

HEBREWS OVERVIEW

JESSE JOHNSON (9-20-16)

Authorship:

You can call him “The author of Hebrews.” You can also call him “Paul.”

He answers to both.

- Church History
 - Tetrullian was first to challenge
- NO reason to reject church history
 - Liberal skepticism
 - The early church had their view, now lets see them prove it.
- Pauline style
 - Intros focus on greatness of Jesus
 - Lesser to the greater (Rom 5, 6, Gal 4)
 - Psalm 2, 110 (Rom 1, 8, 1 Cor 15, Eph 1, Col 3)
 - A’B’A
 - Unique words
 - “Bearing Testimony”
 - “Flesh and blood”
 - Abraham’s Seed
 - Christian life as a race
 - Word of God as a sword
 - Christ’s death defeats evil powers
 - Atoning sacrifice
 - Standing Firm
 - Hold fast your confidence
 - Moses to Messiah
 - Serving vs. Sonship
 - Most Pauline of all of Paul’s works
- Paul’s testimony:
 - Heb 2:3-4
 - Distances himself from those who heard
- Acts 13:16-21, Paul and Barnabas give a “word of encouragement.”
 - Acts 13:25 vs Hebrews 13:22

OUTLINE:

1-10:18: Doctrine

10:19-end: application (Like Romans, Colossians, Ephesians)

MAIN POINT:

Don't you dare be like that first generation that came out of Egypt (!!).

If the first generation of Jews goes back to the proverbial wilderness of Judaism, it will show that the NC is no better than the Old Covenant.

If judgement begins with the household of God, you better understand what kind of people God takes issue with.

The first generation had an 11 day journey, turned into 38.5 years, 100 funerals a day, while wandering in a circle.

They saw things no one else had ever seen, and yet didn't believe.

Structure:

1. 1:1-3 Absolute final authority of the Revelation of the Messiah
 - a. OT was temporal, NT is complete and final
 - b. Three contrasts:
 - i. Various Methods (dreams, revelations, angels)
 - ii. Various Times (old vs new)
 - iii. Various angels (prophets vs Son)
 - iv. Together: complete vs incomplete.
 - c. Seven ways Jesus is superior:
 - i. Heir
 - ii. Ages
 - iii. Essence (father)
 - iv. Personality (Father's)
 - v. Universe (governs it)
 - vi. Redemption
 - vii. Finished
2. 1:4-2:18 Christ superior to angels
 - a. Seven OT quotes to show Jesus superior to angels
 - i. Not a servant, but a son.
 - ii. Humanity

iii. Tasted Death to free us from death

3. 3:1-6 Christ superior to Moses
 - a. Moses was an interceder, but a sinful one.
 - b. Christ has more worth, more honor

4. 3:7-4:11 Christ gives better rest
 - a. Millennial rest vs. eternal rest
 - b. (3:15) hard heart equals no rest
 - c. 4:7 is the fourth reference to Psalm 95, btw.
 - d. 4:11 Lesser to greater argument
 - e. 4:12—God is equated to his word.

5. 4:14-5:10 Christ a better high priest
 - a. BTW: this is where prayer fits in. Better rest, word of God, taken together means we have power in prayer (end of 4)
 - b. Had to be human (5:2-8)
 - i. Learned obedience
 - c. Had to be God (5:9)

6. 5:11-6:20 is warning passage
 - a. If Abraham has not received his promise yet, should I trust his descendent to save me?

7. 7 His is like Melchizedek
 - a. Which is to say he is superior to Abraham, Levi, and Aaron

8. 8 Better Covenant

9. 9 Better priesthood
 - a. Major/minor premise:
 - i. Major: priests offer sacrifice
 - ii. Minor: The son is a priest
 - iii. Conclusion: Christ must be a sacrifice
 - b. So, there is an actual true temple in heaven. (Tent better than temple; temple marred by sin)
 - c. Better temple, better blood, better sacrifice, better mediator, better priest

10. 10 Better sacrifice

- a. Will vs blood (10:8)
- b. Old covenant vs new (10:16)

11. Warning #2 (10:26-39)

Practical:

1. Draw Near with hearts/conscience/works (10:19-25)
2. Remember positive examples (so far, only negative examples)
3. Embrace holiness and discipline
 - a. God loathed the first generation because they did not fail in trials, they failed in successes. Those in chapter 11 succeeded in trials.
4. Don't grumble
5. Serve and fear
6. Brotherly love, hospitality, persecuted, marriage, flee money.
7. Remember leaders, guard doctrine, praise Jesus, do good, share
8. Obey and pray (for leaders)

WARNING PASSAGES:

They are parenthetical—could be deleted without affecting the flow of the sermon.