

Hebrews

The Book of
Christ's Superiority

Hebrews: The Book of Christ's Superiority

- I. The Superiority of the Person of Christ
(Hebrews 1:1-4:13)

A. Christ is superior to the PROPHETS.

1. CHRIST created the prophets.

2. Christ is the exact representation of the NATURE of God.

3. He sat down at the RIGHT hand of God.

B. Christ is superior to the ANGELS.

1. He is the SON of God.
2. The angels WORSHIP Him.
3. The angels SERVE Him.

Warning #1: Pay attention to that which you heard and do not drift away from it (Hebrews 2:1).

C. Christ is superior to MOSES.

1. Moses was a SERVANT in God's house.
2. Christ is the SON over God's house.

D. Christ is superior to JOSHUA.

1. Joshua could not lead people to REST.
2. Christ lead them to His REST.

Warning #2: Do not harden your heart and fail to enter His rest (Hebrews 3:7-13).

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II. The Superiority of the Work of Christ (Hebrews 4:14-10:18)

A. Christ's work is superior to the PRIESTS.

1. He was tempted in all things and yet did not SIN.

2. Christ is superior to AARON.

3. Christ's work offers us eternal SALVATION.

Warning #3: Do not become dull of hearing (complacent, lazy, sluggish) and remain a spiritual baby (Hebrews 5:11-14).

B. Christ's work is superior to the Old COVENANT.

1. He is the Mediator of a better COVENANT.

a. It is written on our HEARTS instead of on tablets of stone.

b. Christ's own BLOOD is the basis of the covenant.

C. Christ's work is superior to the SACRIFICE.

1. Christ's sacrifice was ONCE and for all.
2. He was the spotless, UNDEFILED sacrifice.
3. His blood can CLEANSE you from sin.

Warning #4: Do not go on willfully sinning after receiving the knowledge of the truth (Hebrews 10:26-29).

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III. The Superiority of the Walk of the Christ-Follower (Hebrews 10:19-13:25)

A. The Christ-walk is superior in FAITH.

1. The DEFINITION of faith is in Hebrews 11:1.

2. The EXAMPLES of faith are in Hebrews 11:2-40.

B. The Christ-walk is superior in ENDURANCE.

1. Christ ENCOURAGES us to endure.

2. The Lord DISCIPLINES those He loves.

3. MOTIVATION to endure comes from:
 - a. Mount Zion and the heavenly Jerusalem
 - b. The general assembly in heaven
 - c. God, the Judge of all
 - d. Jesus, the Mediator of the New Covenant
- C. The Christ-walk is superior in LOVE.
 1. Love the BRETHREN.

2. Show HOSPITALITY to strangers.
3. Let the marriage bed be UNDEFILED.
4. Give gratitude and THANKSGIVING to God.
5. Be CONTENT with what you have.

Warning #5: Do not refuse Him who is speaking
(Hebrews 12:25).

James

The Book of Live Faith
Through Works

James: The Book of Live Faith Through Works

- I. James Equipped Believers to Handle Inevitable Tests of Faith (James 1:1-18).

A. Tests should be handled with JOY.

B. Tests should produce BLESSINGS:

1. Endurance

2. Maturity

3. Wisdom

4. Reward

C. Tests come from different SOURCES.

James: The Book of Live Faith Through Works

II. James Explained the Traits of Faith (James 1:19-5:6).

- A. Faith LISTENS more than talks.
- B. Faith does more than listen: it OBEYS.
- C. Faith REMEMBERS what it hears and does what should be done.
- D. Faith without EVIDENCE is dead and useless.
- E. Faith CONTROLS its tongue.
- F. Faith demonstrates godly wisdom and avoids the WAYS of the world.
- G. Faith applies God's REMEDY for worldliness.

James: The Book of Live Faith Through Works

III. James Exclaimed Triumphs of Faith (James 5:7-20).

- A. Faith patiently awaits the Lord's imminent RETURN.
- B. Faith will not make unnecessary, flippant OATHS.
- C. Faith will PRAY during suffering *and* celebration.

1 Peter

The Book of
Suffer Steadfastly

1 Peter: The Book of Suffer Steadfastly

I. Background of Peter (1 Peter 1:1-2)

- A. Peter was one of the twelve original DISCIPLES who followed Jesus the Christ.
- B. Peter was formerly a fisherman but became a fisher of MEN.
- C. Peter changed from an enthusiastic, impulsive coward to a solid, Holy Spirit-filled, courageous LEADER of the church.

1 Peter: The Book of Suffer Steadfastly

II. Belief of Christians (1 Peter 1:3-2:10)

A. Peter described the threefold benefit of SALVATION for believers:

1. Salvation provides hope for the FUTURE.
2. Salvation provides strength for the trials in the PRESENT.
3. Salvation was predicted and anticipated by the prophets in the PAST.

