



The book of

# Hebrews

Part 2

# Why was this book written?

Was it Paul's Thesis about Jesus?

***"The Gospel of Jesus the Messiah"***

1. God (YHWH) has a **Son**!
2. His name is **Jesus**
3. He is the **Messiah** - Anointed One

The last great **Prophet**

The last great **High Priest**

The **King of kings and Lord of lords**

- The book of **Hebrews** ...

... is “*the Gospel for the Jews*”

- The book of **Romans** ...

... is “*the Gospel for the Gentiles*”

# An outline of Hebrews

**Christ's superior revelation** (1:1-4)

**Christ's superiority over angels** (1:5 – 2:18)

**Christ's superiority over Moses** (3:1 – 4:13)

**Christ's superiority over Aaronic priests**

(4:14 – 7:28)

**Christ's superior sacrifice** (ch. 8, 9, 10)

**The need for persevering faith** (ch. 11 & 12)

**Living for Christ** (ch. 13)

## **Chapter 3:1-6**

**Moses – God’s servant**

**Jesus – God’s Son**

## **Chapter 3:7-19**

**Warning 2: Against unbelief and rejection  
of the Lord**



**Chapter 4:1-13**

**God's rest**

**Chapter 4:14 – 5:10**

**Jesus – the great High Priest**



**Chapter 5:11 – 6:12**

**Warning 3: About the peril of falling away**

**Chapter 6:13-20**

**The certainty of God's promise**

## 3:1-6 Moses and Jesus

- Therefore, brothers and sisters, holy partners in a Heavenly calling, consider that **Jesus**, the **Apostle** and **High Priest** of our confession, was faithful to the One who appointed Him, just as **Moses** also “was faithful in all God’s House.”
- Yet **Jesus** is worthy of **more glory** than **Moses**, just as the builder of a house has **more honour** than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.
- **Moses** was a faithful servant in all God’s house, to testify to the things that would be spoken about later. **Christ**, however, was faithful over God’s house as a Son, and we are His house if we hold firm to the confidence and the boast that belong to hope.



## 3:7-19 Warning 2

- The Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear God’s voice, do not *harden your hearts* like the Israelites did during their *rebellion*, as on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your ancestors put Me to the test, even though they had seen My works for forty years.
- Therefore I was angry with that generation, and I said, ‘They always go astray in their hearts, and they have not known My ways.’ So in My anger I swore, ‘They will not enter My rest.’”
- Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you have an *evil, unbelieving heart* that turns away from the living God.
- Instead, exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today”, so that none of you may be hardened by the *deceitfulness of sin*.

## 3:7-19 Warning 2 (continued)

- For we have become partners of Christ, but only if we hold our first confidence, firm to the end.
- As it is said, “Today, if you hear His voice, don’t harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”
- Who were the people who heard and yet were rebellious? Wasn’t it all those who left Egypt under the leadership of Moses?
- With whom was God angry for forty years? Wasn’t it those who *sinned*, who died in the wilderness?
- And to whom did God swear that they would not enter His rest? Wasn’t it those who were *disobedient*?
- So we see that they were unable to enter because of *unbelief*.

## 4:1-13 God's Rest

- Therefore, while the promise of entering God's rest is still open, let us take care that none of you fail to reach it.
- For the good news came to us just as it did to Israel; but the message they *heard* didn't benefit them because they were not united by faith with those who *listened*.
- For we who have believed, enter that rest; just as God has said, "As in My anger I swore, 'They shall not enter My rest,'" even though His works were finished at the foundation of the world.
- For in one place it speaks about the seventh day as follows: "God rested on the seventh day from all His works."
- And again in this place it says, "They shall not enter My rest."

## 4:1-13 God's Rest (continued)

- Therefore, since it remains open for *some* people to enter God's rest, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of *disobedience*, again God sets a certain day – “today” – saying through David much later, in the words already quoted, “Today, if you hear His voice, don't harden your hearts.”
- If Joshua had given them rest, God would not speak later about another day.
- So then, a ***sabbath rest*** still remains for the people of God, and those who enter God's rest also cease from their labours, just as God ceased His labours.

