠΙΣΤΟΣ = faithful

Believe

(ΠΙΣΤΕΥΩ) - We are called "Believers"!!

Rom. 4:5

ΠΙΣΤΕΥΩ = Believe
"But Believing"

ΠΙΣΤΙΣ = faith

Mk. 2:5
Saw their faith.

FAITH IS NOT:

S.S. - "Believe
Something you know
ain't so."

Some mystical like sense or INTUITIVE
power that enables one to peer into
the spirit world and see what others
cannot see - l.l. "Spiritual fortune telling."

FAITH IS:

The ability to believe what God says
is true even ~~though~~ unseen at
the present.

See Notes on origins. - (2 parts)

STRANGE:

those who know what is meant by faith in
a promise, a physician, a politician, or
even a parachute say they do not know what
it means to have faith in Christ!

(There are 2 parts to Reality)
(1) Investigation - no end
(2) Experience - Taste & see that
the Lord is good.

Life is filled with Acts of faith:

1. Car-Buses, Airplane,
2. Banks, Schools, Hospitals,
Doctors, Lawyers,
3. Bridges, elevators, restaurants,
4. Marriage

The object of our
faith is the
POINT.

(1 John 3:3)

(ΕΠΙ ΔΟΥΤΩ)

(Eph. 1:15)

(ΕΥ ΤΩ ΚΥΡΙΩ)

Faith is the legal title to unrealized possessions.

("Substance") word used in the papyrus =
"Title deed" - present the deed = your possessions

Faith is the legal evidence of unseen possessions

("Evidence") = legal evidence presented in a court.

"The existence of faith is the evidence that there is
something to which it is the title."

Faith = the title deed
to our property in
Heaven

Faith
To take what
God promised -
the promised
land!

Heb. 11 = Faith in Operation:

(TAMARA - MIND - HISTORY)

The Time Before & Up thru the Flood. - 4-7

Time of the Patriarchs - 8-22 (Abraham - Joseph)

The Time of the March From Egypt to Canaan (Moses - 23-31)

The Time of Israel National Life - (32-38 - (McClain idea))

Chapter 1:
Love - 1 Cor. 13
Resurrection - 1 Cor. 15
Justification - Rom. 5
New Birth - John 3
Lord's Prayer - Mt. 17

A Source of origin - fundamental
truth, basic doctrine or law. A
settled rule of action.
Laws that central conduct.
(RULES)

III. A SUPERIOR PRINCIPLE-FAITH--CHAPTERS 11-13

Chapter Eleven--People of Faith in Bible History--11:1-40

Methods are many
Principles are few
Methods change often
Principles never do

This writer's outline of Chapter 11 cannot improve or equal Dr. Wiersbe's outline, so we have permission to use his!

- Faith's Description--11:1-3--The text of verse one is more a description of faith than a definition. The word "substance" is translated "assurance" in the ASV. The word "evidence" is translated "conviction" in the ASV. Faith is the assurance (certainty) and conviction that what God says is true and the believer may have confidence that what God says about the past and future is true. Wiersbe's comment is easy to grasp: "Bible faith is confident obedience to God's Word in spite of circumstances and consequences." J. Oswald Sanders remarks: "Faith enables the believing soul to treat the future as present and the invisible as seen." Some men claim to know about origins but they do not really know for sure. Left to the best ideas of science and philosophy, this writer chooses rather to believe the revelation of God in the only Book that God ever wrote--the Bible.

UNBELIEF asks:
Can God?
Belief answers:
God Can!

"Never dig up
in unbelief
what you
have sown
in faith!"
(Sardis)

(Unseen)

God's Hall of Faith (NOT Fame)

- Abel-Faith Worshipping--11:1-4--Cain and Abel represent two classes of people concerning belief about worship. Cain chose his own ideas in his offering to God. It was pleasant to the senses but not according to divine specification. Abel, by contrast, presented a blood sacrifice as God had commanded. He understood it was not his will or way in offering a sacrifice, but what God had commanded.