B. Peter defined salvation for the believers as PRECIOUS.

C. Peter instructed the believers in the process of SANCTIFICATION in order to:

1. Be HOLY
2. LOVE one another
3. Desire the pure milk of the WORD
4. Offer up SPIRITUAL sacrifices
5. Abstain from fleshly LUSTS

D. Peter's purpose was HOLINESS.

1 Peter: The Book of Suffer Steadfastly

III. Behavior of Christians (1 Peter 2:11-3:12)

- A. Peter ordered submission to the GOVERNMENT.
- B. Peter encouraged submission in MARRIAGE in order to:
 1. Win unbelieving husbands over without a WORD
 2. Reveal the unfading beauty of INNER self
 3. Have a gentle and quiet SPIRIT

C. Peter expected submission in all areas of LIFE.

D. Peter's purpose was HARMONY.

1 Peter: The Book of Suffer Steadfastly

IV. Buffeting of Christians (1 Peter 3:13-5:14)

- A. Peter challenged the believers' CONDUCT in suffering to be good.
- B. Peter reminded the believers of CHRIST'S example of suffering.
- C. Peter exhorted the believers with COMMANDS in suffering.

D. Peter insisted the believers continue to MINISTER in suffering by:

1. SHEPHERDING the flock
2. HUMBLING themselves

E. Peter's purpose was HUMILITY.

2 Peter

The Book of
Identify False Teachers

2 Peter: The Book of Identify False Teachers

- I. Cultivation of Christian Character: True Behavior (2 Peter 1)

A. God has given us everything we need for life and GODLINESS.

1. God has given us true KNOWLEDGE of God.

2. God has given us the precious PROMISES of God.

3. God has made us partakers of the divine NATURE of God.

B. We are to diligently apply these DIVINE characteristics to our lives:

1. Moral excellence – living according to God's standard
2. Knowledge – spiritual knowing; discernment of God's will
3. Self-control – strength to handle the pleasures of life (to face good times)

4. Perseverance – strength to handle the pains of life (to endure bad times)
5. Godliness – Godlikeness; holiness; being right with God and man
6. Brotherly kindness (*phileo*) – brotherly love and affection
7. Love (agape) – unconditional love without cause; seeking the welfare of others, not our own

C. We can trust the prophetic WORD in Scripture.

1. Peter was an EYEWITNESS to Jesus' majesty and heard the Father speak.
2. Prophecy did not come from human will but from men moved by God's SPIRIT.

2 Peter: The Book of Identify False Teachers

II. Condemnation of False Teachers: False Behavior and False Beliefs (2 Peter 2)

- A. False teachers DENY the Master who brought them (no knowledge).
- B. False teachers are SENSUOUS, which give the way of truth a bad name (no self-control).
- C. False teachers are GREEDY and will exploit people with false words (no love).
- D. False teachers indulge in the FLESH (no moral excellence).

- E. False teachers despise AUTHORITY (no godliness).
- F. False teachers ENTICE unstable or new believers (no brotherly kindness).
- G. False teachers KNOW the way of righteousness but turn from it (no perseverance).

2 Peter: The Book of Identify False Teachers

III. Counteraction of Mockers: True Belief (2 Peter 3)

A. In order to counter the false, remember the TRUTH spoken by the holy prophets and apostles.

1. Mockers deny Jesus is COMING. The Word says He is.
2. Mockers deny God will JUDGE. The Word says He will.
3. Mockers deny God keeps His PROMISES. The Word says He does.

B. Because Jesus is coming, how should we live?

1. Live GODLY to hasten Jesus' coming.
2. Live GUARDED so error doesn't cause you to fall.
3. Live GROWING in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.
4. Live GLORIFYING our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

1 John

The Book of
Fellowship with God

1 John: The Book of Fellowship with God

- I. Introduction to 1 John (1 John 1:1-4)
- II. Walking in God's Light (1 John 1:5-2:29)

- A. We will CONFESS our sins.
- B. We will OBEY God's commandments.
- C. We will LOVE one another.
- D. We will not love the WORLD.
 - 1. Lust of the FLESH
 - 2. Lust of the EYES
 - 3. Pride of LIFE
- E. We will avoid FALSE teachers.

1 John: The Book of Fellowship with God

III. Walking in God's Love (1 John 3-4)

A. He has made us His CHILDREN.

1. Satan's children are obvious.

a. They practice SIN.

b. They do not LOVE others.

B. Christ is our EXAMPLE of love.

1. Love is SACRIFICIAL.

2. Love is ACTION.

- C. There are BENEFITS of being God's children.
1. We have answered PRAYER.
 2. We have the indwelling of the HOLY SPIRIT.
 3. We have confidence on the Day of JUDGMENT.

