

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)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. In what ways do you think you have tried to substitute something for Jesus? Did it work as poorly as my bleach substitute?
- 2. How has God shown you that He is watching over you and you can rest in Him?
- 3. How has God had you stay in a difficult time rather than be rescued?
- 4. Has anyone showed you how to correct with love and affirmation? If so, what did he or she model for you?

"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?

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 _____.

Discussion Questions

1. How does it encourage you that God can use the bumbling and stumblers in the faith and that we don't need to be perfect to serve Him?
2. How does the supremacy of faith (rather than law) fit the pastor's overall argument in the Book of Hebrews?
3. How does Jesus' not being attracted to our beauty but to our brokenness change your attitude and motivate your actions?
