

The Book of Hebrews

Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary • BibleStudyDownloads.org

Key Word

Superiority

Theme

Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Key Verse

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (12:1-2).

Summary Statement

An unknown author shows Jewish believers the superiority of Christ as High Priest and the superiority of Christianity over Judaism to exhort them to endure persecution rather than return to their former life under Judaism.

Kingdom Statement

The "Sabbath rest for the people of God" (4:9) will be the millennial kingdom where Christ will rule due to His atoning death (2:9-13), and the readers will rule with Him as "partakers" if they remain faithful (3:14).

Covenant

The admonishment to this New Covenant community (ch. 8) not to stop meeting together (10:25) may show that the readers belonged to a sect such as the Essenes.

Redemption

Jesus fulfills the entire tabernacle and temple system, for He is superior to its priestly system in His high priestly work (4:14–10:18).

Prophecy (Lord, Deity)

The temple and sacrificial system would soon be destroyed (8:13), which was fulfilled in AD 70, so five severe warnings (2:1-4; 3:7-4:13; 5:11-6:8; 10:19-39; 12:18-29) admonish readers not to reject the Lord for Judaism.

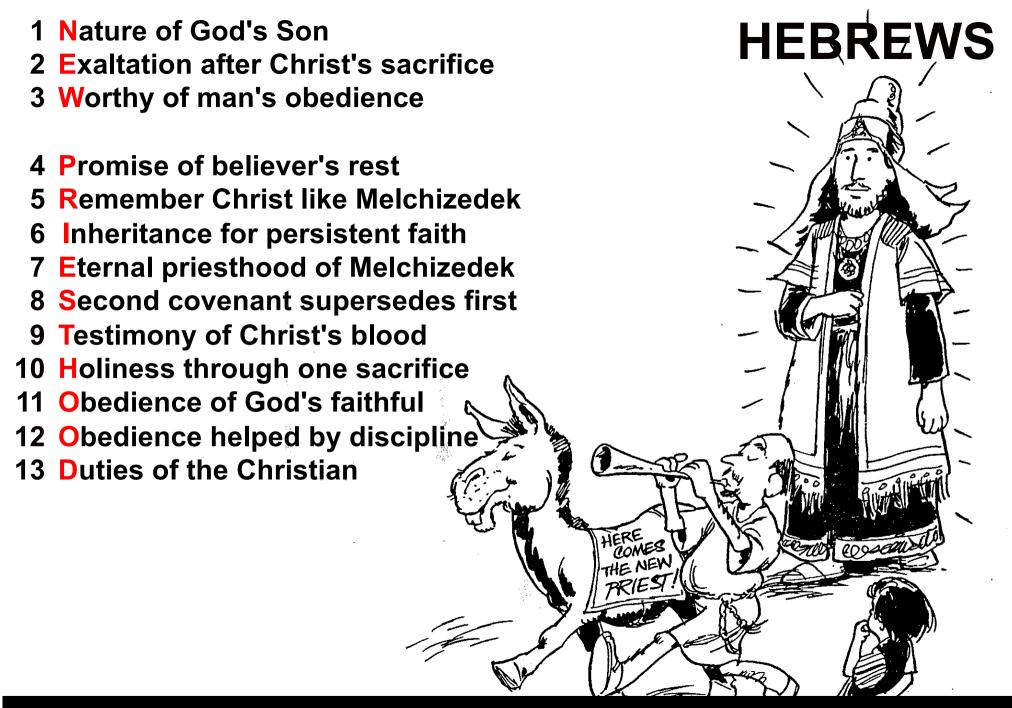
Book Chart

Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Superior in His Person to			Superior in His Priestly Work to					Endurance Through Faith					
1:	4:14–10:18					10:19–13:25							
Prophets	Angels	Moses	Aaron	Melch	Old Cov.	Taber- nacle	Sacri- fices	Will- ful Sin	Models	Endure as Sons	Ethics	Ignoring God	Exhort
1:1-3	1:4– 2:18	3:1– 4:13	4:14– 6:20	7	8	9:1-10	9:11– 10:18	$\overline{}$	11:1– 12:3	12:4-13	12:14-17	12:18-29	13
Christ's Majesty Christ's Ministry							Christian's Manifestation						
Theology								Practice					

Unknown Author, Recipients, Origin, and Destination!

AD 67-68



Barry Huddleston, The Acrostic Bible



Uncompromising

Hebrews

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Some quit the Christian race

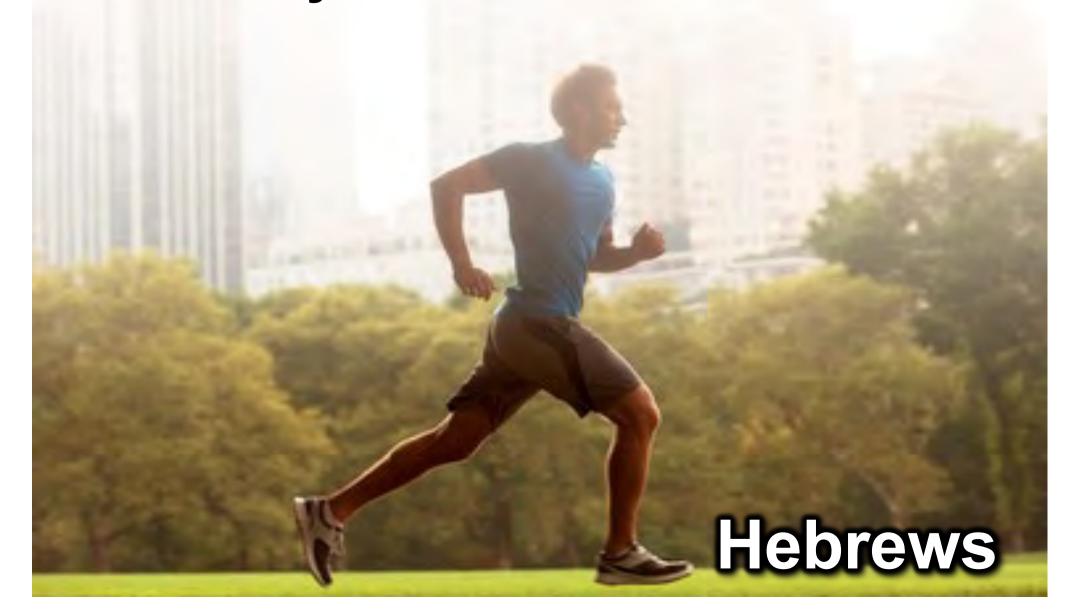


What about you?

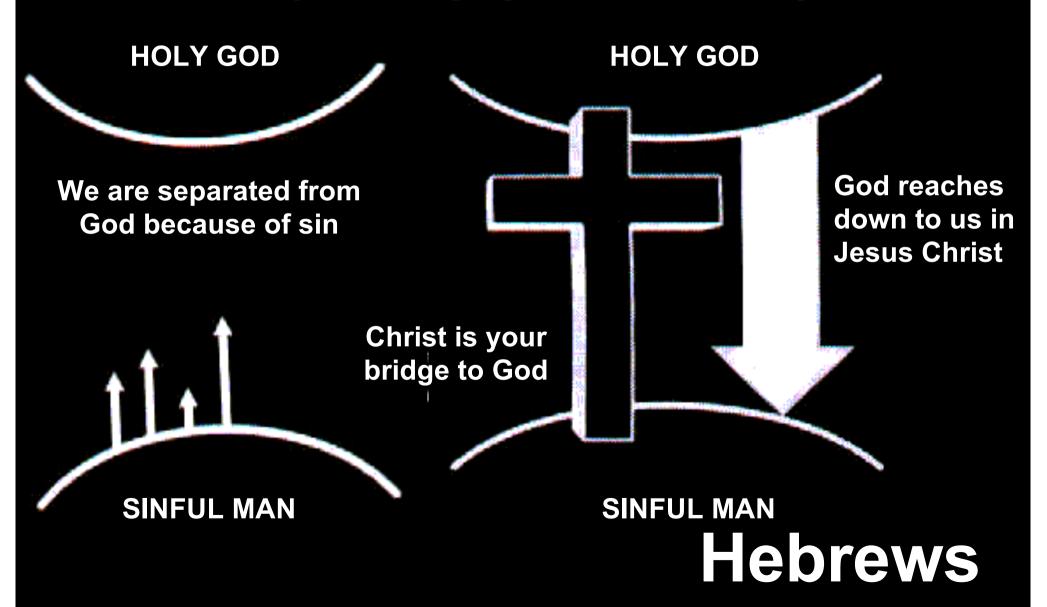
- 1. What was your previous religion?
- 2. What tempts you to go back?

- Atheist?
- Ancestor Worship?
- Buddhist?
- Free thinker?
- Hindu?
- Muslim?
- Taoism?
- Christian?
- Nominal Christian?

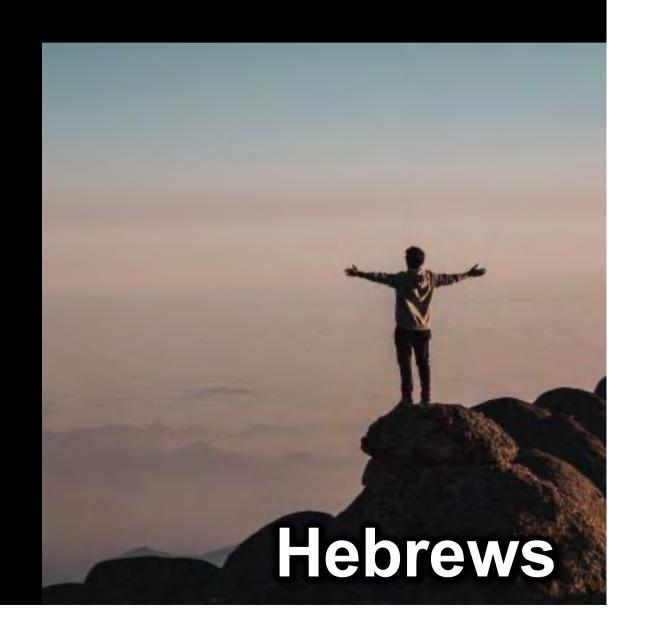
Why should you be uncompromising in your faith in Jesus?



I. Jesus is better than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



II. Don't compromise but persevere by faith (10:19–13:25).



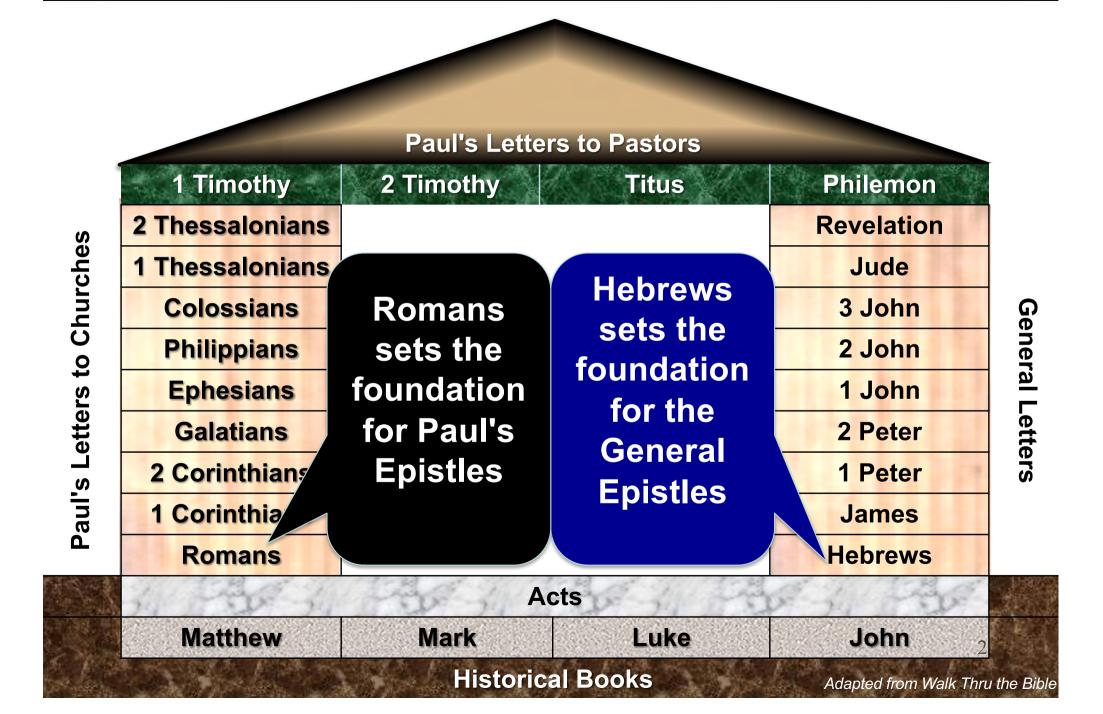
Main Idea







The New Testament "Building"



NT Epistle Contrasts

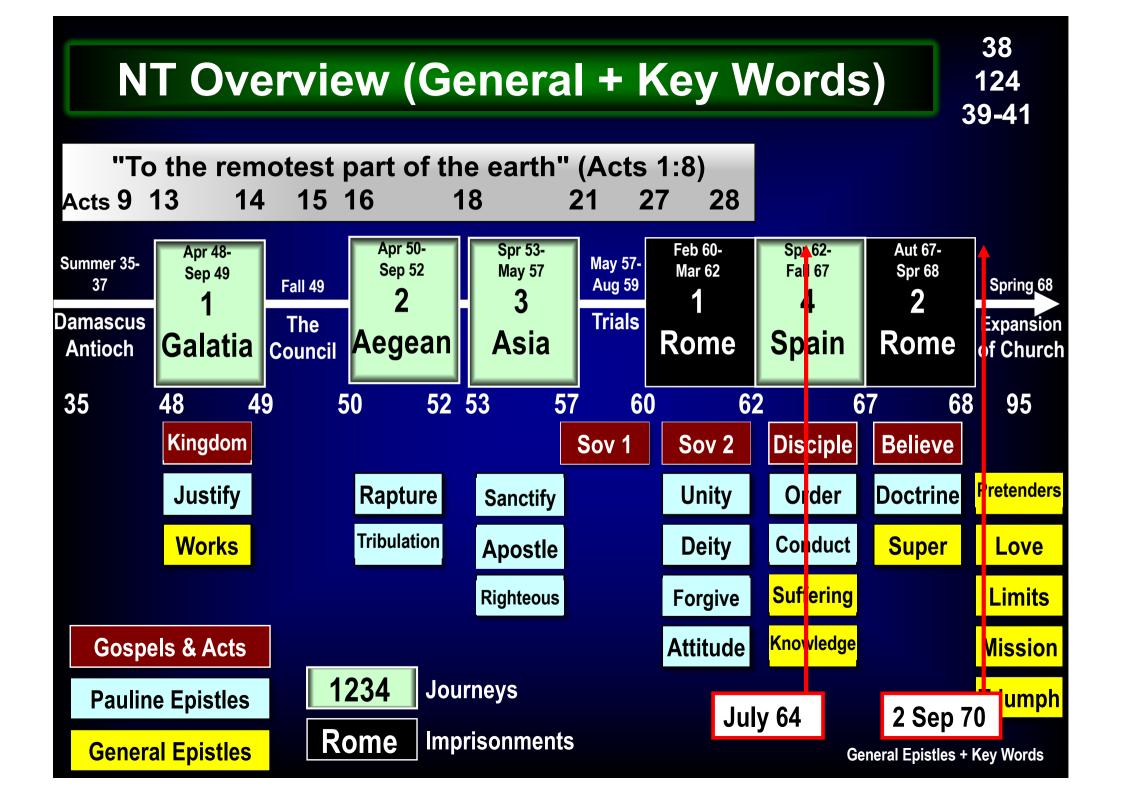
253h 24 38 39-41

	Pauline	General			
Named after	Recipients	Author (except Hebrews)			
Authors	1 (Paul)	5 (anonymous Hebrews, James, Peter, John, Jude)			
Date	Earlier	Later (except James)			
Chronology	Missionary journeys & Acts (except Pastorals)	After missionary journeys & Acts (except James)			
Number	13	9			
Number of Letters in Theological Categories (cf. p. 24)	Soteriology (2) Ecclesiology (5) Eschatology (2) Christology (4)	Soteriology (2) Ecclesiology (0) Eschatology (4) Christology (1) Missiology (2)			

The General Epistles



- Hebrews
- James
- 1 & 2 Peter
- 1, 2, 3 John
- Jude
- (Revelation?)