Orlando Toisan - London

Ritual
over
Righteous
First Murder
(Life not saved!)
Jude 11
Jude 11:12

- Enoch-Faith Walking--11:5-6--According to Gen. 5:21-24, Enoch was translated or "removed" or "carried across". Enoch's life was well-pleasing to God to such an extent that the indication in Scripture is that God took him to Heaven without dying. Walking with God in a time of unprecedented wickedness on earth put Enoch in a very special class.

(See Ser. Notes) Enoch - a sign to a godless world of coming judgment. (Jude 14-15)

Joseph Parker re
Gen 5 - a chapter
of "No Bodies" -
dull reeking until...

Enoch - a man who walked
with God who in godless
generation walked in wickedness

34

Suggestion/Speculation
Perhaps his enemies sought
to destroy him so he
"should NOT see death" (11:5)

Enoch walked with God
in a time when most walked
away from God.

Gen. 6:15 "The ark was NOT a ship, but a flat-bottomed, squared-sided barge, without rudder, mast, or sails. It was 440 ft. long, 73 ft. wide, and 44 ft. high (17.5" minimum length of a cubit). Thus, it would have a deck area of 95,700 sq. ft., and a total of 1,396,000 cubic ft. and a gross tonnage of about 13,960 tons. With such gigantic proportions it was adequate to carry 2 of every kind of air-breathing creature known in the world today, with nearly one deck left over for empty space. Fortified with thousands of rooms and compartments, and sinking half its height into the water (Gen. 7:20) it ^{was} must have been very stable in the water. (John C. Whitcomb - Classroom notes.)

Noah: 1. May never have seen a large vessel / or rain!
 2. a Non-conformist & in the minority.
 3. Unmoved by mockery
 4. Morals — (1) Sexual Perversity (2) Excessive violence
 (price paid for — deafness / dumb re God.)

- Noah-Faith Working--11:7--Noah's faith was utterly amazing. To build an enormous boat far from deep water in a time when it had never rained and to be ridiculed by a mocking generation, requires a rare kind of faith in God. Noah is the classic example of a person who listens to God and survives divine judgment on earth. Luke 17:26-28

- The Patriarchs-Faith Waiting--11:8-22--Abraham left the city life of (Ur) of Chaldees and it's stationary, structured buildings for the life of a nomad, living in tents and looking for a city in Heaven that God had promised. His faith regarding the birth of a promised son when the natural time of childbearing had passed, plus the Mount Moriah experience, all speak of exceptional faith in God. Abraham obeyed God when he did not know when, where or why God had called him to a pilgrim life. Later, it became very clear.

city seen
to an unseen
one!
11:10!

- Moses-Faith Warring--11:23-29--Moses was a giant in Israel's history. William Barclay suggests there were five major acts of faith in the story of Moses. (1) The faith of his parents (Exo. 2:1-22). Their faith preserved his life. (2) Moses' loyalty to his people over his Egyptian status and privilege. He chose a life of hardship instead of a life of luxury as an Egyptian ruler. (3) Moses' exile from Egypt (Exo. 2:14-22). (4) The arrangements for the first Passover and the Exodus. (5) The crossing of the Red Sea (Exo. 14).

- Joshua and Rahab-Faith Winning--11:30-31--To see Rahab portrayed in a favorable light, considering her profession, is a surprise. However, by faith, she believed Israel would prevail in the seemingly impossible task of conquering Jericho. Her faith was not misplaced and it seems evident her life was changed. Some commentators have also suggested that great faith is often found in unexpected and unusual places.

From a human standpoint,
Jericho was impossible to conquer.

This chapter concludes with a list of heroes of faith and some of their achievements. These people died before Christ came into the world, yet their faith in God's promises enabled them to die believing that God would keep His promises--all of them.

Discussion Questions

- Which of the heroes of faith in Chapter 11 is your favorite? Why?
- According to verse 36, some in the category of faith are listed as "others" who did not receive deliverance from their suffering. How do you explain this?

- Why is it impossible to please God without faith? - (cf. to parents)
Moody - "Whom" can't you believe.
- Any tests of faith in your life?
(RCS - Southland)

Intro

- The winter of Hebrews knew about athletics — specifically "running races".
- (Chair of Fine) Eric Little Marathon = 26 miles — even??
 - (FBI agent) — ran several miles at noon — short distance sat down & waited for them — running not my sport!
 - Sports in general — running in particular.