1 John: The Book of Fellowship with God

IV. Walking in God's Life (1 John 5)

- A. Through Jesus Christ we have VICTORY over the world.
- B. Through Jesus Christ we have the WITNESS of the Spirit.
- C. Through Jesus Christ we have ETERNAL LIFE.
- D. Through Jesus Christ we know God HEARS our prayers.
- E. Through Jesus Christ we have PROTECTION from Satan.

2 John

The Book of
Shun False Teachers

2 John: The Book of Shun False Teachers

- I. John Commended His Recipients For Walking In the Truth (2 John 1-4).

- A. John's greeting expressed love for those knowing and PRACTICING the truth.
- B. John understood that abiding truth is ETERNAL.
- C. It pleased John to learn that some children were living in OBEDIENCE.

2 John: The Book of Shun False Teachers

II. John Commanded His Recipients To Love
One Another (2 John 5-6).

- A. John's letter was a reminder to live out the COMMANDMENT to love.
- B. John defined love as OBEDIENCE to Christ's commandments.

2 John: The Book of Shun False Teachers

III. John Cautioned His Recipients To Watch Out
For False Teachers (2 John 7-13).

- A. John warned about deceivers who denied Jesus' COMING.
- B. John cautioned his recipients to not lose what has been GAINED.
- C. John stated that Christian teaching must include CHRIST or the teacher is without God.
- D. John commanded that those who come with false teaching must neither be RECEIVED nor GREETED.

- E. John further stated that if a false teacher was offered hospitality, the host would be GUILTY of participating in evil.
- F. John ended with the hope of personally DELIVERING the next message.

3 John

The Book of
Show Hospitality

3 John: The Book of Show Hospitality

I. The Introduction (3 John 1)

- A. The witness of GOD proves the Word is true.
 - 1. It is divinely INSPIRED.
 - 2. It is INERRANT.
- B. The witness of JESUS proves the Word is true.
 - 1. Jesus is called the WORD and the Truth.
 - 2. Jesus quoted SCRIPTURE with authority and confidence.

3 John: The Book of Show Hospitality

II. John Commended Gaius (3 John 2-8)

- A. John used the GODLINESS of Gaius as an example to all.
 1. He had FAITHFULNESS to the truth.
 2. He was WALKING in the truth.
- B. John encouraged the GENEROSITY of Gaius to continue.
 1. Jesus was faithful in DOING GOOD for brothers of truth.
 2. He showed HOSPITALITY while working for the truth.

3 John: The Book of Show Hospitality

III. John Condemned Diotrephes (3 John 9-12)

A. John confronted the PRIDE of Diotrephes.

1. He loved to be FIRST.

2. He was GOSSIPING about John and the other teachers of truth.

3. He refused HOSPITALITY to the brothers of truth.

4. He put those faithful to the truth OUT OF the church.

B. John had PRAISE for Demetrius.

1. He was in need of HOSPITALITY.

2. He was spoken WELL OF by everyone.

3 John: The Book of Show Hospitality

IV. The Benediction (3 John 13-15)

Jude

The Book of
Contend for the Faith

Jude: The Book of Contend for the Faith

- I. Warning About False Teachers: Danger For
The Believers (Jude 1-4)

A. False teachers had crept into the church unnoticed.

1. They rejected the Ruler by refusing to submit to God's AUTHORITY.
2. They lived licentiously by practicing IMMORALITY without shame.
3. They denied the Deity by denying with their words and lifestyle that Jesus is GOD.

Jude: The Book of Contend for the Faith

II. Description Of False Teachers (Jude 5-16)

- A. Jude gave three Old Testament descriptions of apostasy and God's judgment.
1. ISRAEL rejected the Ruler by not believing God and refusing to enter the Promised Land. All died except Joshua and Caleb.
 2. ANGELS denied the Deity. Those who rebelled were bound for the Day of Judgment.

3. SODOM and Gomorrah lived licentiously.
All were destroyed.

Lesson #1: God always judges rebellion.
Judgment is coming!

- B. God created angels as spirit beings to WORSHIP God and MINISTER to men.
1. Gabriel delivered MESSAGES to men.
 2. Michael fought BATTLES for men.
 3. Satan (serpent, Devil) rebelled and desires to DECEIVE men.

4. God gave two weapons to fight Satan: the WORD of God and the NAME of God.

Lesson #2: Satan must be fought with God's authority, not our own.

- C. Jude gave three examples of the motives of apostates and the consequences.
1. The way of Cain – SELF-righteous religion of trusting own works. Cain departed from the presence of the Lord.
 2. The error of Balaam – GREED or religion for material gain. Balaam was killed by the sword.

3. The rebellion of Korah – RESISTING the authority God has given another. Korah perished.

D. False teachers are dangerous, useless, fruitless, and doomed for DESTRUCTION.

Jude: The Book of Contend for the Faith

III. Defense Against False Teachers: Duty Of The Believers (Jude 17-23)

- A. Contend for the faith by REMEMBERING the Word's warning about false teachers.
- B. Build yourself up in the faith by PRAYING in the Holy Spirit.
- C. Keep yourself in God's love by OBEYING (see John 15:10).