General Epistles Occasion

- Addressed Christians under stress
- 1st generation leadership passing away
- Temple gone change in Jewish system
- Increasing antagonism between Jewish and Gentile believers (Jewish-Roman War AD 66-73)
- Gentile believers become target for political blame (Jewish Christians suspected they had sided with their enemies)
- Great texts for preaching to encourage people

A Time of Change

1. Leadership changes

 Original leaders passing away—James beheaded, James (brother of Jesus), Peter & Paul killed, John exiled

2. Change from oral to written tradition

Teachings from Jesus & apostles becoming published

3. Expectation of Christ's return

- Some expected Jesus to return at time of Jerusalem's destruction, but nothing happened
- People started to doubt & reinterpret their traditions

4. Reorientation of Jewish system

- Temple gone, so Jews worshipped only in synagogues
- Christians eventually forced out of synagogues

Jeremy Chew, East Asia School of Theology, Singapore

Impact of Changes

1. Churches became more Gentile in membership

- Separation between Jews & Gentiles grew
- Christians were no longer perceived as a sect of Judaism, which was protected, hence became a political target of Rome
- Hence increase in persecution

2. Churches became more Gentile in character

Hebrew thinking was slowly replaced by Greek thinking

Consequently...

- Questions of church identity
- Threats of syncretism
- Threats of persecution

Jeremy Chew, East Asia School of Theology, Singapore

Faith—the issue of the day!

James: Faith that works

1 Peter: Faith in suffering

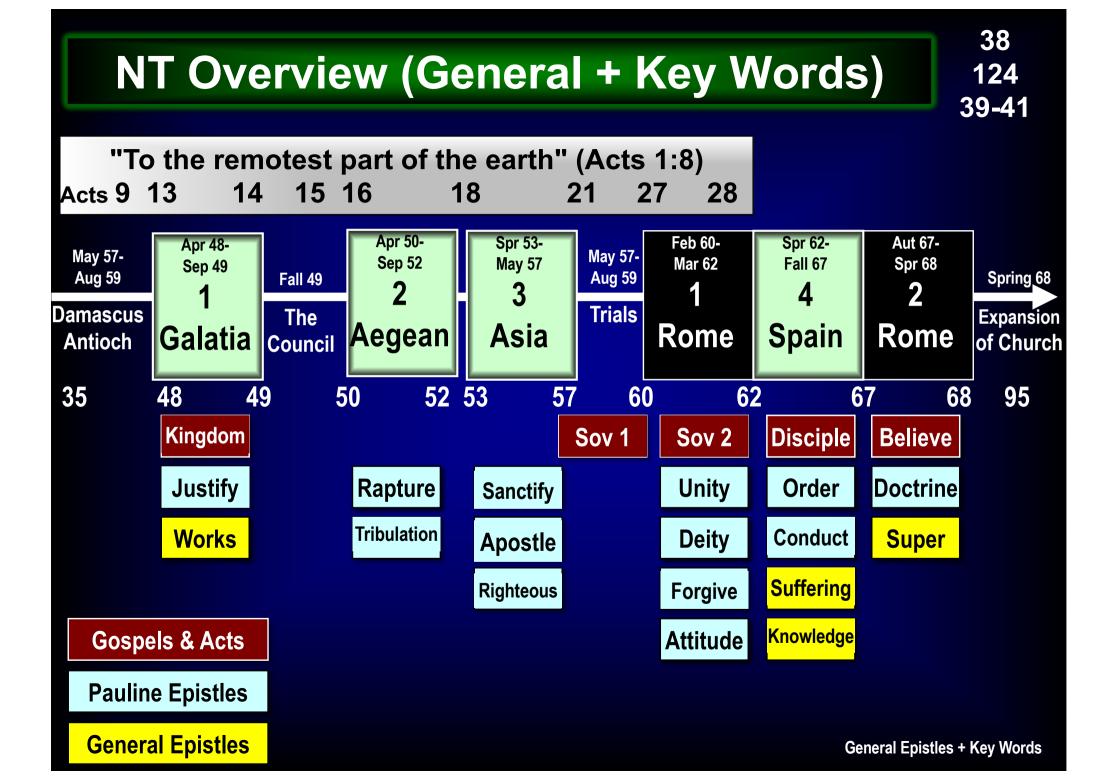
2 Peter: Knowing the faith

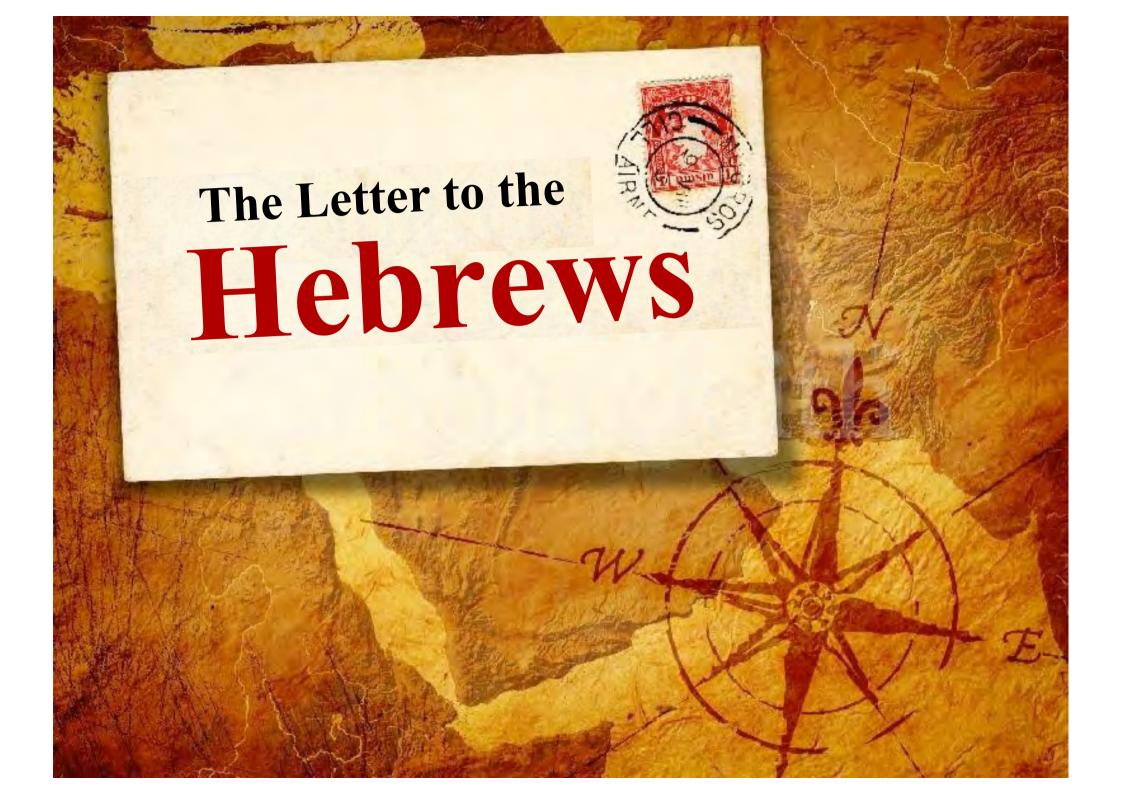
Hebrews: Faith that is superior

1-3 John: Practicing the faith

Jude: Fighting for the faith

Revelation: Faith in God's sovereignty & rule





How long will *you* run with Christ?

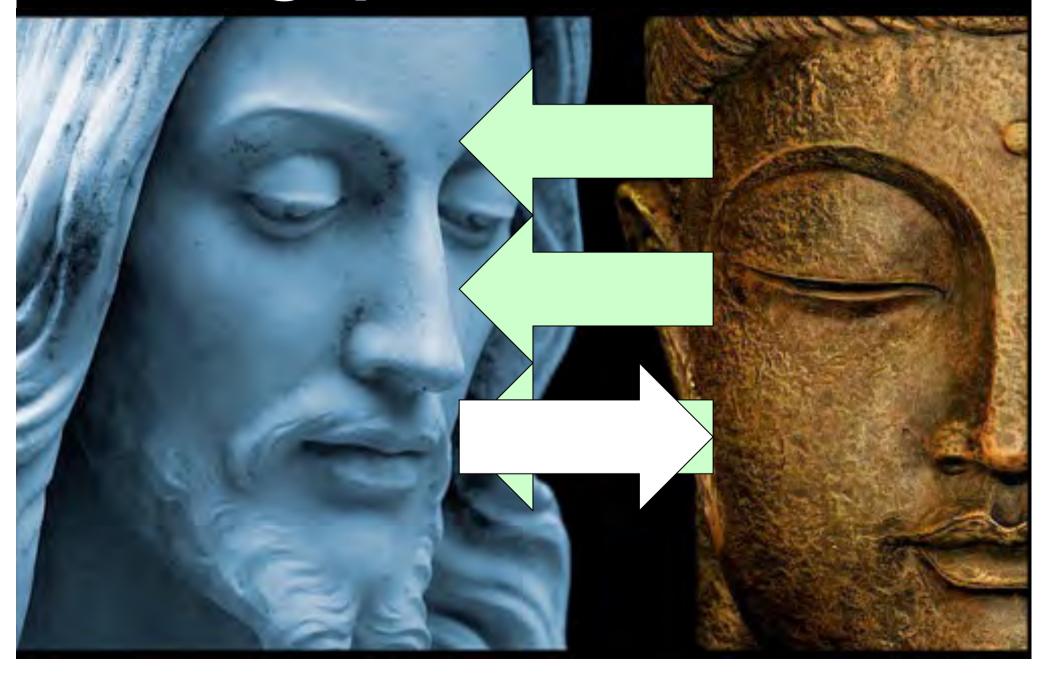


"They used to be here."



- Divorce
- College doubts
- Living together
- Living apart

Singaporean Returns





America has the largest number of:

- Churches/Seminaries
 - Christian Colleges
- Christian Bookshops/Resources
 - Christian Radio/TV

But is becoming LESS Christian EVERY day!



"A minority of born-again adults (44%) and an even smaller proportion of bornagain teenagers (9%) are certain of the existence of absolute moral truth."

Barna Research Online, 'The Year's Most Intriguing Findings, From Barna Research Studies,' December 12, 2000, www.barna.org.

"The 'American Family In Crises Research' by the Southern Baptist Council on Family Life uncovered some disturbing facts. Of the children raised in evangelical homes, 88% leave the church at age 18 and never return."

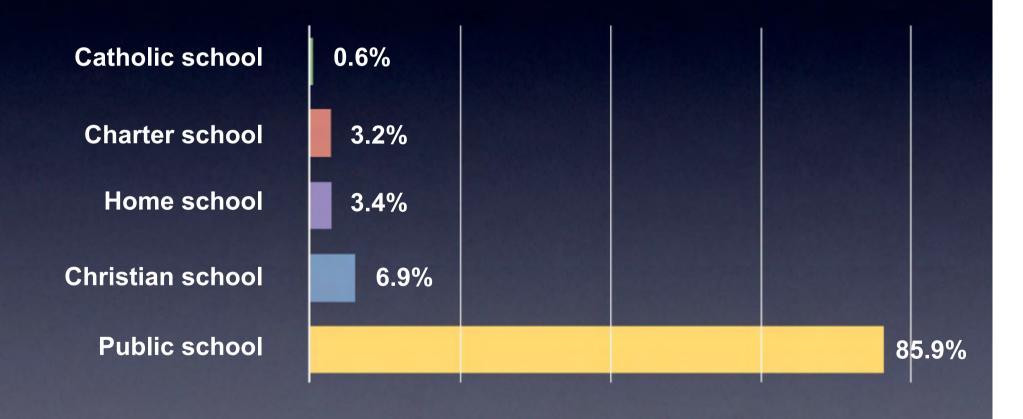
Pastor's Weekly Briefing, Focus on the Family, 26 July 2002, quoted in Gary Foster, The Foster Letter, 10 Aug. 2002, p. 1.

general books Already Gone by Ken Ham and Britt Beemer, with Todd Hillard

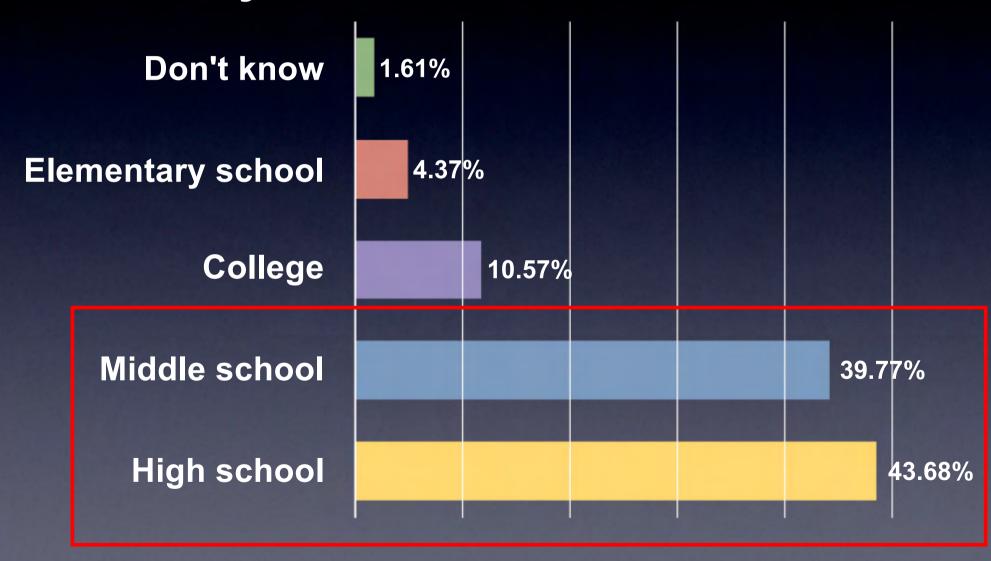


answersingenesis.org

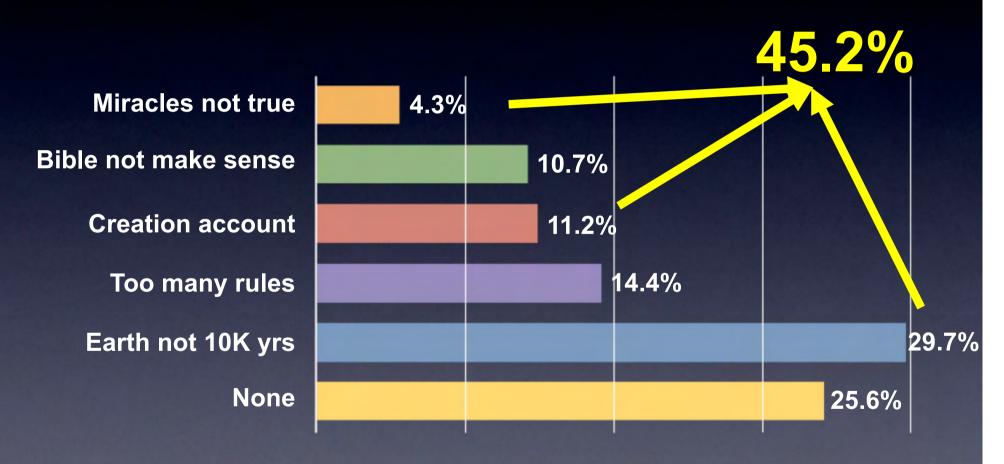
High school attended



If you don't believe, when did you first have doubts?

