

Hebrews

Theme:

- God's final revelation of Himself in His Son
- Substance: Christ's person and high priestly work

Biblical context

- The first promise – Genesis 3:15
- The promise to Abraham – Genesis 12:1-3.
 1. Blessing – salvation through Abraham
 2. A great nation – the nation Israel
 3. Blessing to the nations – “universal” salvation
 4. The Seed of Abraham
- The plan in history
 1. Patriarchal era
History: waiting – testing – slavery – waiting
 2. The Mosaic or Old Covenant era
The formation of Israel
The Law of Moses
History: testing – captivity – waiting
 3. The Christian or New Covenant era
Jesus Christ
The New Covenant
History: testing – persevering – waiting

Issues

- What about the Law of Moses?
- What is the New Covenant order?

The Purpose of Hebrews

- ▶ Explanation of the New Covenant
 - ▶ Exhortation to obedience
 - ▶ Key verse: Hebrews 13:20-21
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Review of Lessons 1-4

God has spoken to us by His Son

The excellence of Christ v. angels

- He is God
- He became man

The excellence of Christ v. Moses

- He is the builder/founder v. member
- He is the Son v. the servant

Two warnings or applications:

- Pay close attention to Christ
- Believe in Christ (3:7-4:13)

Warning #2

How do we respond to Jesus?

The “rest of God”

Exhortation – “Let us . . .” (13 times)

4:1, 11, 14, 16

6:1

10:22, 23, 24

12:1 (twice), 28

13;13, 15

Lesson outline

1. The promise still stands (4:1)
2. **Let us** fear lest any fail to reach it (4:1-10)
 - The wrath of God
 - The rest of God
3. **Let us** strive to enter that rest (4:11-13)
4. **Let us** hold fast to our confession (4:14-15)
5. **Let us** draw near to the throne of grace with confidence (4:16)

A Rest for the People of God

1. The promise of entering the rest still stands (4:1)
 - ▶ “Rest” – Hebrews 3:11-4:11
 - Entry into the Promised Land (3:9-11)
 - More than the Promised Land
 - ▶ It is an ongoing expectation or hope for the people of God.

2. Let us fear lest any fail to reach it (4:1-10)
 - ▶ What is this rest He has promised?
 - The Promised Land
 - Rest of God
 - ▶ The call to fear

3. Let us strive to enter (4:11-13)
 - ▶ Strive or labor to enter.
 - Hard work
 - Faith
 - ▶ The Word of God is quick and powerful.
 - The Bible
 - The Son of God

A Rest for the People of God

4. Let us hold fast to our confession (4:14-15)
 - ▶ Jesus our Great High Priest
 - ▶ Tempted like we are

5. Let us boldly draw near to the throne of grace (4:16)
 - ▶ Jesus our Great High Priest
 - ▶ Mercy and grace