

Bible Study – Outline

HEBREWS

Faith

The Superiority of Christ

<u>Author</u>	unknown
<u>Date Written</u>	Just before the destruction of the Temple in 70AD
<u>Audience:</u>	Hebrew Christians

Major Theme(s)

Jesus Christ
Faith
Love

HEBREWS

CHRIST, THE OBJECT OF OUR FAITH	
Christ, Before and Above all Prophets	1:1-3
Christ, Before and Above all Angels	1:4-2:18
Christ, Before and Above Moses	3:1-6
THE SUPERIOR WORK OF CHRIST	
The Priesthood of Christ versus the Priesthood of Aaron and the Priesthood of Melchizedek	4:14-7:28
The Superior Covenant of Christ	8
The Superior Sanctuary and Sacrifice of Christ	9:1-10:18
THE CHRISTIANS'S WALK OF FAITH	
Hold fast to the Faith you have received	10:19-39
The Definition of Faith	11
The Role Call of Faith	11:4-10
Enduring by Faith	12
The Outgrowth of Faith - Christian Love	13:1-17
Concluding remarks	13:18 - 25

Key Scriptures

Hab. 2:4

See, the enemy is puffed up;

his desires are not upright—

but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness

Heb. 1:1-3

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Heb. 1:5

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son;
today I have become your Father”

Heb. 2:1-3

We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.² For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.

Heb. 3:12-15

See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.¹⁴ We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.¹⁵ As has just been said:

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion.”

Heb. 4:9-10

There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God;¹⁰ for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.

Heb. 5:1-2

Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.² He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.

Heb. 6:1-6

Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, ² instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. ³ And God permitting, we will do so.

⁴ It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵ who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age ⁶ and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.

Heb. 11:1

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Heb. 12:2

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Heb. 12:4-7

In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?

Heb. 12:28-29

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our “God is a consuming fire.”

The “Warnings” given in Hebrews

- Warning against drifting from “the things we have heard” (2:1-4)
- Warning against disbelieving the “voice” of God (3:7-14)
- Warning against degenerating from “the elementary principles of Christ” (5:11-6:20)
- Warning against despising “the knowledge of the truth” (10:26-39)
- Warning against devaluing “the grace of God” (12:15-17)
- Warning against departing from Him “who speaks” (12:25-29)

How the Author of Hebrews uses OT Scripture to provide instruction

Heb. 1:1-2:4	Exposition of verses from Ps.; 2 Sam. 7; Deut. 32
2:5-18	Ps. 8:4-6
3:1-4:13	Ps. 95:7-11
4:14-7:28	Ps. 110:4
8:1-10:18	Jer. 31:31-34
10:32-12:3	Hab. 2:3, 4
12:4-13	Prov. 3:11, 12
12:18-29	Ex. 19, 20

Discussion Questions

1. Christ is portrayed with six key attributes in Heb 1:1-3. What are they?
2. How is Christ greater than the prophets and the angels? (1:1-4)
3. What are we to pay attention to, and what are we warned against in Heb. 2:1-4, 7-19.
4. What is the message being given in Heb. 3:12-15?
5. What does it mean to go on to maturity? Heb. 6:1-3
6. Melchizedek. Why is he greater than Abraham, who was he? Why is Jesus a priest after the order of Melchizedek and not Aaron?
7. How is faith defined? How is it possible for us to be certain of what we hope for but cannot see? (Heb. 11).
8. Who in the role call of faith (Chap. 11) do you find the most encouraging or inspiring?
9. How are we to exercise our faith? Heb. 12.

Resources Used

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman
Life Application Bible (NIV) - Zondervan and Tyndale House.
Hebrew – The IVP Commentary Series – Ray Stedman – Grant Osborne
www.biblestudytools.com
www.biblegateway.com