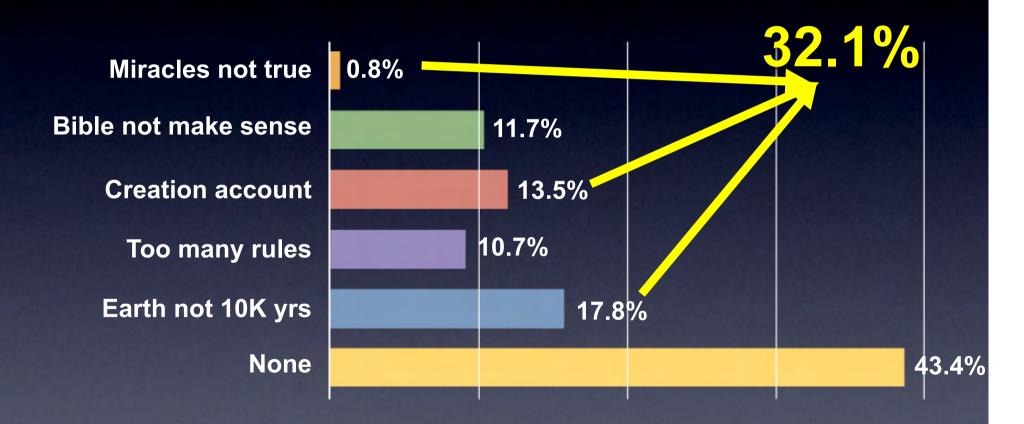


Which of these makes you question the Bible the most?



Those Who Often Attended Sunday School

Which of these makes you question the Bible the most?



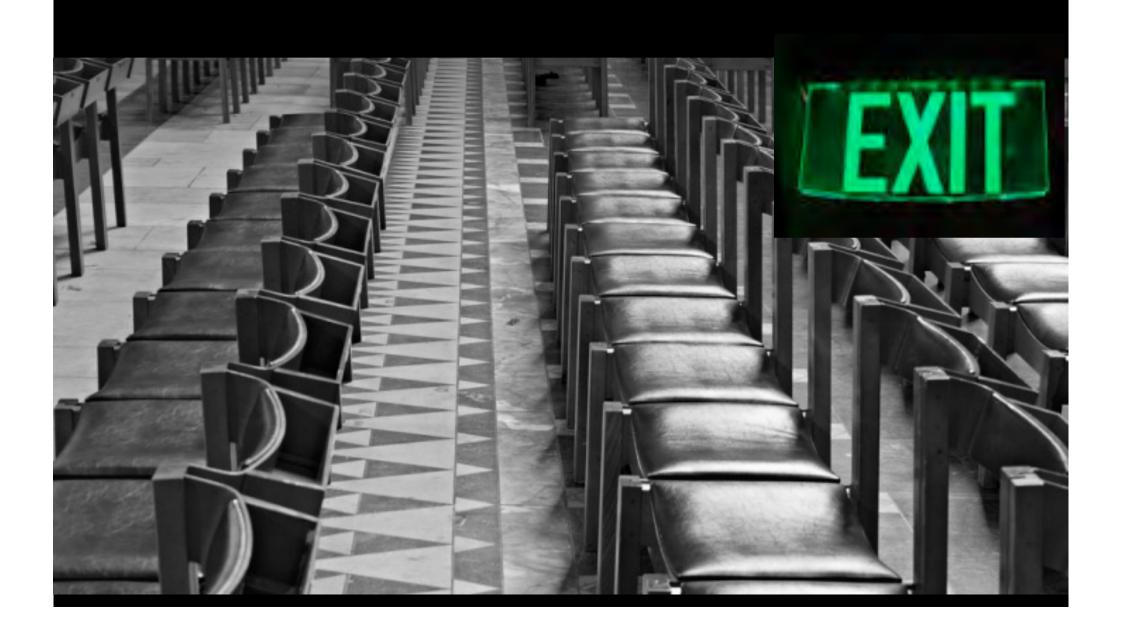
Those Who Rarely Attended Sunday School

What about you?

- 1. What was your previous religion?
- 2. What tempts you to go back?

- Atheist?
- Ancestor Worship?
- Buddhist?
- Free thinker?
- Hindu?
- Muslim?
- Taoism?
- Christian?
- Nominal Christian?

"They used to be here."







An Impossibility (Heb. 6:4-6 NLT)

"For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ⁶and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame."

"...if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received know of the truth, there longer any sacrifice PEOP 27 There is only CHRISTIANS? will cover these sins terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (10:26-27 NLT).

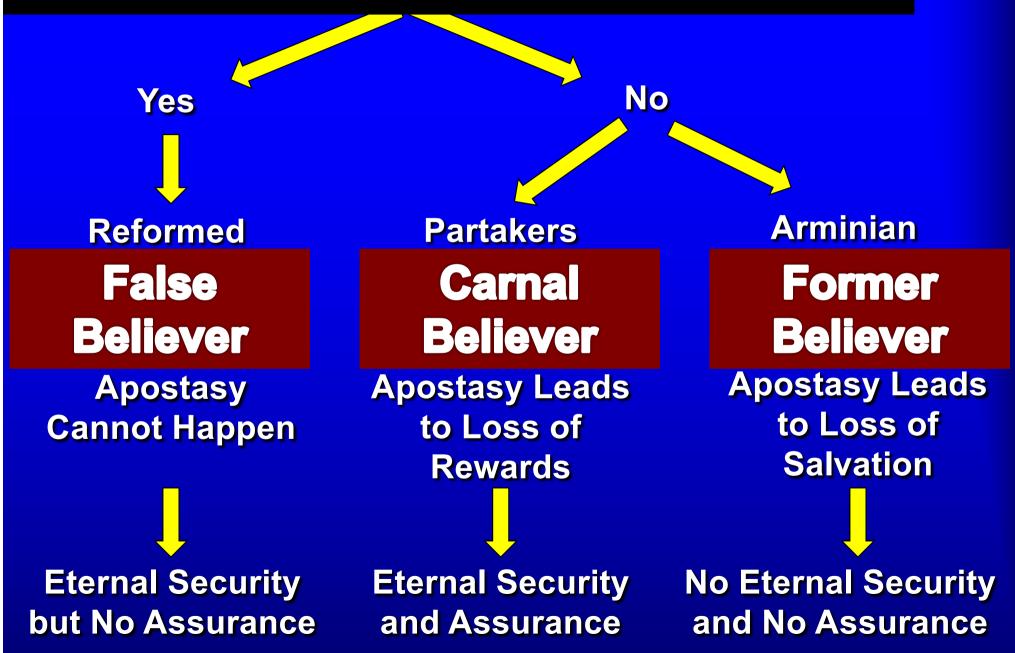
Distinguishing Terms

	Eternal Security	Assurance of Salvation
Basic Meaning	Being saved from the penalty of sin forever (once saved, always saved)	Knowing that we are saved from the penalty of sin forever
Definition	"The work of God which guarantees that the gift of salvation, once received, is forever and cannot be lost" (Ryrie, <i>Basic Theology</i> , 328)	"The realization of the truth of eternal security or perseverance" (Ryrie, Basic Theology, 328)

Distinguishing Terms

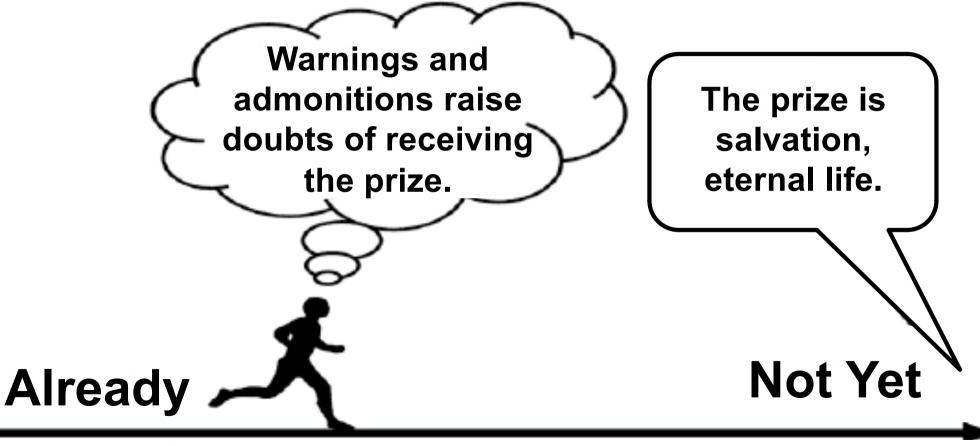
	Eternal Security	Assurance of Salvation
Spirit's Ministry	Sealing (Eph 1:13- 14)	Assuring (Rom 8:15-17)
Believer's	Position as child of God (Rom 8:16b)	Practice or confidence (Rom 8:16a)
Recipients	All Christians possess	Some Christians doubt
Permanence	Can't be lost (John 6:39-40; 10:27-29; Rom 8:30, 38-39; Heb 7:25)	Can be lost (for this reason John wrote 1 John 5:11-13)
Songs	"I Know Whom I Have Believed" "In Christ Alone" "The Solid Rock"	"Now I Belong to Jesus"

Will each genuine Christian persevere in faithfulness at death?



The Arminian View of Hebrews 6:4-8

Bob Deffinbaugh, "13. Dairy Queen or Steak and Ale (Hebrews 6:4-8)" https://bible.org/seriespage/13-dairy-queen-or-steak-and-ale-hebrews-64-8



The race track represents salvation.

Christians may abandon the race and lose salvation.

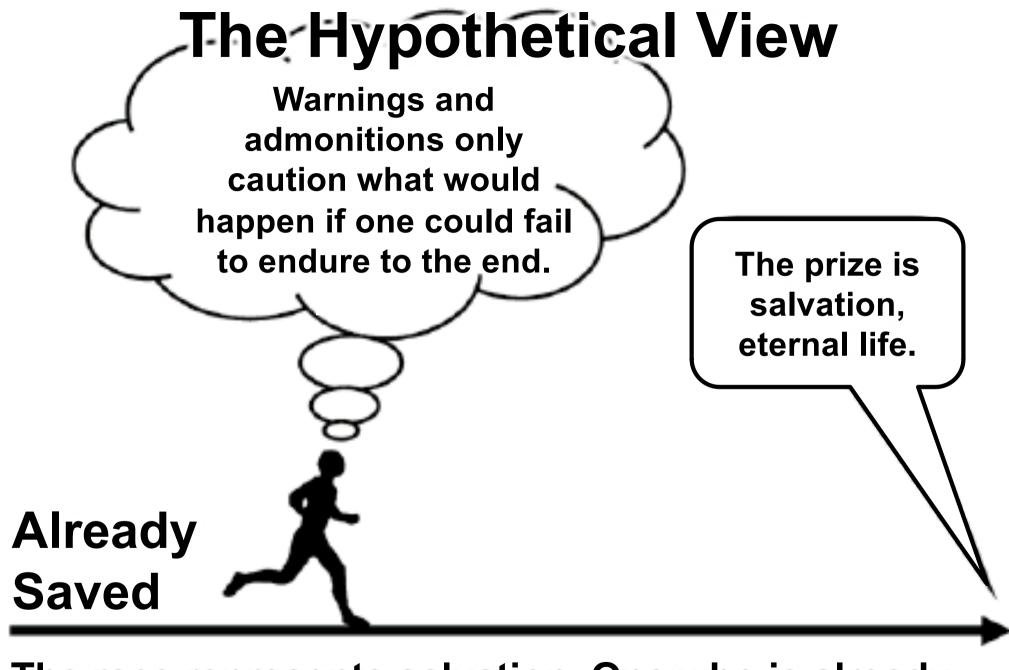
The Reformed (Calvinist) View

Warnings and admonitions call for retrospective and introspective self-examination to assess whether one is already saved.

The prize is salvation, eternal life.

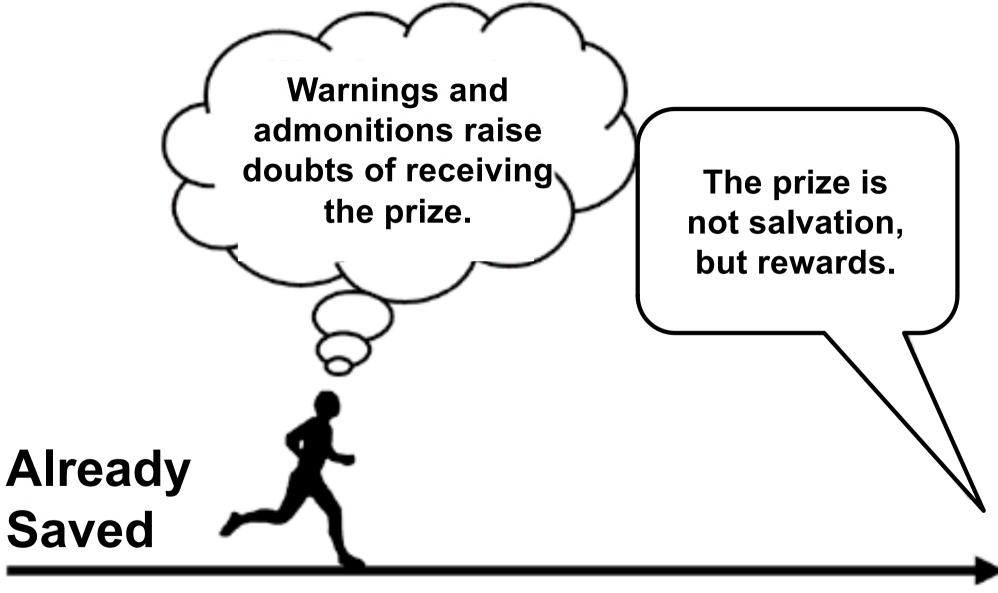
Already Saved

The race represents salvation. To abandon the race proves one was never saved. Christians run with their back toward the goal to assess their progress on the track.



