

Introduction To Hebrews • Hebrews 1:1-3

Hebrews 13:22 ¶ I appeal to you, brothers, **bear with my word of exhortation**, for I have written to you briefly.

- Author unknown.
- Recipients not specifically identified, but most likely, they are followers of Christ who came from a Jewish background.
- 29 Old Testament quotes from 10 books, with many more references.
- Strong reasons to believe it was written prior to 70 AD.

Hebrews is about the supremacy of Jesus Christ in all things. It's major purpose is to remind, encourage and warn followers of Christ to continually rely on the finished work of Christ.

What epitomizes wickedness?

If the most God glorifying thing ever accomplished was the cross then the most grievous sin, the most wicked thing you can do is to deny Christ the glory of the cross by considering it insufficient.

In my opinion, this is at the heart of Hebrews.

Acts 17:11 Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, **examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.**

What you do (behavior) is not the issue, the issue is why you do (motive) something.

Isaiah 64:6 We have all become like one who is unclean, **and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.** We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

Hebrews 11:6 **And without faith it is impossible to please him**, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

1Corinthians 2:2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Hebrews 1:1 Long ago, at **many times** and in **many ways**, ***God spoke to our fathers by the prophets***,

polume÷rwß *polymeroæs*; adverb; in many portions, i.e. variously as to time and agency (piecemeal): — at sundry times.

polutro/pwß *polytropoæs*; adverb; in many ways, i.e. variously as to method or form: — in divers manners.

Hebrews 1:2 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**.

All of Scripture is about Jesus Christ, He is the storyline.

Luke 24:13 ¶ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,

Luke 24:14 and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

Luke 24:15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.

Luke 24:16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

Luke 24:17 And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad.

Luke 24:18 Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

Luke 24:19 And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

Luke 24:20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.

Luke 24:21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

Luke 24:22 Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning,

Luke 24:23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.

Luke 24:24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

Luke 24:25 And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

Luke 24:26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

John 5:46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.

“The story is God’s story. It describes His work to rescue rebels from their folly, guilt, and ruin. And in His rescue operation, God always takes the initiative... Only God’s revelation could maintain a drama that stretches over thousands of years as though they were days or hours. Only God’s revelation can build a story where the end is anticipated from the beginning, and where the guiding principle is not chance or fate, but promise. Human authors may build fiction around a plot they have devised, but only God can shape history to a real and ultimate purpose. The purpose of God from the beginning centers on His Son.”

Edmund P. Clowney

Its about Him...

"Jesus is the true and better Adam who passed the test in the garden and whose obedience is imputed to us.

Jesus is the true and better Abel who, though innocently slain, has blood now that cries out, not for our condemnation, but for acquittal.

Jesus is the true and better Abraham who answered the call of God to leave all the comfortable and familiar and go out into the void not knowing wither he went to create a new people of God.

Jesus is the true and better Isaac who was not just offered up by his father on the mount but was truly sacrificed for us. And when God said to Abraham, “Now I know you love me because you did not withhold your son, your only son whom you love from me,” now we can look at God taking his son up the mountain and sacrificing him and say, “Now we know that you love us because you did not withhold your son, your only son, whom you love from us.”

Jesus is the true and better Jacob who wrestled and took the blow of justice we deserved, so we, like Jacob, only receive the wounds of grace to wake us up and discipline us.

Jesus is the true and better Joseph who, at the right hand of the king, forgives those who betrayed and sold him and uses his new power to save them.

Jesus is the true and better Moses who stands in the gap between the people and the Lord and who mediates a new covenant.

Jesus is the true and better Rock of Moses who, struck with the rod of God's justice, now gives us water in the desert.

Jesus is the true and better Job, the truly innocent sufferer, who then intercedes for and saves his stupid friends.

Jesus is the true and better David whose victory becomes his people's victory, though they never lifted a stone to accomplish it themselves.

Jesus is the true and better Esther who didn't just risk losing an earthly palace but lost the ultimate and heavenly one, who didn't just risk his life, but gave his life to save his people.

Jesus is the true and better Jonah who was cast out into the storm so that we could be brought in.

Jesus is the real Rock of Moses, the real Passover Lamb, innocent, perfect, helpless, slain so the angel of death will pass over us. He's the true temple, the true prophet, the true priest, the true king, the true sacrifice, the true lamb, the true light, the true bread.

The Bible's really not about you — it's about Him."

Tim Keller

Hebrews 1:3 **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,

“ It's an amazing thing to think that an all powerful, all knowing, eternal God Creator would confine himself to the limitations of a human body (John 1:1,14) all for the purpose letting us know Him and then for Him to die for us.”

Kirk Parette

John 14:9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has **seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

Colossians 1:11 May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy,

Colossians 1:12 **giving thanks to the Father**, who has **qualified you** to share in **the inheritance** of the saints in light.

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to **the kingdom of his beloved Son**,

Colossians 1:14 in whom **we have redemption**, the **forgiveness of sins**.

Colossians 1:15 ¶ **He is the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of all creation.

Colossians 1:16 For **by him all things were created**, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—**all things were created through him and for him**.

Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and **in him all things hold together**.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, **that in everything he might be preeminent**.

Colossians 1:19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

Colossians 1:20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, **making peace by the blood of his cross**.