This chapter provides an interesting and important composite view of the Christian life — it is like a race!

1. There is a goal ② ③ A prize
The believer is given somewhere. (Per Mill philosophy of history. (McClure) So is history! the believer is not stumbling down the path of life —
2. The importance of discipline & maturity (1 Cor. 9: 24-27)
"patience" = mastering the effort — keep eye on the prize — determination, overcoming obstacles, disappointments. Sin entanglement. "If we travel far we must travel light". lusts, associates, distractions — whatever holds us back must be cut loose.
3. Keep Our Eyes on Jesus.

I Race — (6:12-13)
"race course!"
II Rules — (Excessive GK. Self-control) ①
III Reward ②. NOT MS!
(6:14-15) (Shadow-Usurping) (Usurping the award)

No rewards for believers
Just not Salvation
of the sinners

Disqualified — not
Disconnected!
(2 vessels — will make
the failure — condition
different)

12:1-3
(Cont)

(2:10-11)
"disapproved"

12:1 "beating" upsetting!

Chapter Twelve--The Race Set Before Us--12:1-29

A. The Contest--12:1-3

Those who have gone before us are identified as "witnesses" (v. 1). ^{V.2 where are you looking?} "These are not necessarily eye witnesses to scenes now taking place, but those who had the same experience and testify to the worth of persistence" (A. J. McClain). The Greek word for "witness" is "martyr". Witnesses may refer to the heroes of the faith mentioned in Chapter 11. The text does not indicate that they or our loved ones in Glory are like spectators in a giant sports arena, cheering us on in the race. The example of the O.T. saints recorded in Chapter 11 should be incentive enough to believers to follow in their footsteps of faith. Sin that might restrict progress in the race should be "laid aside" or "put away"--in other words, dealt with. Someone has said it like this--those who run a race must run without extra "stuff" holding them down or back. Jesus is the believer's example as the One who completed His work in our behalf. He endured the critics, the crowds and the Cross for our benefit. We should follow His example. The writer points to the fact that no matter how his readers had suffered for their faith, none had spilled their blood as Jesus did. (See 1 Cor. 9:24-27)

B. The Chastisement--12:5-13

The procedure mentioned in these verses had to do with discipline involved in bringing minor children to maturity. It dealt with all aspects of the education process including the correction of improper behavior. In society today where children are often raised in an undisciplined environment, God's children are not allowed to live such a lifestyle. God had one Son without sin but none without suffering and chastisement. The idea of this passage has to do with how God deals with sons. The Christian may respond to chastisement in three ways:

(1) He may despise the Lord's chastening-verse 5. The word "despise" carries the idea of rebellion and refusing to learn the lesson God has for us. Hardening the heart, indifference to and defiance of God illustrates those who despise this discipline. These people see God as a vindictive judge and they are undeserving of any kind of punishment. The outcome is resentment and bitterness toward God. Many of these folk simply drop out of church and Christian living. (cf. Proverbs 2:11-12)

Some may appear to belong to God but their attitude & acts - Judas reveal their true father... Satan!

cf. Peter & Judas (Mt. 27:5)
"must hitting" Lk. 23:62
30 pence
John 8:38-44

Don't tempt the Lord!
Barn 4:14
Satan's whispering
his child
he doesn't speak the language of love!

"Race" Contest or (ayava) game
Point
Return a runner in suit of armor!

"Patience" one! one!
"do not forget" determination
Eye on the goal.
Endured the Cross!
inflicted in dimensions... suffering toward mortal comprehension

"Jon" the joy of triumph!
Golf putter

one ("all run") complete (1 Cor. 3)

"Castaway" & Socrates disappointed - disqualified - from the prize

5 Reasons Why The Righteous Suffer?

1. Stupidity - Driving ^{too} high rate of speed
hit a tree - break bones = Bad decisions ^{Bad} conduct
(Self-inflicted)
2. Stand - 1 Pet. 3:14
3. Sin -
drunk / drug addict
- get saved - a new heart that ~~old~~ liver, kidneys, joints
stomach -
4. Satan - Job
5. Spiritual development - 1 Pet. 5:10
Suffering - lessons learned never any other way!
("the path of ^{sorrow} suffering and that path alone leads to the place where suffering & sorrow are unknown")

(He. 12:11)

"I quit!!!
Christian living = too hard!"

