



Session

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THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

Hebrews 3; 5; 7

The Book of Hebrews is the only anonymous letter in the New Testament. While many argue the authorship of this book, the reality is that God is the author, and that's all that matters. The book was written to the Hebrews, likely Jewish believers living in Rome. The audience of this book would have been familiar both with the author of the book and the Jewish rituals the book discussed. As had other early Christians, the recipients of this book had been persecuted, abused, imprisoned, and their property had been taken. Through persecution, the Book of Hebrews served to encourage these believers as they celebrated the role of Christ. The Book of Hebrews shows Jesus Christ as God, head of the church, and the ultimate and complete High Priest.

The Book of Hebrews is all about Jesus, and the writer encourages the reader to make Jesus the first thing he thinks about in the morning, and the last thing he thinks about at night. Hebrews highlights Jesus' life on earth as our example for how to live. By following the example of Jesus in everything we say, do, think, and act, we show others how we love Christ.

The Book of Hebrews systematically presents Jesus as superior to many earthly people and institutions. Hebrews 3 shows Jesus to be superior to Moses, the man chosen by God to lead Israel from bondage in Egypt. While both Jesus and Moses were obedient to God, Jesus is superior because Jesus is the Son of God. The writer warned that rejecting Jesus has far more serious consequences than Israel's rejection of Moses.

Hebrews 5 and 7 show Jesus to be superior to the earthly high priest. The high priest was from among the people, but Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled the role of high priest better than any mortal man since He came from God. The high priest entered the presence of the Lord once a year on a special day of atonement. Jesus Christ sits continually at the right hand of God interceding for the people whom He came to save.