

WEEK 19

Hebrews chap. 1-6 discussion and chap. 7-13 background

Hebrews chap. 1-6 discussion

Theme

Ryrie: apologetic for the superiority of Christ and Christianity over Judaism in terms of priesthood and sacrifice.

Haley: preparing Jews for the fall of Jerusalem, explaining that animal sacrifices were no longer of any use, and weren't intended to be perpetual; they were a picture of the coming Christ's sacrifice, and now that Christ had come, they had served their purpose.

Christ is the fulfillment, rather than administrator of the Mosaic system.

Encountering the NT: the greatness of Christ compared to prophets, angels, Moses, and Aaron; and for readers to reaffirm their Christian faith and stand their ground.

It attacks the false conception that God could be appeased by observance of religious rituals, instead of being saved by faith in God's promises

Bible discussion questions

What did you think was the theme of Hebrews 1-6 ?

What picture do you have of the church/believers after reading Hebrews 1-6 ?

How is that the same/ different from our experience today?

Which passages encouraged you? Which passages challenged you?

Book begins with message that Christ is greater than whom? prophets and angels

How did God use the prophets and how does He describe the Son in 1:1-3?

What did you learn about angels? Chap. 1-2

Inferior to Christ, meant to worship Christ, they are "winds" and "flames of fire", they are ministering spirits sent to serve the believers, will not be in charge of the world to come, they are a little higher in "rank" (temporarily) than men (a level which

Jesus took on as a man), Jesus wasn't sent to help angels

How is Jesus superior to the angels? Son vs. servant, meant to receive their worship,
a king on a throne, created the world, sits at God's right hand (where no angel has the right
to be), his message was greater than theirs, all things are subject to him, crowned with
glory and honor

Why is Jesus called our brother? became a man, suffers as we do, made like us in every
way except sin

How does His being human help us? His death destroyed our death, understands our weaknesses
and so can help us when we are tempted

What does this mean for us, practically? What can we do when we're tempted?

3:1 fix your thoughts on Jesus

Ch 3--Why is Jesus worthy of greater honor than Moses? He is the son of the builder and owner
of the house and Moses was the servant. 3:1-6

What is the danger we are warned about in 3:7-15?

Hardening our hearts against God and his voice

How can we help each other avoid that danger? v. 13 encourage one another daily
as long as it's "today"—it's always "today"!

Why couldn't Israel enter the rest of God? 3:18-19

What do you think he is talking about when he refers to the Sabbath rest of the
people of God? 4:9-11

What is encouraging and what is sobering about 4:12-13?

4:15-16 must have been such an astonishing concept—to approach God's throne with

CONFIDENCE?! The Israelites were afraid to even hear His voice, for fear of dying.

But here is the incredible promise of mercy and grace from God!

So again, what does this mean for us practically when we are tempted?

Can you see any ways in 5:1-6 that Christ is superior to the high priests?

What can we learn about prayer in 5:7?

Why does 5:7-10 say is one reason that Christ suffered?

What is the trap he warns us not to fall into in 5:12- 6:3? not maturing in Christ, not moving forward
in our Christian lives, not growing

What, according to 6:10, is one way we can show our love to God? By helping his people

How reliable is God's promise to us? 6:12-18

What is the anchor that holds our soul? 6:19-20

"You have a grip on God"—the hope that what He has promised, He will do

Why do we need an anchor? look back at 2:1

Hebrews 7-13 background

Who wrote it? we're going with Paul

About the epistle

Written before the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD; one of the objects of the letter may
have been to prepare them for it.

Many Jews, even believing ones, were still very zealous for the Temple rites and sacrifices,
thinking that when Messiah returned, Jerusalem would become capital of the world.

Many Jewish Christians still thought of Moses as the Law-giver and Christ as the second in
Command , to enforce the law of Moses on other nations; Moses first, Christ under him.

About the church

Written to believers of Jewish background, very familiar with the Old Testament
probably living in either Palestine or Italy

Some were in danger of abandoning the faith and reverting to Judaism because they were
being persecuted

Some still held to a political idea of a Messianic kingdom, with Jews ruling the world.

Their faith was like a political slogan.

Difficult passages

10:26 this is talking about a lifestyle of sin