(2) We may faint under God's chastening. The word "faint" means to collapse in self-pity. These people feel sorry for themselves, lose heart, give up, refusing to learn the lesson God has for them. Someone has described them as "crybaby Christians".

12:11

12:7 endure = (ὑπομένετε)

(3) We may submit to chastening. Submission indicates an awareness that God is at work even in difficult circumstances. The mature Christian understands that everything God does in our lives is designed to make us better, not bitter. It is sheer folly to resist God's working in our life.

The reward for chastisement is recorded in verses 10 and 11. Carnality never welcomes chastisement. However, chastening proves sonship and sons may profit from the experience. J. Oswald Sanders uses the illustration of a bar of steel. Making horseshoes out of this raw material is not worth nearly as much as making watch springs. The value was increased the more the steel was tempered by fire. The more the believer is submissive to God's disciplines, the more valuable his service.

Change - after spending "I Love you Daddy" that affected me in the heart!

C. The Challenge--Warning #5--12:14-29

The final warning in Hebrews has to do with the admonition to give careful attention to the Word of God. The phrase "fail of the grace of God" (v. 15) has been used by some to describe a person who has lost his salvation. Dr. Donald Barnhouse has correctly observed that when the believer sins, he does not fall from grace, he falls into grace! Esau was the classic example of a person whose lifestyle and values demonstrated how godless people may fail to act on the grace God extends to them. Esau stands as a warning to all who would live only for the flesh. Esau and others in his train discover that "some decisions are irrevocable" (Kent). Tears of remorse and pleading with his father regarding his lost birthright did not reflect a change of Esau's heart.

Esau was NOT a spiritual man who was in the Word!!!

Wrecked Parents Fear: "May the accident never have happened!"

There are two symbols mentioned in the text: Mount Sinai and Mount Zion. The first refers to the fearful aspect of the Law that came from Mount Sinai. The second speaks to God's grace to all who come boldly into His presence.

(ἡτις) (Gal. 5:19)

A fornicator = one who does not hold sacred the function of sex. He loved worldly women.

"bebelas" (βεβηλος) 38

A profane person = one who treats sacred things as common. Such as his birthright (Esau)

Traded a family treasure for a trifle!

5 Times in N.T. (4 in Pastoral Ep. 1 Tim 1:9 3 times 2 Tim 2:16 - Should AVOID = "Bad people" Stay away from! 4:7 = refuse 6:20 = avoid

Flesh not Faith

12:15

"Root of Bitterness"

the word $\pi\iota\kappa\rho\iota\alpha$ -

Rom. 3:14 - "full of cursing & bitterness"
Eph. 3:1 See Deut. 29:18 idea
one who has a corrupting influence
on others - a poison (poisonous "Toxic")
personality = infects others with
the poison in their system.

ESAU =

(12:16) the man who was more concerned
about his belly than his birthright!
Gen. 25:28-34
27:1-39

POINT:

a gum foot - some choices cannot be
changed - once made cannot be unmade!
(cf. moral purity - virginity) and may
forgive but the consequences may remain.
"my thin accident never here happened"

An eternal truth

The person who trusts God - gives everything
that cannot be shaken. The person who does
not lose everything - here and
hereafter. In eternity only the eternal
matters. (idea from Barclay)

Children of the same parents may have different
values - Jacob - schemer, unattractive -
but able to be changed by the grace of
God. Jacob recognized the value of the
birthright - Esau did not. Esau = a man of
twisted values. No spiritual interest. Recognized
no claim of God on his life. Self-gratification,
pleasure his pursuits. No regard for life -
woud to kill Jacob!!!