The race represents salvation. One who is already saved cannot abandon the race.

The Loss of Rewards View



The race represents salvation.

Christians may abandon the race and lose rewards.

The Loss of Life View

(held by Randall Gleason & Rick Griffith)

Warnings and admonitions exhort to press on with Christ or they may die physically.

The prize is not salvation, but inheritance in the kingdom.

Already Saved

The race represents salvation.

Christians may abandon the race and lose their life.

Jody Dillow is the key author of the Partakers View



Final Destiny

The Future Reign of the Servant Kings

Joseph Dillow





- 1. A difference exists between inheriting the land of Canaan and living there. The former refers to ownership and the latter to mere residence.
- 2. While Israel was promised the inheritance as a nation, the condition for maintaining their inheritance right to the land of Canaan was faith, obedience, and completion of one's task. The promise, while national, was applied only to the believing and obedient remnant.

- 3. The inheritance is not to be equated with heaven but with something in addition to heaven, promised to those believers who faithfully obey the Lord.
- 4. Just as Old Testament believers forfeited their earthly inheritance through disobedience, we can also forfeit our future reward (inheritance) by a similar failure. Loss of inheritance, however, does not mean loss of salvation.

5. Two kinds of inheritance were enjoyed in the Old Testament. All Israelites who had believed and were therefore regenerate had God as their inheritance but not all inherited the land. This paves the way for the concept that the New Testament may also teach two inheritances. We are all heirs of God, but we are not all joint-heirs with Christ, unless we persevere to the end of life. The former refers to our salvation and the latter to our reward.

6. A child of Israel was both an heir of God and an heir of Canaan by virtue of faith in God resulting in regeneration. Yet only those believers in Israel who were faithful would maintain their status as firstborn sons who would actually receive what had been promised to them as an inheritance.

Assurance and Apostasy

Assurance

The Bible distinguishes our two inheritances.

Only overcomers will reign with Christ.

Believers abandoning Jesus lose rewards and rule.

Arminian (Wesleyan) **Partakers Apostasy** leads to loss of salvation No security, **Apostasy Possible** no assurance/ **Apostasy** How can we hold leads to loss both apostasy of rewards

and assurance?



Two Types of Inheritance

"Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his suffering in order that way also share in his lory" (Rom. 8:17 NIV).

= Salvation

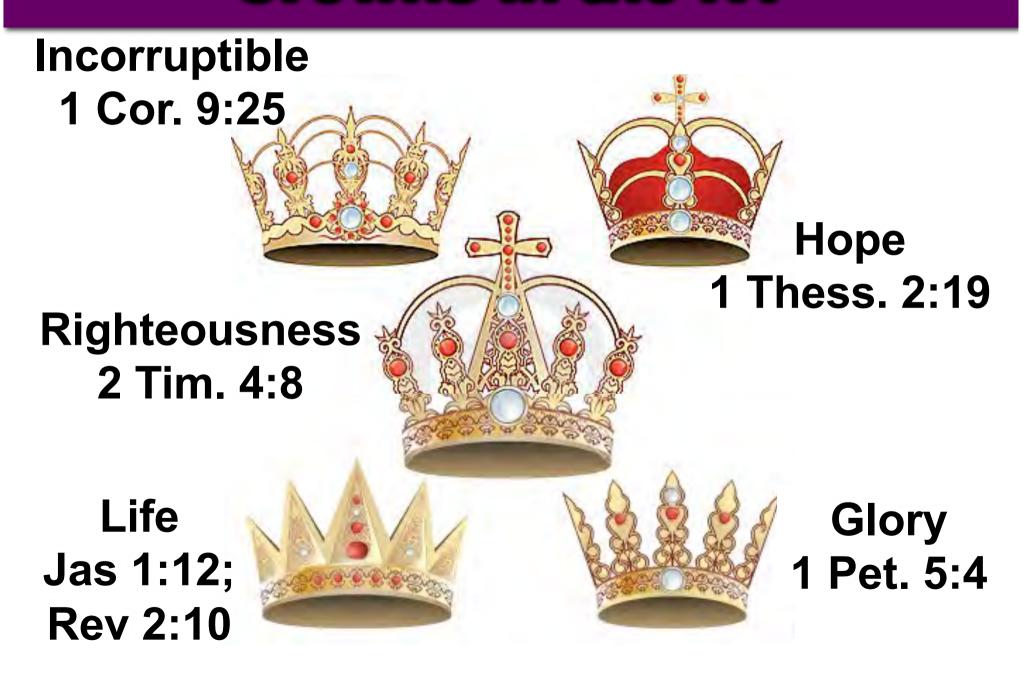
= Reward

What is the crown of life offered in James 1:12? What are the conditions which must be met in order to receive the crown of life?

- It is the prize at the end of the race (2 Tim. 4:8), especially as the reward of faithful endurance (Rev. 2:10).
- The conditions are:
 - love for God
 - perseverance under trials
 - enduring the tests of faith

Can you think of any situation where the reward at the end is worth the struggle? Does that help you persevere in trials?

Crowns in the NT





First Argument on their Wedding Night...



Husband to Wife: "You better make my coffee in the morning!"

Wife: "I can't make the coffee! That's not biblical!"



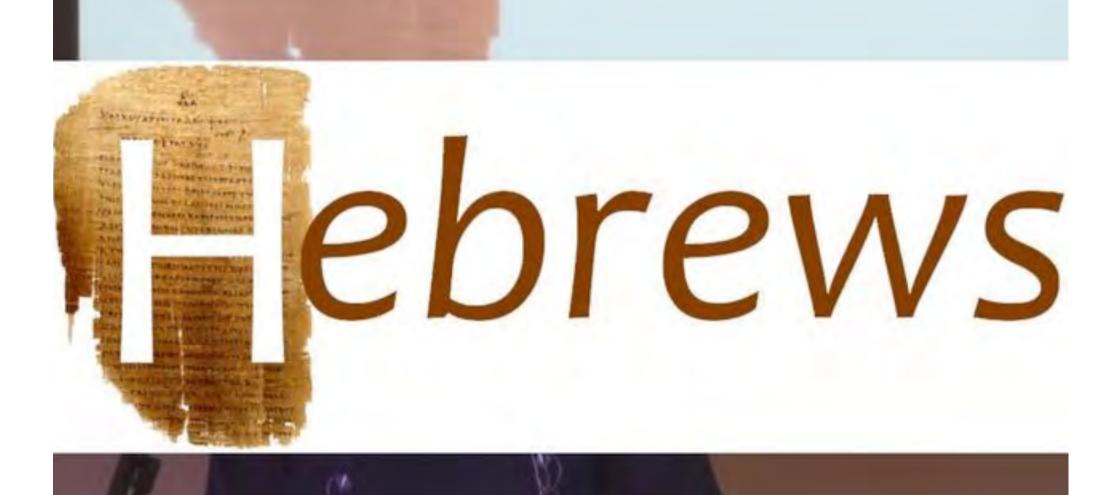
Husband: "Where did you ever read *that* in the Bible?"

Wife: "He brews."



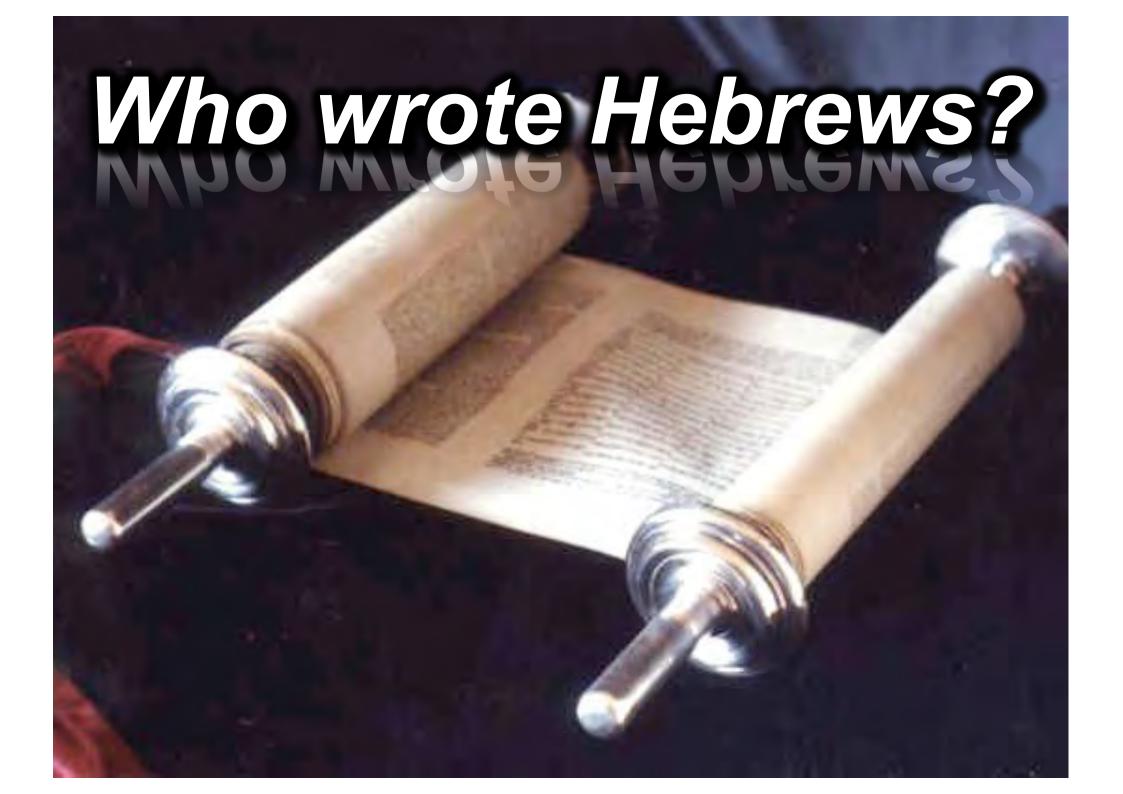
A Biblical Logo...





Issues in Hebrews

Hebrews





The Greek Title: To the Hebrews

- 1. Refers to the Recipients
- 2. Does not follow standard practice (General Epistles are normally named after their authors)
- 3. Author not stated in the book
- 4. But not anonymous to the original readers (13:18-24)



EXTERNAL EVIDENCE

- . Alexandria (Egypt) & the Eastern Church
 - > Paul
- North African Early Fathers
 - > Barnabas
- 3. Italy & Western Europe
 - Initially debated
 - Convinced by Jerome (AD 340-420) & Augustine (AD 354-430) to follow the Eastern Church i.e. Paul



EXTERNAL EVIDENCE

- 4. Reformation Protestants (Calvin, Luther & Erasmus)
 - Apollos
- 5. Modern Scholarship
 - Luke, Clement, Silas, Priscilla, Philip the Evangelist



Evidence may suggest Pauline Authorship:

- Timothy is mentioned (13:23)
- Author imprisoned (13:19)
- Pauline form of closing benediction (13:20-21)
- Greeting from Italian believers (13:24)

All this may suggest Paul wrote it during one of his two imprisonments in Rome (AD 60-62 or AD 67-68)



INTERNAL EVIDENCE

Evidence may suggest Pauline Authorship:

- Pauline theme of faith (chap. 11)
- New covenant (chap. 8)
- Israel's example (chap. 4)
- Gifts and power (2:4)
- Person of Christ (chaps. 1–10)

Paul may have omitted his name due to hatred Jews had for him since they thought he maligned the temple and "apostatized" from Judaism to Christianity



INTERNAL EVIDENCE

Opposition to Pauline Authorship

- More polished and classical Greek style than the Pauline epistles
- Quoted Old Testament from the Septuagint (Greek) not expected of Paul who was trained as a Jew (though Paul does use both translations in his writings)
- No customary Pauline salutation at the beginning



INTERNAL EVIDENCE

Opposition to Pauline Authorship

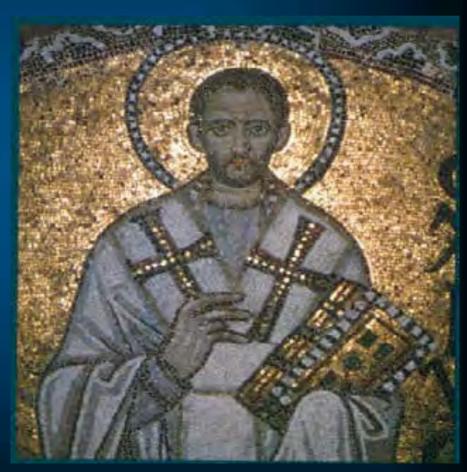
- Paul did not fit the second generation author who received the gospel from the disciples of Jesus (2:3-4; cf. Gal. 1–2)
- Emphasis of priesthood of Christ and His present work does not fit Paul's writings which emphasize His death and resurrection



CONCLUSION

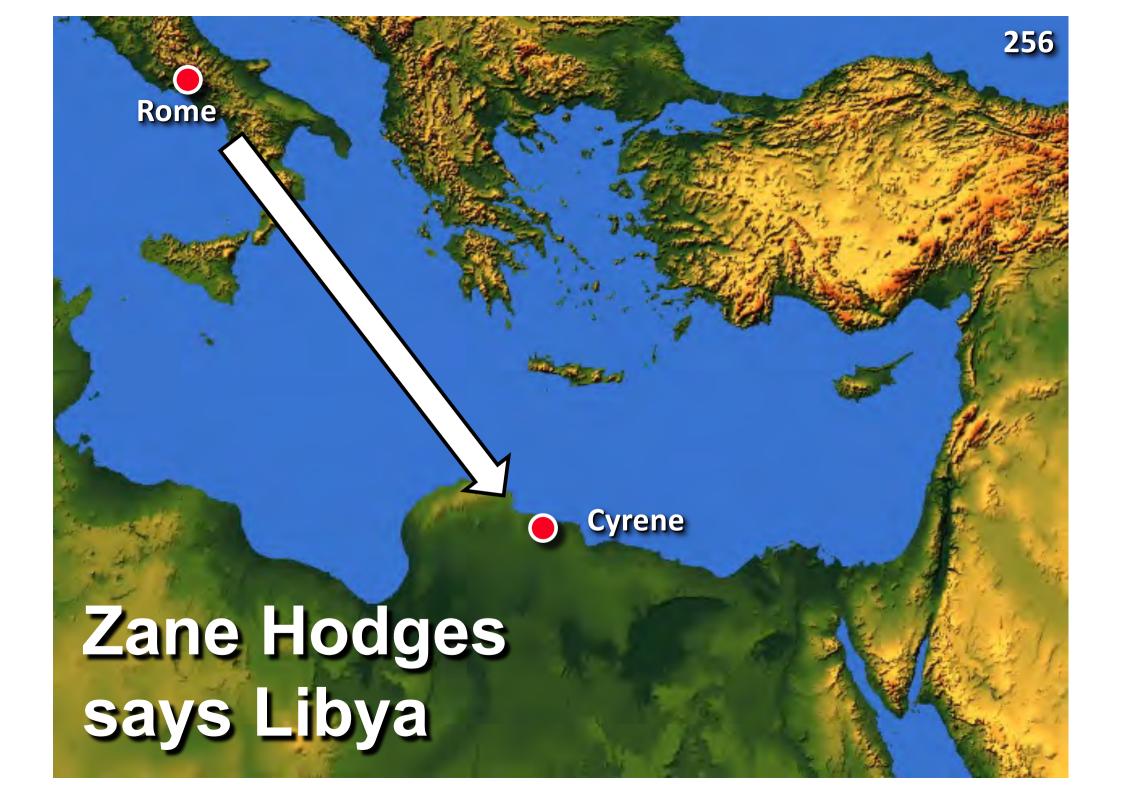
"Who it was that really wrote the Epistle, God only knows!"

