

The Book of Hebrews covers two key Christological concepts: the superiority and the accessibility of Jesus.

Hebrews was written sometime between A.D. 60 and 70, approximately three to four decades after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Hebrews was written to a small group of Jewish Christians, who were living in either Rome or Jerusalem.

Monotheistic: *pledging one's allegiance to one God*

Polytheistic: *pledging one's allegiance to a plethora of little "g" gods*

Nero confused the sacraments.

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

HEBREWS 1:1-4 (ESV)

What are four of the "many ways" (polytropos) God used to speak to His people long ago?

1. Prophets
2. Signs and dreams
3. Theophany
4. Urim and Thummim

The "latter days" or "last days" refers to the time period on the continuum of progressive revelation between the first and second coming of Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. How has Hebrews ministered to you in the past?
2. What has been your steepest climb in the past? How has Jesus helped you to keep on?
3. What climb do you face now? What would you like to get from this group and study?

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

HEBREWS 2:1-4 (ESV)

“Drift away” in verse 1 is translated from the Greek word pararreō, which also means slip past or float past .

If we aren’t actively moving toward Jesus, there is a powerful riptide (the Devil) that is actively working to pull us away from Him.

Hebrews 2:5-10 (ESV)

Why did he say Jesus is lower than the angels?

Why did he say that Jesus had to become perfect?

Make perfect—teleioō , which means “to complete, to finish or to reach a goal.”

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

HEBREWS 2:14-18 (ESV)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. I told about my American Popsicle in London experience this week. What has been an embarrassing moment in which you felt you didn't fit in? How can you relate that experience to the Jewish Christians in Hebrews?*
- 2. What stresses, influences, or temptations make the challenge to not drift away difficult for you?*
- 3. How does the reality that Jesus made Himself lower than the angels, became a human, and ultimately tasted death for you make you want to respond to Him? Does the image of Jesus voluntarily giving up His freedom to join your captivity change how you feel about Him?*

Two key Christological concepts ...

The superiority and the accessibility of Jesus.

Hebrews was preached as a sermon .

It is critical for Christians to actively move toward Jesus. Why?

Hebrews 4:4 refers to creation rest.

Hebrews 4:6-7 refers to eternal rest.

Hebrews 4:8 refers to Canaan rest.

Hebrews 4:9-10 refers to Sabbath rest.

1. God modeled rest.

2. God ordained rest before the fall.

Rest is God's merciful provision for our protection .

Hebrews 4:11-13 (ESV)

God's Word reveals what is going on in us, both the actions of our hands and the motives of our heart.

Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

“Let us go on to maturity” in Greek is pheromai, which means let us be carried on.

The word ark in Hebrew actually means box.

What was in the ark of the covenant?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The curtain ripped from top to bottom. It implies that God Himself did the rending.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How has Jesus carried you through the challenges and difficulties in life toward spiritual maturity?*
- 2. Why is it sometimes difficult for us to receive criticism and warnings that would help us mature as believers?*
- 3. What steps will you take this week to “grow up” and move toward maturity in your faith?*

Three Most Important Offices:

1. Prophet

2. Priest

3. King

Hebrews 8:6-7

Hebrews 8:13

Hebrews 9:11-14

Hebrews 9:24-26

Hebrews 10:9-10

Luke 5:1-11

Matthew 17:1-13

Matthew 26:69-75

John 21

*Our God not only restores broken people, He can use broken ,
redeemed people.*

The Hero of Hebrews 11 is Jesus .

Samson was a Nazirite.

Three vows of Nazirites:

- 1. They could not get close to or touch a dead body (unclean).*
- 2. They were not allowed to cut their hair .*
- 3. They could not partake of the fruit of the vine .*

The Valley of Sorek means the valley of vineyards .

History repeats itself.

It is not our beauty that Jesus is attracted to—it is our brokenness .

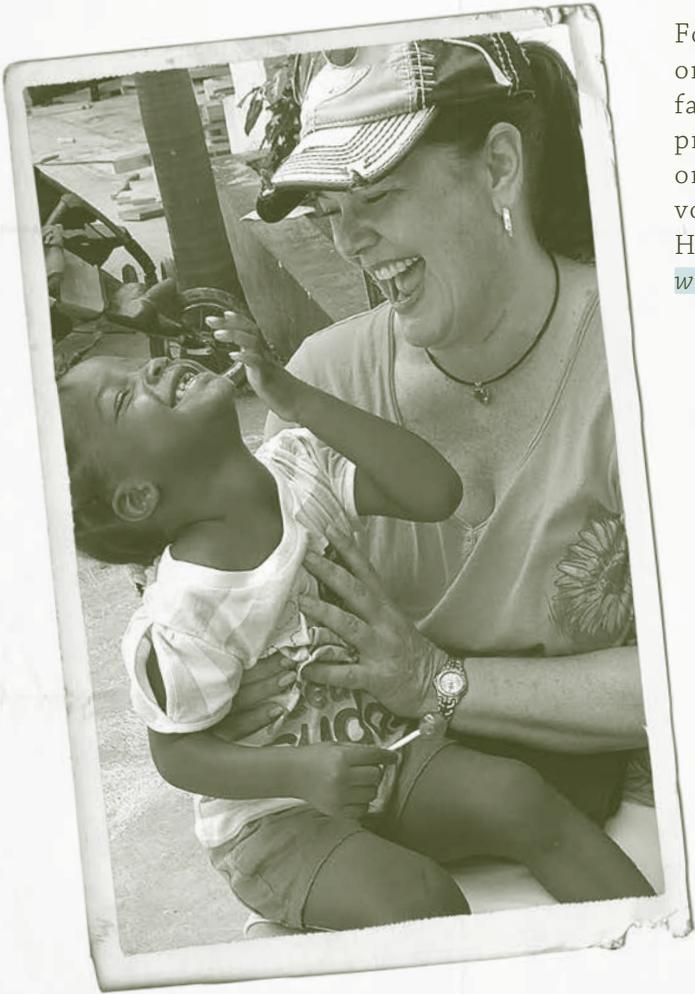
A CHARGE TO GO OUTSIDE YOUR CAMP

So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

HEBREWS 13:12-16 (ESV)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What are some specific ways you might take a leap of faith and move out of your comfort zone?*
- 2. How does your perspective change when you think about the sacrifices and suffering Jesus went through for you?*
- 3. What key points will you take away from your study of Hebrews?*
- 4. How do you sense God is leading you to “live differently” as a result of studying Hebrews?*



For more information on Live Beyond, the faith-based, non-profit humanitarian organization Lisa volunteers with in Haiti, please visit www.livebeyond.org

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