Jude: The Book of Contend for the Faith

IV. Victory Over False Teachers (Jude 24-25)

A. Only Jesus is able to keep you from STUMBLING.

B. Jesus is GOD our Savior with glory, majesty, and authority.

Lesson #3: Jesus, who keeps the apostate for judgment, keeps us from falling.

Revelation

The Book of
God's Final Victory

Revelation: The Book of God's Final Victory

I. The Introduction

A. Revelation can be interpreted in FOUR ways.

1. The PRETERIST interpretation views the prophecies as having been fulfilled during the time John lived.
2. The HISTORICAL interpretation sees the book as a panorama of church history from John's time until the end times.

3. The IDEALIST interprets the book as principles of conflict between good and evil, not actual events.
4. The FUTURIST interprets the prophecies plainly as yet to be fulfilled.

- B. The visions were given to the apostle JOHN.
1. He was exiled to PATMOS probably around AD 95-96 during Domitian's reign as emperor of Rome.
 2. Revelation is the only Testament book of PROPHECY.
 3. It is the only book that promises a BLESSING on those who read it (Revelation 1:3).

Revelation: The Book of God's Final Victory

II. John's Vision Of Christ: "The Things Which You Have Seen" (Revelation 1)

A. Christ's appearance in His GLORIFIED body is described.

1. He is clothed in a robe with a GOLDEN belt.
2. His hair is WHITE as wool.
3. His eyes are like a FLAME of fire.
4. His feet are like burnished BRONZE.
5. His voice is like the sound of MANY waters.

6. His face is like the SUN shining in its strength.
 7. From His mouth comes a sharp two-edged SWORD.
- B. Seven LAMPSTANDS represent the seven churches.
- C. The seven STARS in His hand represent the seven angels of the churches.

Revelation: The Book of God's Final Victory

III. John's Recording Of Christ's Messages To The
Seven Churches: "The Things Which Are"
(Revelation 2-3)

- A. Ephesus: You have left your first LOVE.
- B. Smyrna: You are poor, but you are RICH.
- C. Pergamum: You hold to the teachings of BALAAM.
- D. Thyatira: You tolerate evil TEACHERS.
- E. Sardis: You have a name that you are alive, but you are DEAD.

F. Philadelphia: You have kept the WORD and have not denied Christ's name.

G. Laodicea: You are neither hot nor cold. I will SPIT you out of My mouth.

Revelation: The Book of God's Final Victory

IV. John's Vision Of The Future: "The Things Which Will Take Place" (Revelation 4-22)

- A. The scene in HEAVEN is described.
- B. The Lamb is COMMISSIONED.
- C. The seven SEALS are opened.
 1. Seal One: There will be CONQUEST.
 2. Seal Two: There will be WAR.
 3. Seal Three: There will be FAMINE.
 4. Seal Four: One-fourth of the earth will DIE.

5. Seal Five: There will be a cry from the MARTYRS.

6. Seal Six: There will be a COSMIC upheaval.

Interlude: 144,000 JEWISH bond-servants will be sealed.

7. Seal Seven: There will be SILENCE in heaven, and then the seven trumpets prepare to sound.

D. The seven TRUMPETS are sounded.

1. Trumpet One: One-third of the EARTH is burned up.
2. Trumpet Two: One-third of the SEA becomes blood.
3. Trumpet Three: One-third of fresh RIVERS become poisonous.
4. Trumpet Four: One-third of HEAVENLY bodies are darkened.

5. Trumpet Five: LOCUSTS are sent to torment men.
6. Trumpet Six: One-third of mankind is KILLED.

Interlude: John eats a SCROLL; the two witnesses are killed in Jerusalem.

7. Trumpet Seven: The kingdom of God on earth is PROCLAIMED.

- E. The seven BOWL judgments are poured out.
1. Bowl One; Malignant SORES are upon those who worship the beast.
 2. Bowl Two: The sea becomes BLOOD, and everything in it dies.
 3. Bowl Three: All RIVERS and springs become blood.
 4. Bowl Four: The sun SCORCHES men.

5. Bowl Five: All becomes DARK.
6. Bowl Six: The Euphrates DRIES up; nations gather for war.
7. Bowl Seven: It is DONE; the wrath of God is complete.

F. The second coming of Christ is described.

1. Christ's coming is ANNOUNCED.

2. Christ comes with His ARMIES.

3. Christ is VICTORIOUS.

G. The millennial KINGDOM is established on earth for one thousand years.

H. The NEW Jerusalem is described as coming down from heaven, the eternal home for those whose names are written in the Book of Life.