-Origen of Alexandria, 3rd century AD

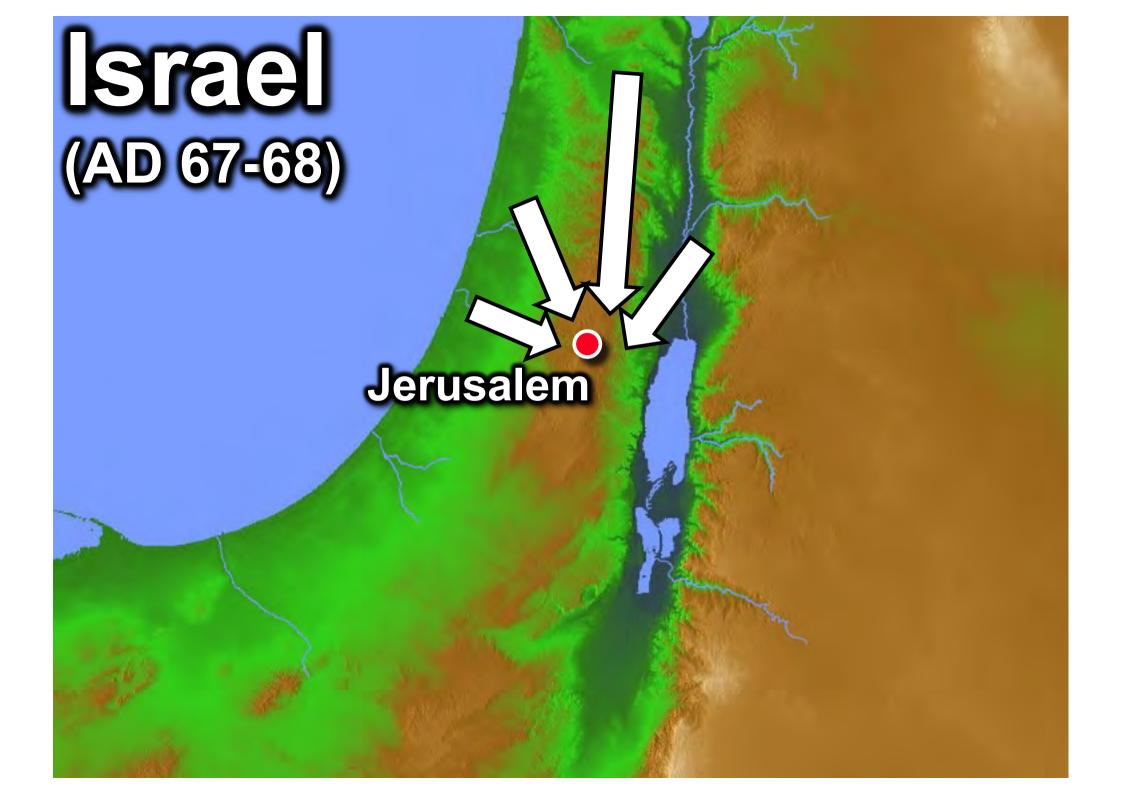










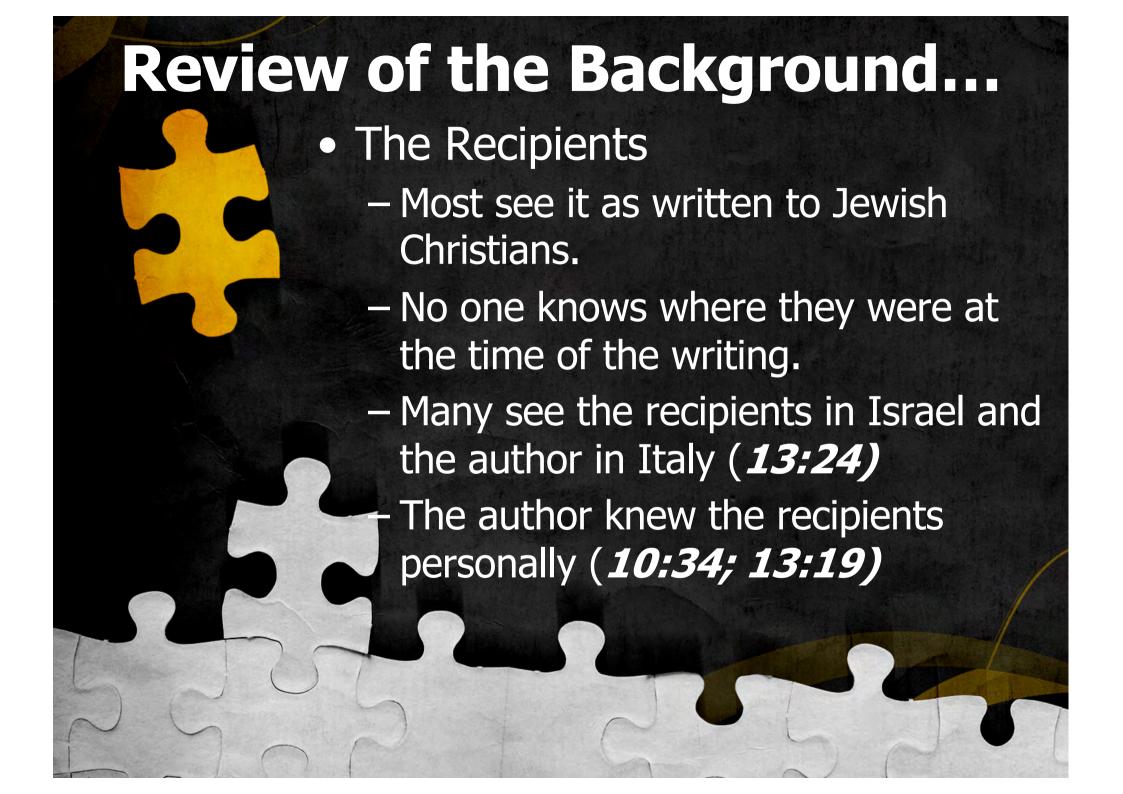


How do we know that the readers were Jews?



A Specific Jewish Community





B00 **Better"**

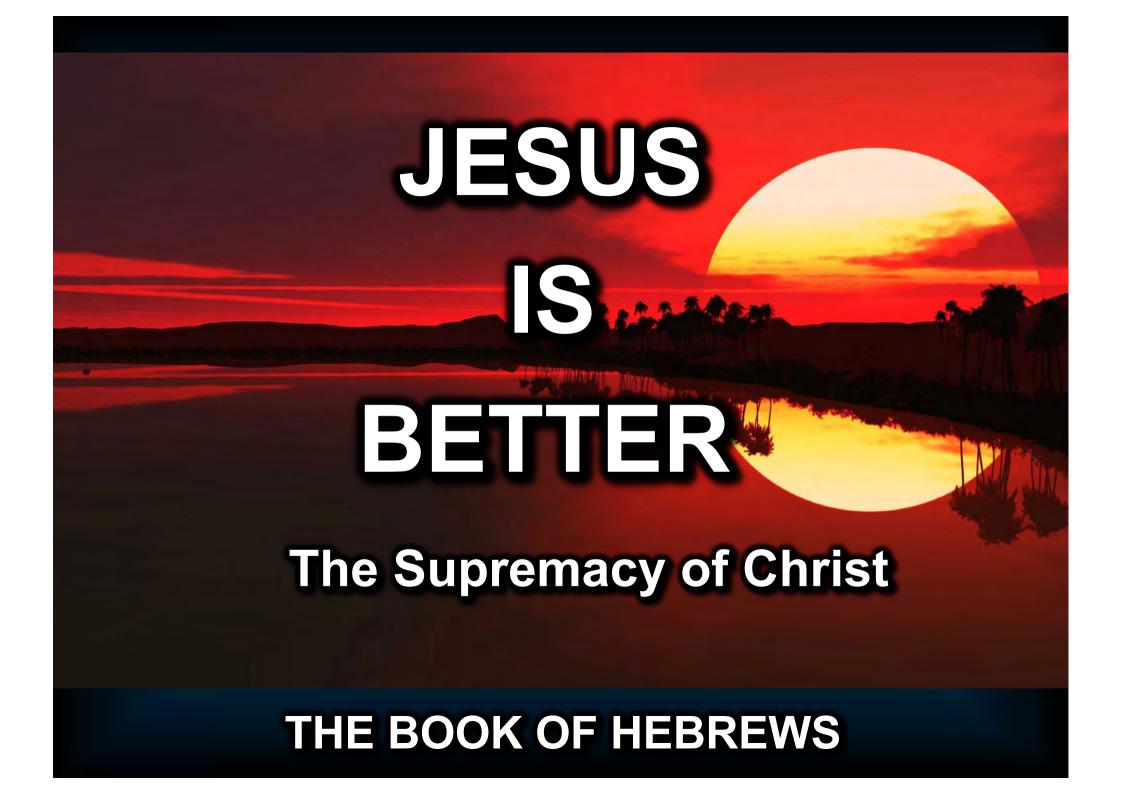
1:4 Christ is "better than the angels" 6:9 We are confident of "better things in your case" 7:7 Melchizedek "better" ("greater") than Abraham 7:19 "We have confidence in a better hope" 7:22 Jesus is the "guarantee of a better covenant" 8:6 Christ is the "mediator of a better covenant" 8:6 New covenant "established on better promises" 9:23 Priestly garments need "better sacrifices" 10:34 Heaven a "better and lasting possession" 11:16 Heaven a "better country"

Hebrews uses the word "better" 13 times...

11:35 They obtain a "better resurrection" experience 11:40 God "provided something better for us" 12:24 Christ's blood is "better than the blood of Abel"

Note:

11:4 "Abel offered to God a better sacrifice" uses a different Greek word often translated "better"





Uncompromising

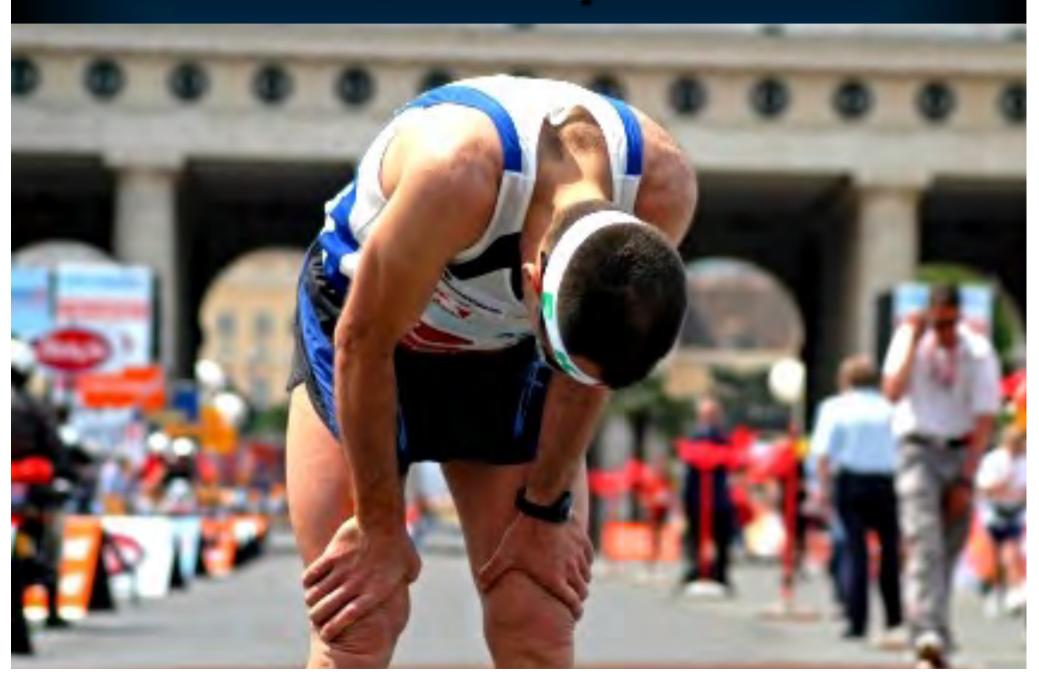
Hebrews

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Some love running.



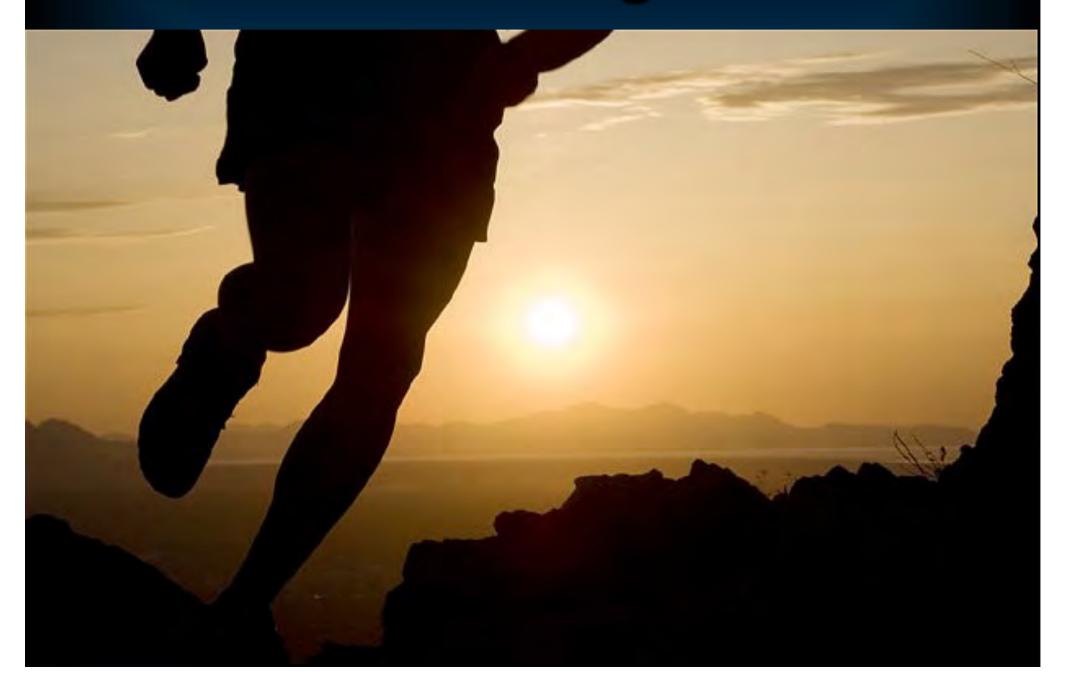
Some quit.



