



Hebrews (Bible #58), ESV

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Hebrews was written to tell us to persevere, to keep going, to focus on our great high priest, and to run with patience the race set before us.

These Hebrews had confessed Jesus Christ as Savior and been faithful in the past, but now they faced a whole new wave of persecution.

The writer of Hebrews exhorted them to remain strong in Him who is greater than anything or anyone in the Old Testament. Jesus is truly our great High Priest, who instituted a new and better covenant and who ever lives to make intercession for His people. Words such as better, more, great, and greater appear about forty-five times in this book, making Hebrews a book of superlatives about Jesus, who is superior to all the angels, prophets, writers, systems and sacrifices of Old Testament days.

Hebrews tells us to hold firm to our faith, keeping our eyes on our Great High Priest, and to persevere, never giving up. With Jesus Christ on our side, it's always too soon to quit.

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From Reader Review Hebrews (Bible #58), ESV for online ebook

Andy Zach says

Jesus is the exact image of His Father. He's greater than Moses. He's greater than the Levitical priesthood. He's like Melchizedek, the priest of Jerusalem, to Whom Abraham tithed.

With a change in the priesthood, there is also a change in the law. All the elements of the tabernacle were sanctified by the blood of bulls and goats. But the high priesthood of Jesus is far greater. He does not have to be purified annually. Also, His purification of our sins is far greater, for He paid for our sins with His own blood, once for all.

His blood begins the new covenant based upon far better promises than the old covenant. Let us work and labor to enter into the rest it promises by faith. Let us not grow weary fellowshiping with our fellow Christians but press on in faith, like the faithful of the Old Testament. Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Joshua, all lived by faith, but never obtained the promise of the city of God.

God planned to delay their reward for us, so we all may receive the reward together. Do not give up your faith in Christ and the new covenant, for just as the promises are greater, so the punishment is greater as well, for unbelief.

Thus ends my quick, informal summary of the book of Hebrews. Read it for yourself. It contains more than you can imagine.

Paul Fadoju says

This is a very bad trick that Ms Armstrong has played on her readers. The book started with a brief history of the early century Jews and how their situation reflects what is happening in our modern day. A rethinking of our sacred symbols and how they are not having the same impact and value on our conscience anymore. And afterwards gave us the whole letter to the Hebrews. (Not fair at all)

Whitney says

Amazing. Love this beautiful book so much!

Cat Juggler says

Hebrews was written to tell us to persevere, to keep going, to focus on our great high priest, and to run with patience the race set before us.

These Hebrews had confessed Jesus Christ as Savior and been faithful in the past, but now they faced a whole new wave of persecution.

The writer of Hebrews exhorted them to remain strong in Him who is greater than anything or anyone in the

Old Testament. Jesus is truly our great High Priest, who instituted a new and better covenant and who ever lives to make intercession for His people. Words such as better, more, great, and greater appear about forty-five times in this book, making Hebrews a book of superlatives about Jesus, who is superior to all the angels, prophets, writers, systems and sacrifices of Old Testament days.

Hebrews tells us to hold firm to our faith, keeping our eyes on our Great High Priest, and to persevere, never giving up. With Jesus Christ on our side, it's always too soon to quit. So much easier to understand when read in the Amplified version.

Captmashpea says

It very interesting read. I was able to read it all this evening. ESV was not the version that I read but I just wanted to add Hebrew to my currently reading list instead of the entire Bible.

Most of the verses that are famous and popular are at the end of the book, the middle is really random and I was not familiar with it at all. I'm really confused about the character and the personage of Melchizedek. He was said to be immortal and "like" God and he had a priesthood that was separate from the Levites, the order of Melchizedek. I am definitely looking up more information about him. I'm really happy I read Hebrews tonight. It was really interesting and it's going to definitely lead to some research.

I also love LibriVox! Someone has narrated the entire Bible and he's done a great job so I was able to listen to it for free.

(Audiobook and eBook when I was rereading about Melchizedek)

Joan Haughton says

The Letter to the Hebrews. The definition of faith: now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen.

Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Bless the name of Jesus!

Joan Haughton says

Hebrews Chapter 12:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;

13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

18 For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest,

19 And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more:

20 (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:

21 And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

BLESS THE NAME OF JESUS!

Fables&Wren says

WrensReads Review:

Sidenote: The reason for such vague and short and "eh" words on each of these books, is because **I wasn't challenging the study of the Bible** when I read these. **I was challenging myself to read the whole Bible in a year because I knew it would be discipline to keep at it daily.** I do, however, plan to pick up a book and study what it is saying. Those will be longer reads and more notes.

So here is my review from my "Read the Bible in a Year" challenge. Usually just snippets of thoughts and random things I liked about the book itself. Nothing in-depth.

So here is my review of Hebrews!

A little more depth came out of this letter. I would say that this is something that I need to read more on and read about other people's studies in order to go into mine more. I feel very mixed feelings. I want to study this one more. Of course, it was a wonderful letter from Paul.

WrensReads | Goodreads | Twitter | Instagram

Courtney says

The reading of God's Word is so remarkable that there is nothing that I can say to make it any better. Please, if you are a lost soul, turn to God! He can heal you and give you the greatest peace that you will ever know!