Verses 22 and 23 are of special interest and require more detailed exegesis:

General observations:

(1) "But ye are come...unto the city of the living God..."--By contrast to Sinai, we are able to approach God by virtue of our relationship to Jesus Christ. The writer is describing the "heavenly Jerusalem" where myriads or numberless angels dwell. This is the city Abraham saw by faith.

(2) "To the general assembly and church of the firstborn..."--The Greek word for "general assembly" refers to "an assembly of an entire people, a gathering at a festive occasion". Some congregations today refer to their entire church denomination as a general assembly.

(3) "...firstborn..."--This is the only reference to the church by this term. It speaks of the church's inheritance as sons and its high position.

(4) "...written in heaven..."--The saints on earth are not in Heaven yet, but their names are already there (Luke 10:20). (Rom. 8:30) (Rev. 20:15)

(5) "...God the Judge of all..."--The word "all" includes all of every age. None will escape. Act 17:31

(6) "...the spirits of just men made perfect..."--A reference to O.T. saints or as some characterized as "pre-Christian believers". The goal toward which they were moving was not complete until Christ completed His work on the Cross.

(7) "...Jesus the mediator of the new covenant..."--These verses describe the great convocation of the ages with all groups who are prepared to assemble with our victorious Lord.

Now in Rome - Convoc. of Orders, not group of all saints in church!

The closing verses of the chapter are a solemn reminder that God promises to shake both earth and Heaven in the future. When all that men hold dear is shattered, that which remains is God's kingdom which cannot be shaken (Daniel 2:44).

12:27

Discussion Questions

- What are your views concerning chastisement? Are there any believers who have never been chastened by the Lord? Are all sufferings and difficulties indications of chastisement? (See McLeure Note (5))
- List other images in Scripture that characterize the Christian experience.

Race - Soldier
work - Builder
Pilgrimage
Voyage
Marriage
Great festive occasion -
Courtroom -
Conflict - Eph 6
Farmer

Project
(3 minutes = 1-2 minute speech!)

Marriage

- Where do we learn most (good or bad) about marriage?
- What else does the Bible say about marriage? (Explain the "unequal yoke.")
- How do you know the "right" person?
- "For better or worse by not for long" (www)
- What if Adam had wanted a divorce??

→ Does the Bible teach marriage is for life?
(We are all fallen creatures and all very hard to live with) C.S. Lewis

4 times in N.T. always = undefiled
13:4 undefiled = ἀμίαντος

α/μιανω = to stain
pollute
corrupt
alpha
Rin

* Christians promoted moral/sexual purity
in a pagan world where such sins were
sanctified — no sanctity!

Chapter Thirteen--Final Words On Practical Subjects--13:1-25

The saying that doctrine and duty go together sums up the concluding chapter of Hebrews. The following is a list of nine subjects mentioned:

- Belief/Behave*

NOT Hostility! Contend for the faith... Care for the Needy.

Innkeeper (unnamed)

Hospitality --13:1-- The cost and scarcity of public inn accommodations plus the unwholesome atmosphere in them, made travel difficult for early Christians. Some such facilities were little more than brothels. It was critical for Christian families to open their homes to traveling believers, itinerant preachers and even some strangers. Abraham entertained two angels in this fashion (Gen. 18). One of the qualifications for a pastor has to do with hospitality (Titus 1:8). This is true for all believers (Rom. 12:13). The "prophet's chamber" is a feature of many church facilities.

Dr. Stevens in Ala. - "Stranger"

Va. Church - good ones - rare. "to spend a night"

Of Today Home? Moral?

Slaves = no home?

Prisoners = low level in society
- Prisoners--13:3--** Prison was often the penalty for those who were steadfast in faith. Paul knew how to sympathize with believers in prison having shared that experience himself. It would be easy to forget and neglect those who suffered such conditions. See Jesus' remarks in Matt. 25:36-40. Many religious groups conduct effective prison ministries today.

Am. prison min. just in Gen!

