

A People of the Book
8-Year Curriculum
Year 2, Quarter 3

A Study of
Selected Texts from
The Epistle
To The
Hebrews

Allen Moffat

Introduction

This epistle shows Christ as the end, foundation, body, and truth of the figures of the law, which of themselves were no virtue for the soul. The great truth set forth in this epistle is that Jesus of Nazareth is the true God. The unconverted Jews used many arguments to draw their converted brethren from the Christian faith. They represented the Law of Moses as superior to the Christian dispensation, and spoke against everything connected with the Savior. The apostle, therefore, shows the superiority of Jesus of Nazareth, as the Son of God, and the benefits from his sufferings and death as the sacrifice for sin, so that the Christian religion is much more excellent and perfect than that of Moses. And the principal design seems to be, to bring the converted Hebrews forward in the knowledge of the gospel, and thus to establish them in the Christian faith, and to prevent their turning from it, against which they are earnestly warned. But while it contains many things suitable to the Hebrews of early times, it also contains many which can never cease to interest the church of God; for the knowledge of Jesus Christ is the very marrow and kernel of all the Scriptures. The ceremonial law is full of Christ, and the entire gospel is full of Christ; the blessed lines of both Testaments meet in Him; and how they both agree and sweetly unite in Jesus Christ, is the chief object of the epistle to the Hebrews to discover.

Matthew Henry

Hebrews Chapter 1
Christ is Preferred Above Angels,
Both in Person and in Office

Background Questions.

1. To whom was the Book of Hebrews written?
2. Who wrote the Book of Hebrews?
3. When was the Book of Hebrews written?
4. By whom has God spoken to us?
5. “So he became as much superior to the _____ as the _____ he has inherited is superior to theirs.

Thought Question.

1. Why does the author quote Psalm 2:7, which says, “Today I have become your father”? Do you see significance in “today” and “become”?
2. What does, “let all God’s angels worship him,” indicate? Ref verse 6

3. In verse 8 he refers to, “your throne,” What throne is referred to in the Old Testament prophecies relating to Christ?

4. How do verses 1:11 & 12 give us encouragement?

Hebrews Chapter 2
Exhortation Founded Upon Christ's Superiority and
Further Teachings in Regard to Angels, Satan, and
Christ as High Priest

Review of the Reading.

1. Why should we pay careful attention to what we have heard?
2. How has God testified to the great salvation?
3. Why is Jesus now crowned with glory and honor?
4. How was Jesus made perfect?
5. Who held the power of death and how was he destroyed?

Thought Questions.

1. Why, at present, do we not see every thing subject to Jesus (2:8)

2. How can the Son of God – God with us – be considered our brother?

3. Why would the fear of death be considered slavery?

4. How is Jesus different from the other High Priests?

*Hebrews Chapter 3
Christ Greater than Moses, Both Christ and Moses
Faithful, Christ to Receive Greater Glory, Exhortation
Against Apostasy,
Warning from Fate of Israel*

Review of the reading.

1. We are to fix our thoughts on Jesus who is our _____
and _____ whom we confess.
2. Who is the builder of everything?
3. We have come to share in Christ if we do what?
4. With whom was God angry for forty years?

Thought Questions.

1. How can the writer refer to his readers as “Holy brethren “
and “Partakers of a heavenly calling”?

2. Why is Jesus found worthy of a greater honor than Moses?

3. How do we hear God's voice?

4. In 3:13 we are told to encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today. What does "Called today" mean?

5. Why was God angry with Israel (ref 3:16-19).

Hebrews Chapter 4
Exhortation Continued, the Christian's Rest Attained by
Faith, Power of God's Word, and Boldness at the Throne
of Grace

Review of the chapter.

1. What must the Gospel be combined with?
2. When did God rest from his work?
3. If we hear God's voice we should not_____.
4. "The Word of God is _____ and _____." (Ref verse 12.)
5. What does the Word of God judge?

Thought questions.

1. In what way did Israel have the Gospel preached to them?

Hebrews Chapter 5
Authority and Honor of Christ's Priesthood, Compassion
with Melchizedek, Salvation to Them That Obey,
Reproof of Negligence

Review of the reading.

1. Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God. What do they offer?

2. Why is a priest able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and going astray?

3. What two Old Testament verses are quoted in 5:5,6 with reference to Christ becoming a high priest?

4. How did Jesus learn obedience?

Thought questions.

1. Why does the scripture say "Today I have become your father?"

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Hebrews Chapter 6
Foundation Principles, Pressing on unto Perfection,
Exhortations to Faith and Patience,
the Hope that is set Before us

Review of the Reading

1. What five things did the writer say a believer might experience before falling away? (Ref. Verse 4-5)
2. Why could they not be brought back?
3. What two things will enable us to inherit what has been promised?
4. What order is Christ a priest under?
5. What is hope to our souls?

Thought Questions.

1. Why should we leave the elementary teachings about Christ?
What does leave mean?

2. Why is it impossible to bring people back to repentance if they fall away?

3. Why should we pay diligence to the very end? How does this relate to saving grace?

4. Why is it significant for us to enter the inner chamber?

*Hebrews Chapter 7**Christ the Antitype of Melchizedek, Jesus' Priesthood Superior to that of the Levities, Description of Jesus the Perfect High Priest***Review of the reading.**

1. Who was Melchizedek?
2. What was Abraham's involvement with Melchizedek?
3. In what sense did Levi pay a tenth to Melchizedek?
4. Jesus became a high priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of what?
5. Why does Jesus have a permanent priesthood?