Shantelle says

I felt *Hebrews* was a little more complex and harder to understand than Paul's other letters/books. However, I got through it's thirteen chapters, and it was very good ultimately. I guess I'll have to read it again sometime . . . and again . . . to try to understand it a little more! :)

Betsy Gant says

But encourage each other daily, while it is still called today, so that none of you is hardened by sin's deception. For we have become companions of the Messiah if we hold firmly until the end the reality that we had at the start.

Hebrews 3:13?-?14

For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart. No creature is hidden from Him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account.

Hebrews 4:12?-?13

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tested in every way as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us at the proper time.

Hebrews 4:15?-?16

For God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you showed for His name when you served the saints — and you continue to serve them. Now we want each of you to demonstrate the same diligence for the final realization of your hope, so that you won't become lazy but will be imitators of those who inherit the promises through faith and perseverance.

Hebrews 6:10?-?12

For when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater to swear by, He swore by Himself: Hebrews 6:13 (How beautiful that God is the most reliable and trustworthy person you could ever turn to. It's His very nature to be trust-- nothing higher to trust and make promises on....) ...Because God wanted to show His unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, He guaranteed it with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us.

Hebrews 6:17?-?18 (We have such confidence and trust-- it is impossible for God to lie and we have no higher power to put our hope and trust in....) We have this hope as an anchor for our lives, safe and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain. Jesus has entered there on our behalf as a forerunner, because He has become a high priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:19?-?20 (You can't get anymore beautiful than this-- Jesus is God's reliability and trust exemplified. What mightier anchor does one need?)

Therefore, He is always able to save those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to intercede for them.

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore, brothers, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way He has opened for us through the curtain (that is, His flesh), and since we have a great high priest

over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us be concerned about one another in order to promote love and good works, not staying away from our worship meetings, as some habitually do, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:19?-25

Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God's throne. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, so that you won't grow weary and lose heart. In struggling against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Hebrews 12:1?-4

Furthermore, we had natural fathers discipline us, and we respected them. Shouldn't we submit even more to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time based on what seemed good to them, but He does it for our benefit, so that we can share His holiness. No discipline seems enjoyable at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it yields the fruit of peace and righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore strengthen your tired hands and weakened knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated but healed instead. Pursue peace with everyone, and holiness — without it no one will see the Lord. Make sure that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no root of bitterness springs up, causing trouble and by it, defiling many.

Hebrews 12:9?-?15

Joan Haughton says

The Letter to the Hebrews. The definition of faith: now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen.

Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Bless the name of Jesus!

Royce Ratterman says

I found this work of immense interest and importance.

The compilation of historical accounts, wisdom & proverbial insights, and thought provoking texts, along with descriptive and informative footnotes, are of great value.

Explanations, including varying scholarly views depicting the material related in this book, are available for each of the 66 individual books of the Bible.

This book is but one of the individual 66 books/letters which were written by forty different authors over at least 1500 years in three different languages on three different continents, which comprise the Bible.

Read for life-related reasons and personal research.

Overall, a great resource for the researcher, enthusiast, and devotee.

Jenn says

Absolutely amazing book! I've read it several times ages ago, but rarely straight through. Read it over December and studied it in church with Pastor Joe Focht, Calvary Chapel Philadelphia. There's so many things I missed before by reading it quickly.

Jim Robles says

p. 2103. By the end of the second century CE Hebrews began to be attributed to Paul. . . . Therein not sufficient evidence to identify any person named in the New Testament as the author; thus it is held to be anonymous.

p. 2103. . . . the work is to be dated somewhere between 60 and 90 CE.

The Letter to the Hebrews was considered non-canonical by a large number of proto-orthodox Christians who did not think it as "apologetic." Not until it was accepted as authored by the apostle Paul (in never claims to be) was it received into the canon. (1)

The author of the Muratorian Canon accepts 22 of the books that came to be included in the New Testament, but does not accept the book of Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, or 3 John. He accepts the Apocalypse of Peter and the Wisdom of Solomon, as part of the canon, and rejects other books, including The Shepherd of Hermas because he believed it was not written in apostolic times. (1)

p. 2103. . . . the literary genre of Hebrews is best describe as an early Christian sermon, rather than a letter.

p. 2108. For it is impossible to restore again to repentance those who have once been enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, since on their own they are crucifying again the son of God and holding him up to contempt.

This would seem to say that having been "confirmed" and than having fallen away, there is no second chance for me.

In Christianity, according to the Epistle to the Hebrews, Jesus Christ is identified as "a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek", and so Jesus assumes the role of High Priest once and for all. Melchizedek is venerated as a saint both in Latin and in Eastern Orthodox tradition.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melchiz...>

p. 2112. . . . how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Christ had to be "without blemish" for his sacrifice to achieve atonement for others. In this Christ was constrained to be perfect. If I have a choice, do I have greater free will than Christ?

p. 2112. . . . without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

p. 2114. For yet "in a very little while, the one who is coming will come and will not delay;

Early Christians, like Jesus and Paul, believed that it would within their lifetimes.

p. 2115. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.

Paul, unlike Marcion, did not have a problem with Jericho.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcion...>

p. 2117. Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing the some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; . . . Keep your lives free from the love of money, . . .

The ninth (albeit again short) book I have finished this year.

1 "The History of the Bible: The Making of the New Testament Canon," by Bart D. Ehrman.