The Christian life is a race



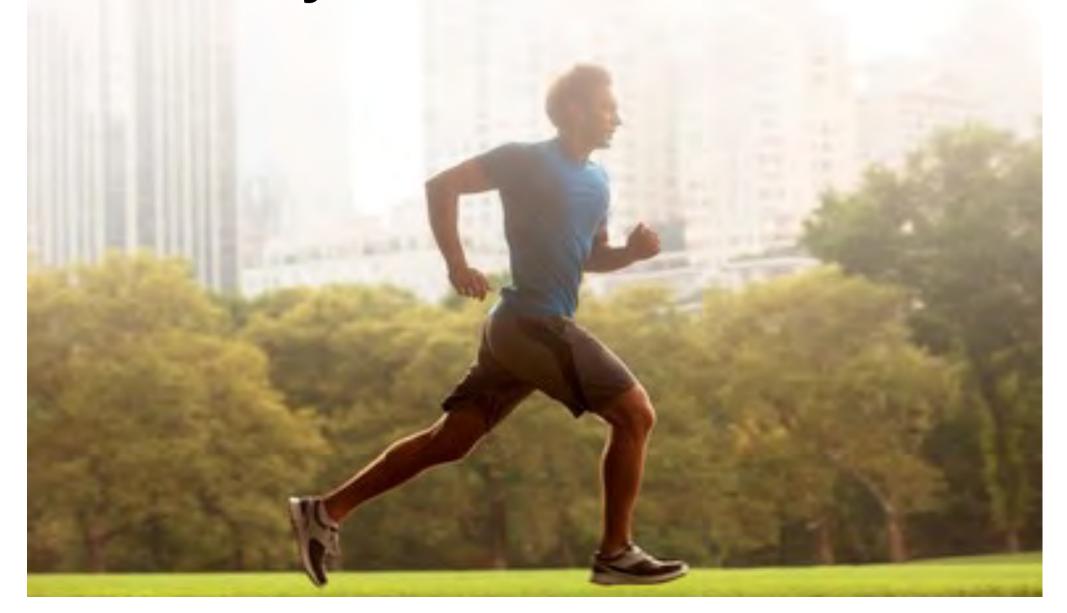
Some are running well but...



Some quit the Christian race



Why should you be uncompromising in your faith in Jesus?

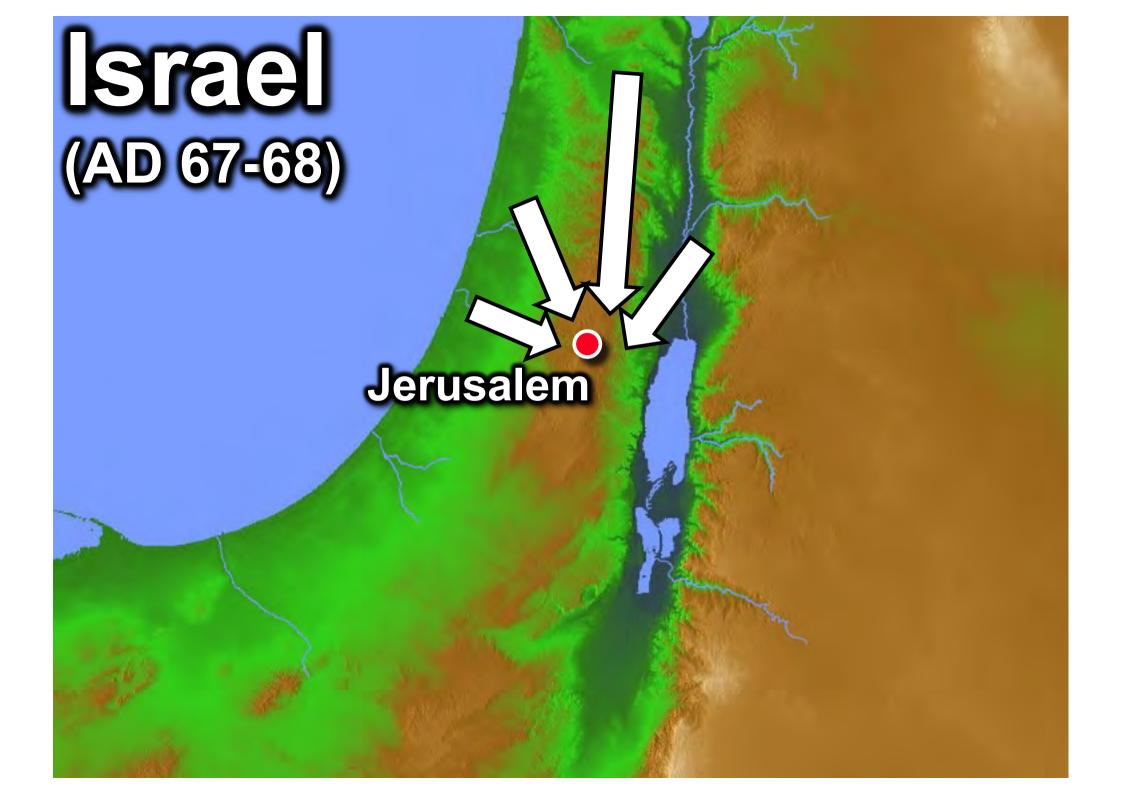




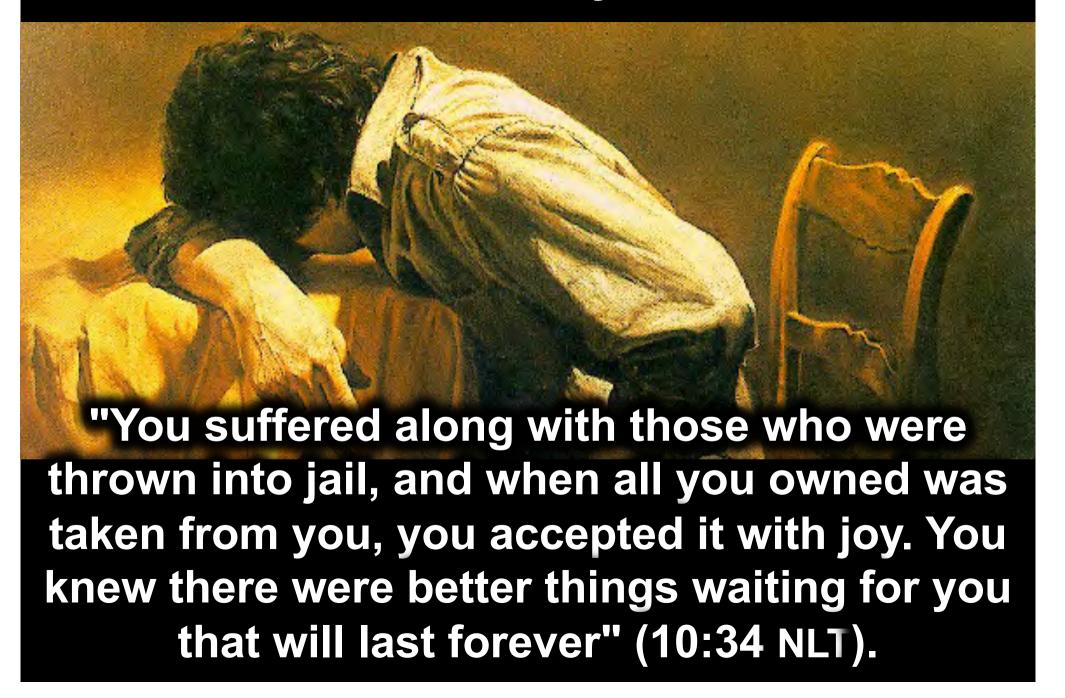
HEBREWS.

Author Recipients
Origin
Destination
UNKNOWN





A Jewish Community Under Stress



The readers were Jewish Christians

"brothers and sisters who belong to God and are partners with those called to heaven" (3:1)

"...dear brothers and enter heaven's Most Holy Place because (10:19)

"...let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands..." (4:14b-15a)

"...those early days sisters, we can boldly when you first learned about Christ...you remained faithful even of the blood of Jesus" though it meant terrible suffering" (10:32)



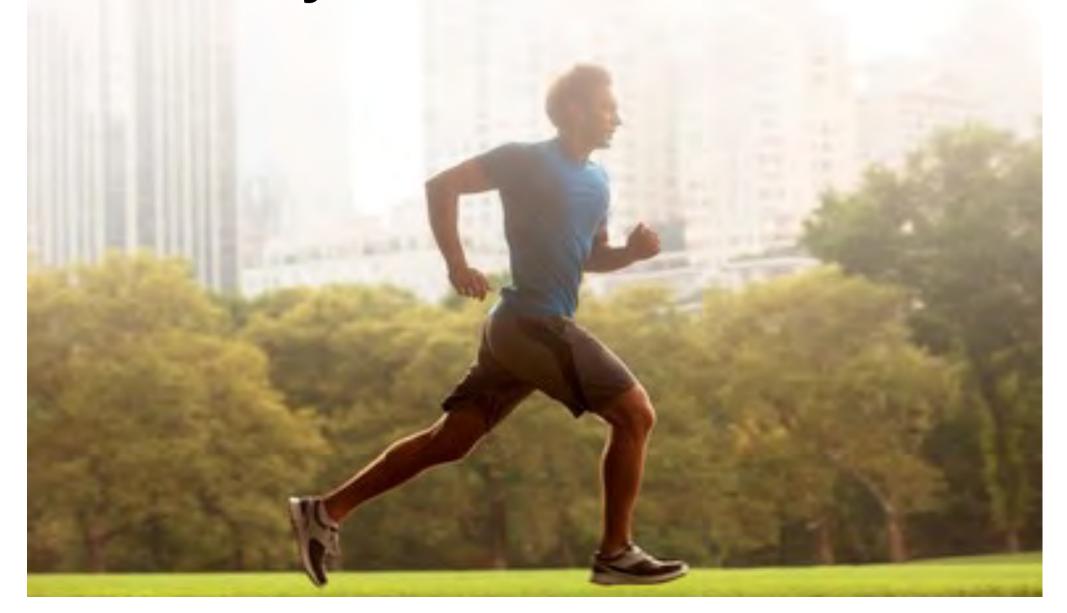
"Should I go back?"

"So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it" (2:1 NLT).

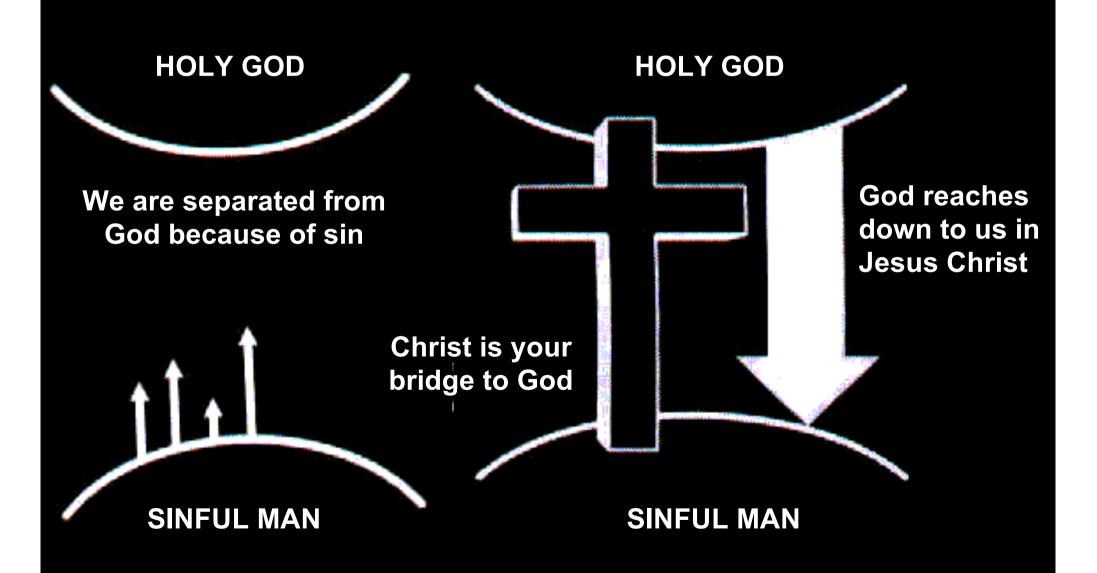


The Supremacy of Jesus in the Book of Hebrews

Why should you be uncompromising in your faith in Jesus?



I. Jesus is better than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



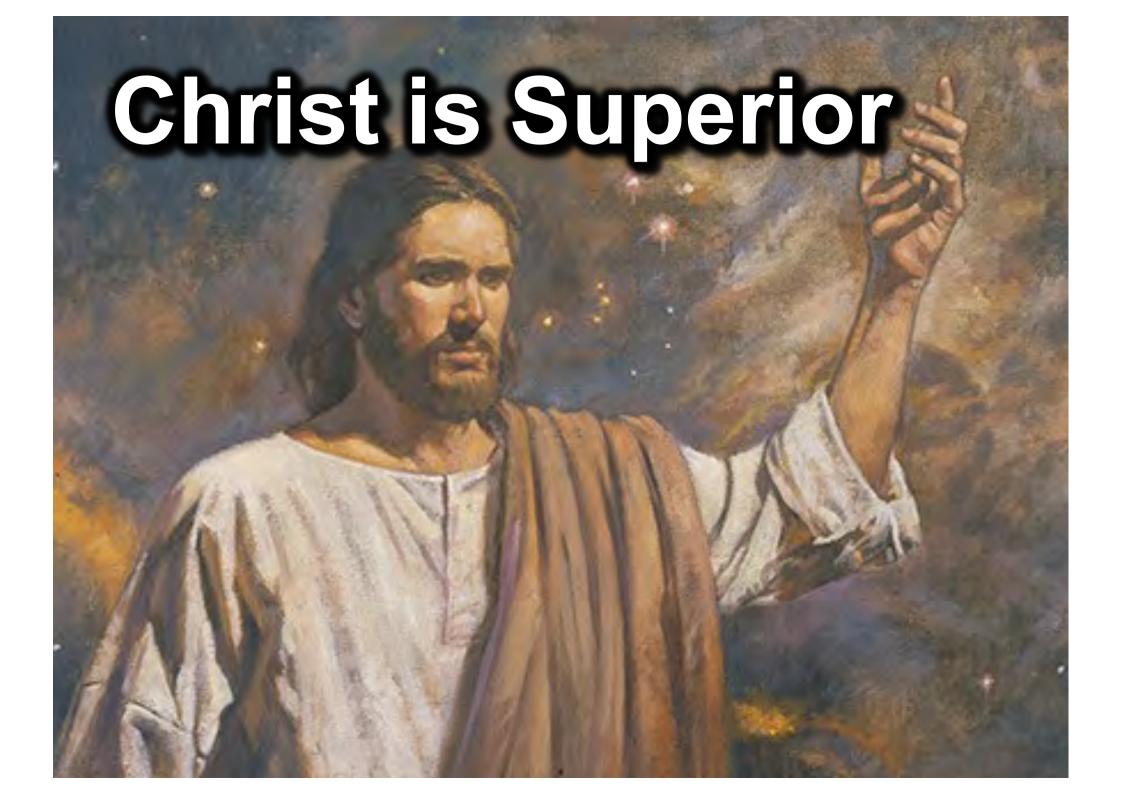
Hebrews Book Chart

Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Superior in His Person to			Superior in His Priestly Work to					Endurance Through Faith						
1:1–4:13			4:14–10:18					10:19–13:25						
Prophets	Angels	Moses	Aaron	Melch	Old Cov.	Taber- nacle	Sacri- fices	Will- ful Sin	Models	Endure as Sons		Ignoring God	Exhort	
1:1-3	1:4– 2:18	3:1– 4:13	4:14– 6:20	7	8	9:1-10	9:11– 10:18		11:1– 12:3	12:4-13	12:14-17	12:18-29	13	
Christ	Christ's Ministry					Christian's Manifestation								
Theology									Practice					
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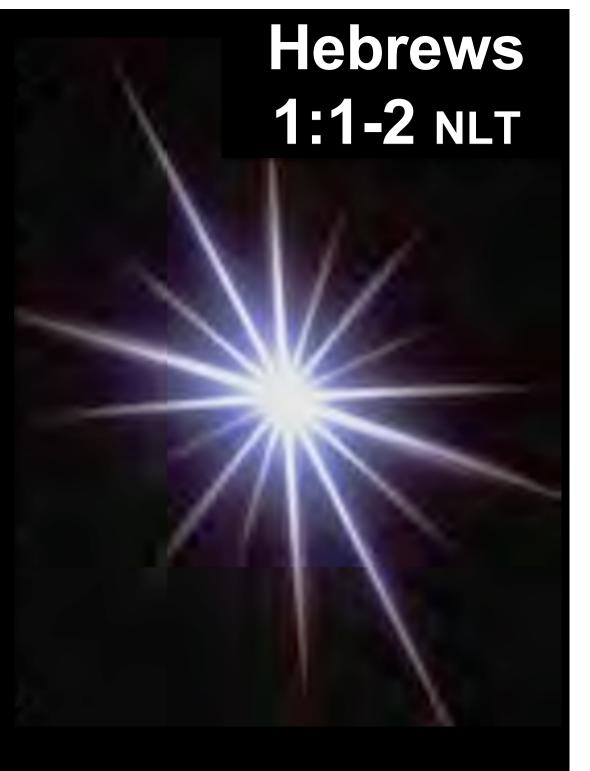
Unknown Author, Recipients, Origin, and Destination!