Thought questions.

1. What is the significance of Abraham giving a tenth of everything to Melchizedek?

2. Why is the priesthood of Christ so much better for us?

3. Is it proper to have priests in Christ's church?

4. Who is Melchizedek and where did he come from?
Read 7:1-3 and refer to commentaries.

*Hebrews Chapter 8
The Enthroned High Priest on High,
Ministering the Heavenly Sanctuary,
According to the Pattern, First Covenant Imperfect,
Jeremiah's Prophecy of the New Covenant*

Review of the reading.

1. Where is our High Priest seated and where does he serve?
2. How is the earthly sanctuary compared to what is in heaven?
3. How did the Israelites know how to build the tabernacle?
4. Why did God declare that he would make a new covenant?
5. Where are God's laws found under the new covenant?

Thought questions.

1. What is the significance of Jesus being our High Priest at the right hand of God?

2. Why did God instruct Moses to build a sanctuary that was a copy and shadow of what was in Heaven?

3. Why was it important to convince the Jewish Christians that Jesus' Priesthood was much superior to the old one?

4. What was wrong with the first covenant?

Hebrews Chapter 9

Description of the Rites and Sacrifices of the Law, Their Inferiority to the Dignity and Perfection of Christ and his Blood and Sacrifices.

Review of the reading.

1. What did the first covenant have?
2. What two rooms were in the tabernacle?
3. Who entered into the first room? How often did he enter and what did he take with him?
4. What permitted Christ to enter the more perfect tabernacle?
5. Christ appeared once at the end of the age to do what?

Thought Questions.

1. How was the Holy Spirit showing that the way into the Most Holy Place had not been disclosed?

Hebrews Chapter 10
Recapitulation or Previous Argument and Restatement
in Stronger Terms, Sanctified by the Body of Christ
Once for All, the Fourth Exhortation.

Review of the Reading.

1. What could the law not do?
2. What was the purpose of the annual sacrifices?
3. What was the result of the sacrifice of the body of Christ?
4. What are we called to do and what is to be our condition according to 10:22?
5. What is the result of deliberate sin after we have received the knowledge of the truth?

Thought Questions.

1. Why did the Hebrew writer point out that the sacrifices were only an annual reminder of sins?

2. How are Christians made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Christ?
3. What is the significance of “Having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience”? Is our conscience important to us as Christians?
4. What does the message of verses 26-31 compare with verses 32-39?

Hebrews Chapter 11
Discussion of Faith, Citations of Old Testament
Exemplars of Faith, Not made Perfect Apart from Us

Review of the Reading.

1. How was the universe formed?
2. Who was “Taken from this life” and what was said of him before he was taken?
3. What was Abraham looking forward to when was called by God?
4. When Moses had grown up he refused to be known as the _____ of _____. By faith he left Egypt and persevered because he saw _____.
5. “Others were tortured and refused to be released so they might gain a _____”.

Thought Questions.

1. Why is it important to believe that universe was formed at God’s command and that what is seen was not made out of what was visible?

2. Why is everything in this chapter referenced to faith? What is Faith and why is it impossible to please God without it?
3. Why does the writer say Abraham was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God? Ref. verse 10 & 16, and Rev. 21:2
4. Verse 26 says “ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt.” How did Moses know Christ?

Hebrews Chapter 12
Christ's Expectation of Better Service from Us.

Review of the reading.

1. What are we to throw off and how are we to run the race?
2. How are we to endure hardships?
3. What does discipline produce?
4. Why should we make every effort to live at peace with all men and be holy?
5. Since we are receiving a kingdom that can not be shaken let us _____. Why should we do this?

Thought questions.

1. What does the writer mean when he says “In our struggle against sin we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our blood?”

Hebrews Chapter 13
Various Exhortations, Love of the Brethren,
Honor in Marriage, Honor of Elders and Ministers,
Stability in Doctrine, Giving of Alms.

Review of the Reading.

1. How are Christians to relate to those who are in prison and those who are mistreated?
2. Jesus Christ is the same _____ and _____ and _____.
3. What should our hearts be strengthened by?
4. Why did Jesus suffer outside the city gate?
5. Why should we obey our leaders?

Thought Questions.

1. How do you think we may entertain angels?

2. Why do we have a problem being content with that we have?
Why are we inclined to love money?

3. How can we go to Jesus outside the camp and bear the
disgrace that he bore?

4. How does God equip us with everything good for doing his
will and how does he work in us what is pleasing to him?

A People of the Book 8-Year Curriculum

	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2007	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Genesis</i>	<i>Galatians & Ephesians</i>	<i>Isaiah</i>
2008	<i>Exodus</i>	<i>I & II Timothy, Titus</i>	<i>Hebrews</i>	Minor Prophets I (Hosea-Obadiah)
2009	Mark	Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy	Romans	Jeremiah & Lamentations
2010	I & II Thessalonians	Joshua, Judges, Ruth	James, I & II Peter	Minor Prophets II (Jonah-Habakkuk)
2011	Luke	Samuel, Kings, Chronicles	I, II, III John & Jude	Daniel
2012	Acts	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther	I Corinthians	Minor Prophets III (Zephaniah-Malachi)
2013	John	Job	II Corinthians	Psalms
2014	Philippians, Colossians & Philemon	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon	Revelation	Ezekiel

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