## 4:1-13 God's Rest (continued)

- Let us therefore *make every effort* to enter that rest, so that no one may fall through disobedience like theirs.
- Indeed, the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides *soul from spirit*, and *joints from marrow*. It is able to judge the *thoughts and intentions* of the heart.
- Nobody is hidden from God's sight, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the One to whom we must give an account.

## 4:14 – 5:10 Jesus the great High Priest

- Since, then, we have a **great High Priest** who has passed through the heavens, **Jesus, the Son of God**, let us hold fast to our confession.
- For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who in every respect has been tested as we are, and yet without sin.
- Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive **mercy**, and find **grace** to help in time of need.
- Every high priest who is chosen from among men, is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.
- A high priest is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, because he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice *for his own sins*, as well as for those of other people.

## 4:14 – 5:10 Jesus the great High Priest

- A high priest does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.
- In the same way Christ did not glorify Himself in becoming a High Priest, but was appointed by the One who said to Him, “You are My Son, today I have begotten you.”
- He also says in another place, “You are a Priest forever, according to the order of **Melchizedek**.”
- In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the One who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission.
- Although He was a Son, He *learned obedience* through what He suffered; and having been made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys Him, having been chosen and called by God as a High Priest according to the order of **Melchizedek**.



## 5:11 – 6:12 Warning 3

- We have much to say about this that is hard to explain, because you have become dull in your understanding.
- For even though by this time you ought to be teachers, you still need someone to teach you again the basic elements of what God has said.
- You need milk, not solid food; for everyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the Word of righteousness.
- But solid food is for the mature, for those who have been *trained by practice* to distinguish good from evil.



## 5:11 – 6:12 Warning 3 (continued)

Therefore let us go on towards perfection, leaving behind the basic teachings about Christ, and not laying again the foundation, namely:

- repentance from dead works
- faith towards God
- instructions about baptisms
- the laying on of hands
- the resurrection of the dead
- eternal judgment

And we will do this if God permits.

## 5:11 – 6:12 Warning 3 (continued)

For it is impossible to restore again to repentance those who have once:

- been enlightened, and
- tasted the heavenly gift [salvation], and
- shared in the Holy Spirit, and
- tasted the goodness of the Word of God, and
- tasted the powers of the Age to come,

and then have fallen away; since on their own they are crucifying again the Son of God and are holding Him up to contempt.

Ground that soaks up the rain falling on it repeatedly, and produces a crop which is useful to those for whom it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God.

But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and on the verge of being cursed; in the end it will be burned over.

## 5:11 – 6:12 Warning 3 (continued)

- Even though we speak in this way, beloved, we are confident of *better things* in your case; things that belong to salvation.
- For God is not unjust; He will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for His sake in serving the saints, as you still do.
- We want each one of you to show the same diligence, and to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, so that you may not become sluggish, but become imitators of those who, through *faith* and *patience*, inherit the promises.

## 6:13-20 Certainty of God's Promise

- When God made a **promise** to Abraham, because He had no one greater by whom to swear, He **swore** by Himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and multiply you."
- Thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise.
- People, of course, swear by someone greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to all dispute.
- In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly, to the heirs of the **promise**, the unchangeable character of His purpose, He guaranteed it by an **oath**, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove to be false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the **hope** that is set before us.
- We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul; a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become **High Priest forever** according to the order of **Melchizedek**.

# Application

- **Warning 1:** Pay attention to God's Word and what He is saying.
- **Warning 2:** Don't harden our hearts, rebel, or have an unbelieving/cynical heart. Instead, be aware of the deceitfulness of sin, and obey God by faith/faithfulness.
- Enter God's promised rest by faith – hear and obey.
- **Warning 3:** Beware of backsliding and losing our faith. Continue to live for God – and be patient! Don't give up!
- God has promised us blessing and eternal life – these are the foundation of our Hope.
- Jesus is our High Priest and Mediator – forever!