AD 67-68



Hebrews 1

"Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. ²And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe."



The Better Things

Superior Person

1:1-4:13

Superior Work

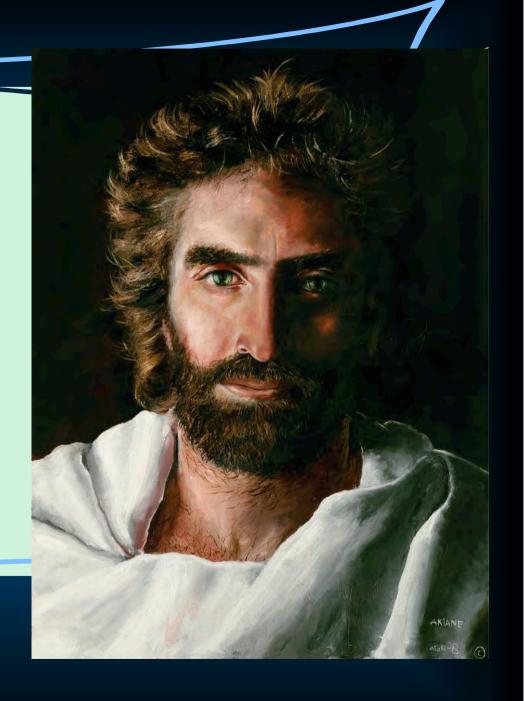
4:14-10:18

> Endure by Faith

10:19-13:25



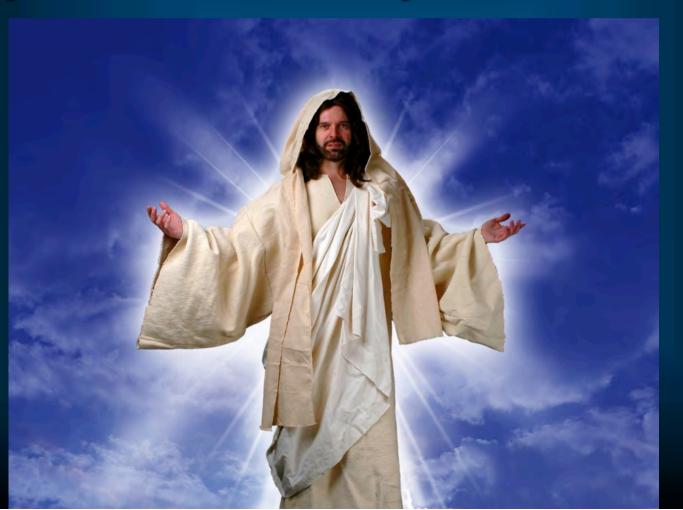
Christ as Superior in His Person (1:1-4:13)



He is better than *the OT* prophets, so follow him (1:1-3).

Christ is Superior in His Person

Superior to the Prophets 1:1-3

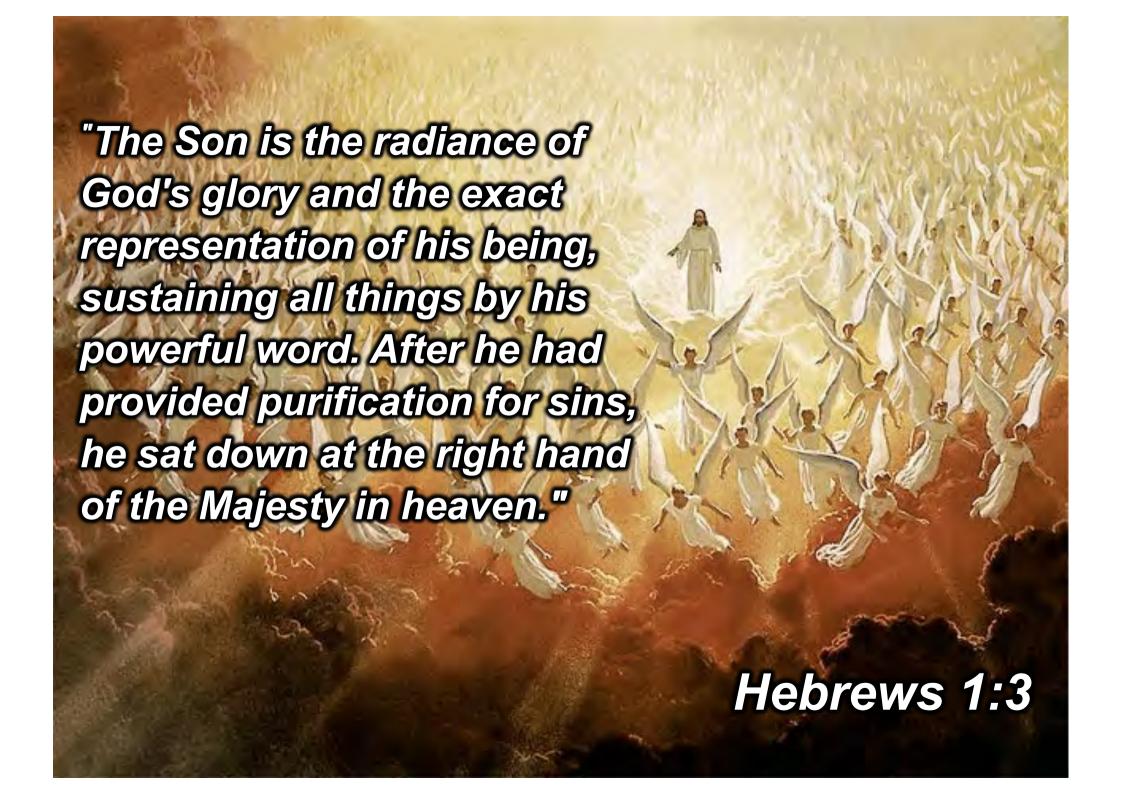




Hebrews 1:1-2

¹ In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,

² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his <u>Son</u>, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.



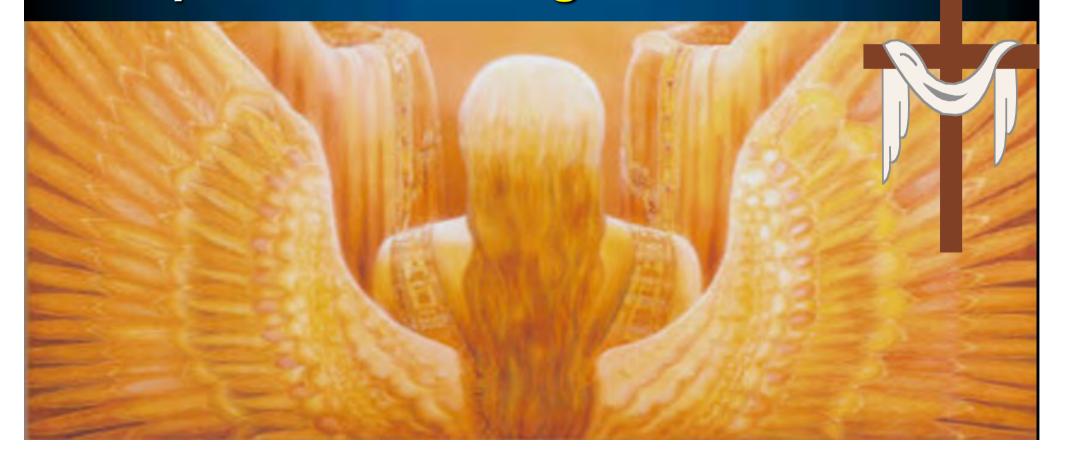
Main Idea of 1:1-3

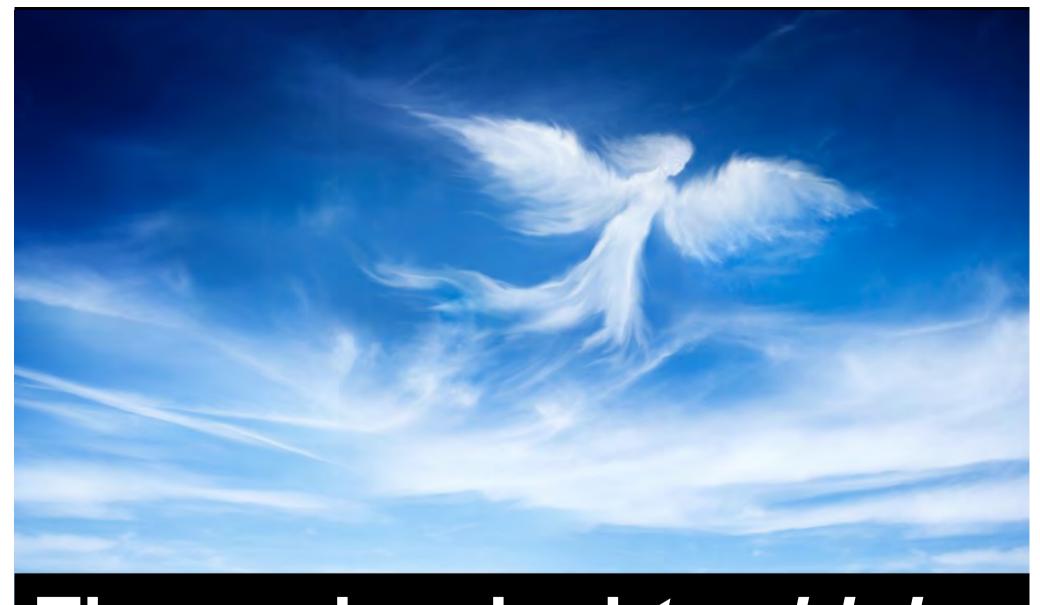


Jesus is the ultimate truth.

Christ is Superior in His Person

- Superior to the Prophets 1:1-3
- > Superior to the Angels 1:4–2:18



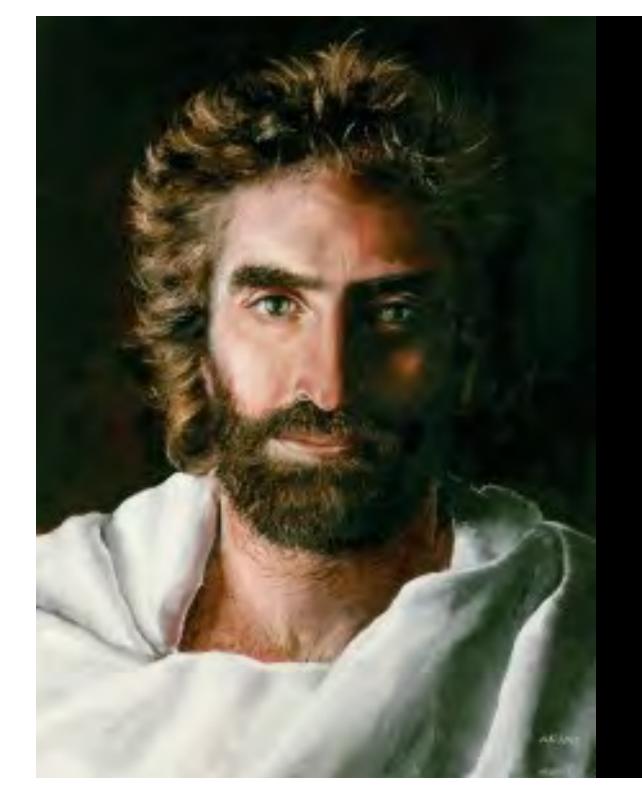


The readers had too high a view of angels

"This is the day appointed by Him for the defeat and overthrow of the Prince of the kingdom of wickedness, and He will send eternal succour to the company of His redeemed by the might of the princely Angel of the kingdom of Michael. With everlasting light He will enlighten with joy [the children] of Israel; peace and blessing shall be with the company of God. He will raise up the kingdom of Michael in the midst of the gods, and the realm of Israel in the midst of all flesh" (The War Scroll in 1QM 17:5-6).

He is better than *the angels* as God and man, so respect him as Creator (1:4–2:18).





1. Jesus is God worthy of worship (1:4-14).





"For God never said to any angel what he said to Jesus:

'You are my Son.
Today I
have become
your Father.'

God also said,

'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son."

(Hebrews 1:5 NLT).