(Often neglected & forgotten) id. - RKS - Penitentiary
- Marriage--13:4--** Then, as now, some made light of the marriage relationship and did not consider it either necessary or a sacred responsibility. Christianity brought to society a sense of moral purity and integrity to marriage. The word "undefiled" in the text means "unsoiled", "unstained", "chaste". Sex acts should be restricted to the marriage relationship. Violation of this moral code is called fornication for the unmarried and adultery for the married. God's judgment is reserved for those who pollute and corrupt marriage. (A Christian home begins with a Christian marriage. "www")

"Secret To a Successful Marriage"?

www Bank illus

"Jug marriage"

David's Adultery = consequence in own children.

Loyalty, purity, spiritual, joy?
- Money--13:5--** "Be free from the love of money" (ASV). "Real happiness in life consists not in increasing our possessions but in limiting our wants" (F.B. Meyer). Wise is the person who is satisfied with what he has but not satisfied with what he is. When one is right with God, nothing material can improve or distract from that position (Phil. 4:19). Putting the almighty dollar ahead of Almighty God is a sure formula for spiritual failure. (1 Tim. 6:17) (Luke 12:15)

Present Judgment (Rom. 1:24-27) Final Judgment (Rev. 21:8 22:15)

v. 5 ok m, ok m, "By no means" "in no way" (Northville)

Leadership

Ch is both an organism / an organization
on the latter - needs to be organized
or it will not function properly.

(Acts 6 - needed organization)

Chs. were structured groups.

Pastors = shepherds not C.E.O's.

~~Be~~ "Win Souls" but must also "watch for their souls"

Buy "Spiritual Leadership" (Sanders)

Separation:

1. In Social conduct - v. 1-6 -
Not like the world in the way
we treat others - strangers / prisoners
fellow believers.
2. Religious conduct - v. 7-17
fidelity to the truth.
3. Worship - v. 10-16 (Share)
Worship of Christ required leaving
the old system
4. Leadership - v. 17 - Submit
Leadership at 2 way responsibility.

Discipline
"peer
leadership"

Ohio - leaderless pastor,
can't lead if people fear
the man.

Some
progressive
Christian
view
Christ
as an
apostate
leader!

- Leadership--13:7,17--In church leadership, the best leaders are those who are led by Christ. Spiritual leaders have both divine authorization and responsibility to watch over their flock. These verses do not advocate or sanction dictatorial leadership but rather discipline and order in church organization. It recognizes that some are gifted and called to lead, others to follow. Both leaders and followers should concentrate on making God's work a pleasure and not a burden. Dr. Lee Roberson's popular statement is: "Everything rises or falls on leadership". (Explain)

"Be loyal to your leaders" (Phillips trans)

- Separation--13:12-14--A critical question for these Jewish Christians had to do with their willingness to follow Jesus and be identified with His reproach. For them, traditional worship involved sacrifices and practices that centered around the temple and priests. To follow Christ would fly in the face of friends, family and custom of worship. "The truth enunciated here should be carefully considered by everyone, for whether his background is Judaism or some Gentile religious or cultural system, the call still comes with equal urgency, 'let us go to Him outside the camp'." (Kent)

(Explain)

where people were treated like
criminals!

- Stewardship--13:16--The word "communicate" means to share. This involved sharing good works and good gifts. Whether one be in prison or in the pulpit, all have a responsibility to share in the Christian ministry.

underground ch - Kennedy Co
Pastor didn't give to his church!

- Prayer--13:18--Prayer is a privilege and duty. Remembering the Lord's work and His workers is a responsibility every believer should accept. "The greatest thing that we can do for any man is to pray for him"

(Alexander Whyte). A doctor may save... life!
a lawyer " " ... fortune,
Jesus will save his soul! "What shall...."

- Benediction--13:20-21--This beautiful benediction is used as a closing prayer for congregational services. It speaks of our Lord's death and resurrection, care for His sheep and progressive sanctification in the lives of believers.

Discussion

- Locate and discuss other N.T. benedictions.
- What was the most difficult passage for you in the Book of Hebrews?

v. 24 "Greet"
Be an speaking
terms. 41

1 Tim. 6: 13-16

* Numbers 6: 24-26

1 Pet. 5: 10-11

- Jude 24-25

- Eph. 3: 20-21

2 Cor. 13: 14

Communicate
(Koinwvia)
2 Cor. 9: 13
Rom. 15: 26
2 Tim 6: 18

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