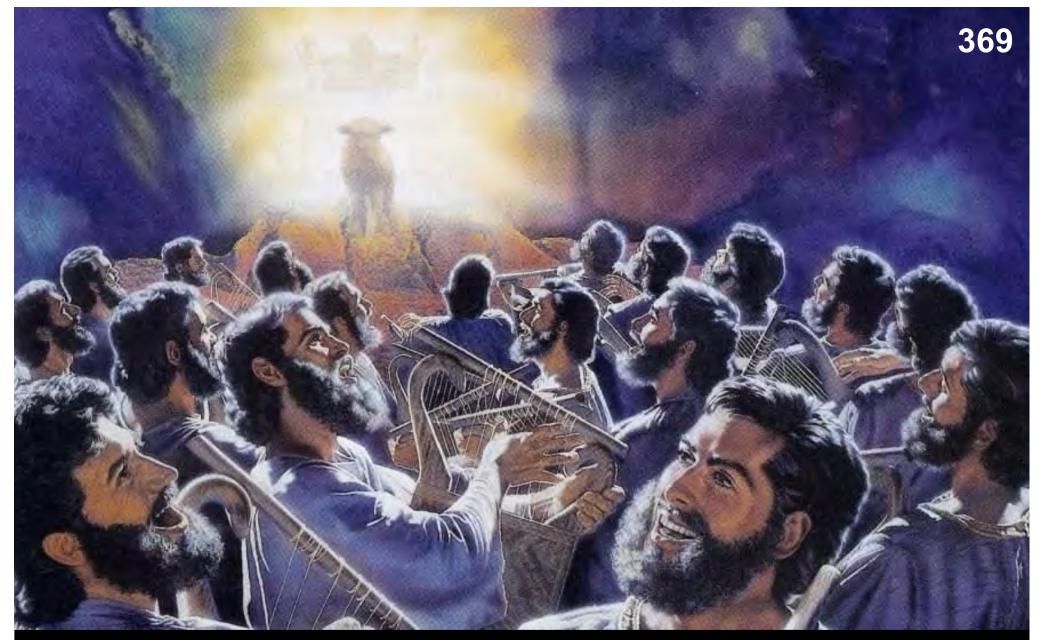
H. Wayne House, Charts of Christian Theology and Doctrine, 45



"And when he brought his supreme Son into the world, God said,

'Let all of God's angels worship him."

(Hebrews 1:6 NLT).



"You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals..." (Rev 5:9)

"Regarding the angels, he says,

'He sends his angels like the winds, his servants like flames of fire."

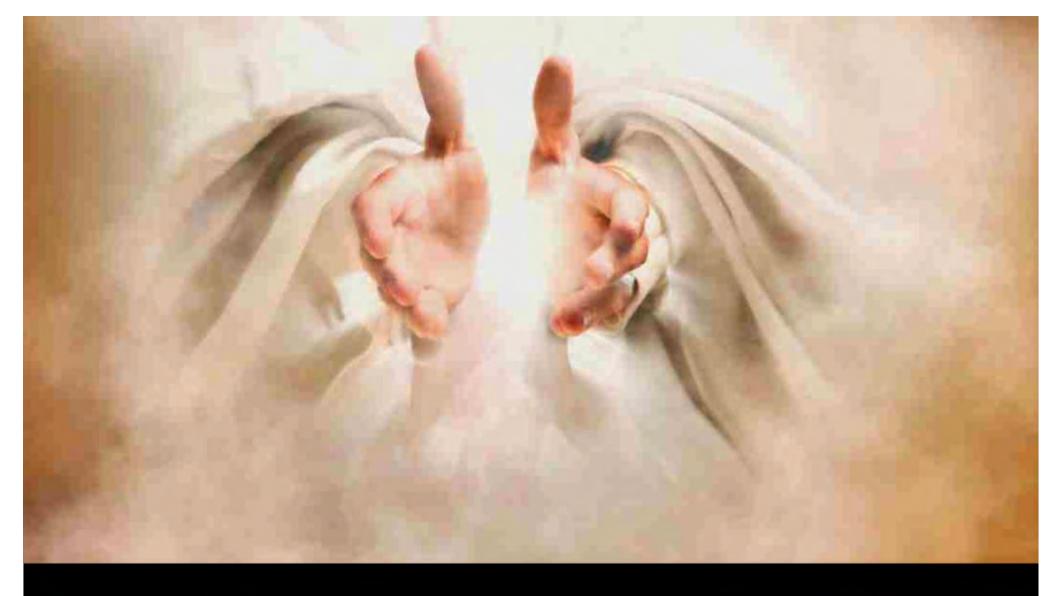
(Hebrews 1:7 NLT).



"But to the Son he says,

'Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. You rule with a scepter of justice. ⁹You love justice and hate evil. Therefore, O God, your God has anointed you, pouring out the oil of joy on you more than on anyone else."

(Hebrews 1:8-9 NLT)



The Father calls Jesus "God"!

"He also says to the Son,

'In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundation of the earth and made the heavens with your hands. ¹¹They will perish, but you remain forever. They will wear out like old clothing."

(Hebrews 1:10-11 NLT)

"He also says to the Son...

'You will fold them [the earth and the heavens] up like a cloak and discard them like old clothing.

But you are always the same; you will live forever."

(Hebrews 1:10a, 12 NLT)



"And God never said to any of the angels,

'Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet."

(1:13 NLT).



Hebrews 2



1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).



Hebrews 2:1-2

"We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?"



Hebrews 2:3-4

"This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.

God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will."







"And furthermore, it is not angels who will control the future world we are talking about."

(2:5 NLT)

"For in one place the Scriptures say, 'What are mere mortals that you should think about them, or a son of man that you should care for him?

⁷Yet you made them only a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁸You gave them authority over all things''' (2:6-8a NLT).

"But one has testified somewhere, saying, 'What is man, that you remember him? or the son of man, that you are concerned about him? ⁷You have made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, and have appointed him over the works of your hands; ⁸you have put all things in subjection under his feet" (2:6-8a NAU).

"Now when it says 'all things,' it means nothing is left out. But we have not yet seen all things put under their authority.

⁹What we do see is Jesus, who was given a position 'a little lower than the angels'; and because he suffered death for us, he is now 'crowned with glory and honor.' Yes, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone.

¹⁰God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation."

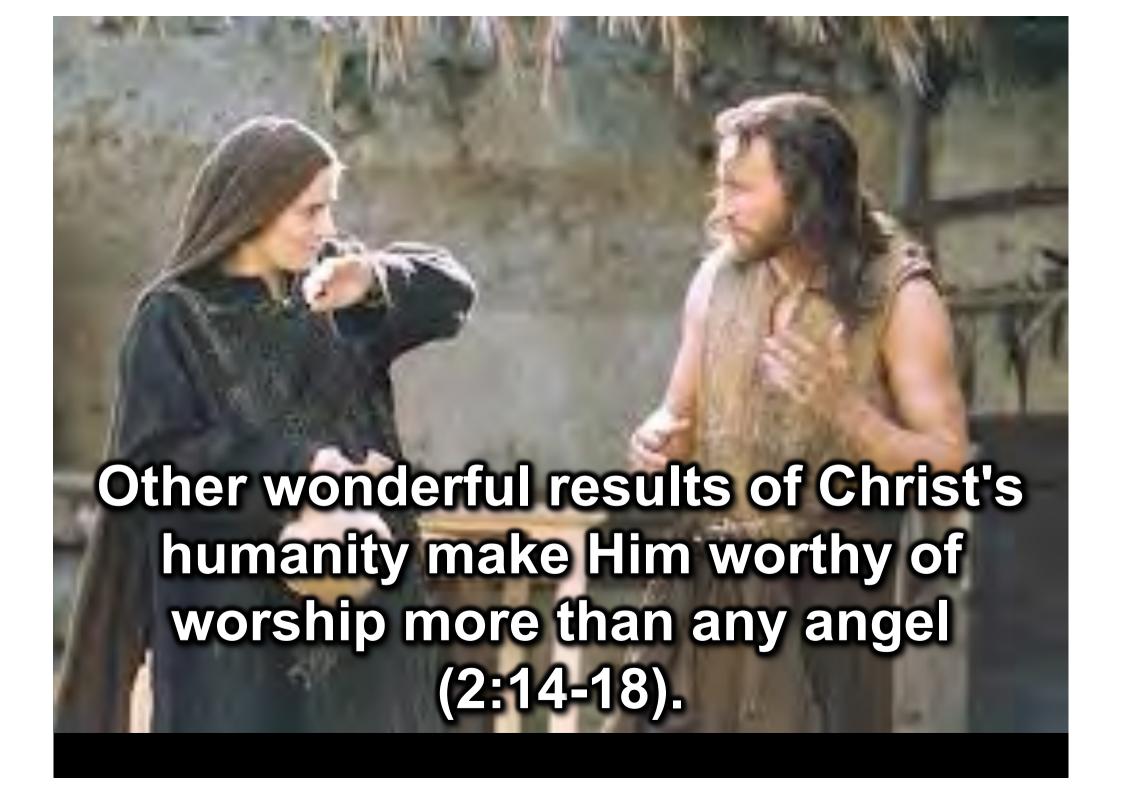
(2:8b-10 NLT)

ALL:

"So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

¹²For he said to God, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people.'

He also said, 'I will put my trust in him,' that is, 'I and the children God has given me."





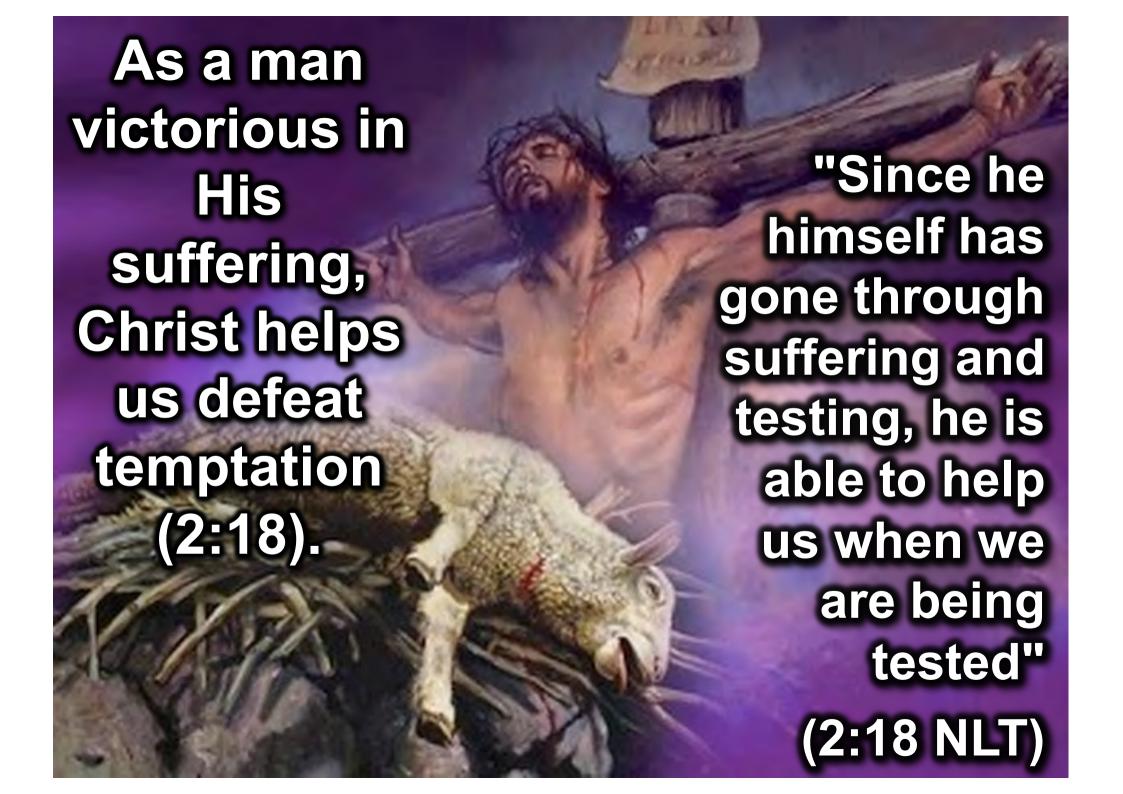
"Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.

15Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying." (2:14-15 NLT)

We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham.

¹⁷Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

(2:16-17 NLT)



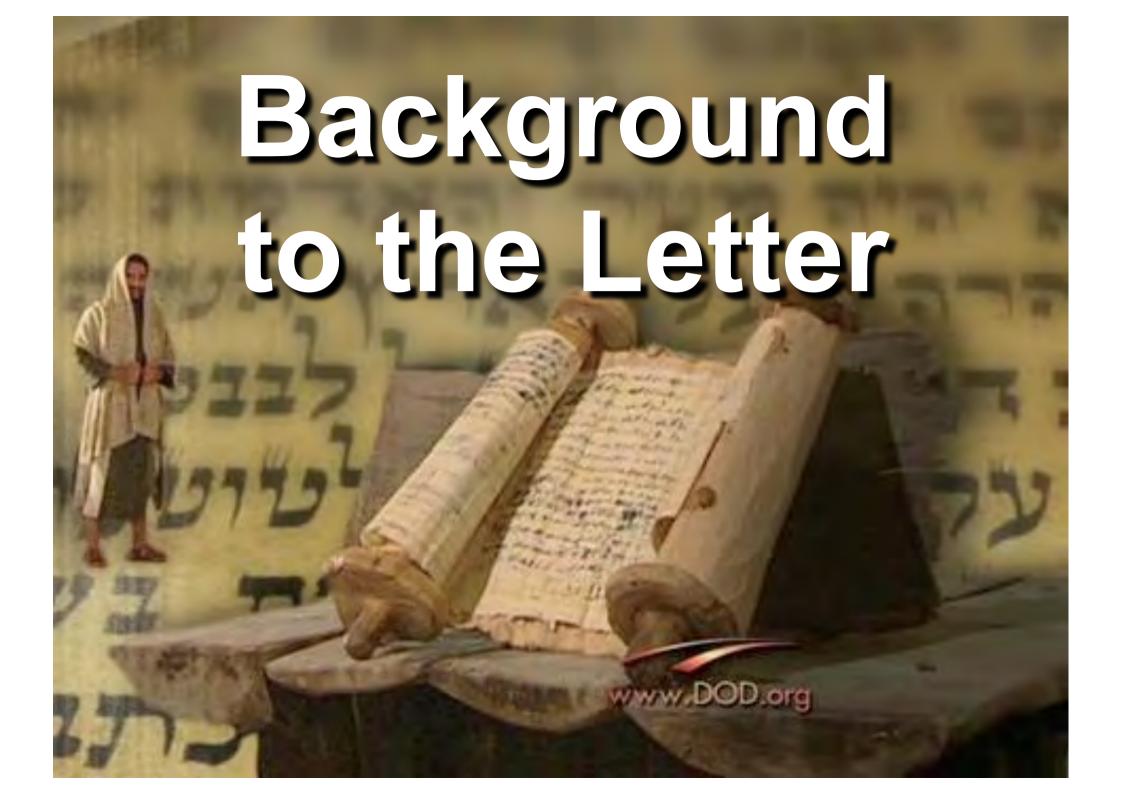


Main Idea of 1:4-2:18





Worship Jesus instead of any other lesser being





Jewish Readers

The readers were Jewish Christians

"brothers and sisters who belong to God and are partners with those called to heaven" (3:1)

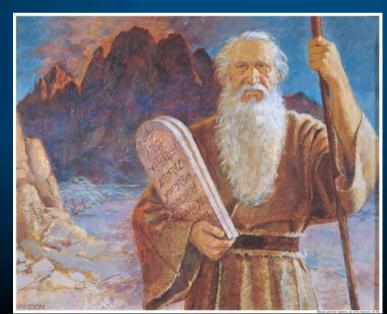
"...let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands..."
(4:14b-15a)

"...dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly when you first learned about Christ...you remained faithful even of the blood of Jesus" though it meant terrible (10:19) suffering" (10:32)



Christ is Superior in His Person

- Superior to the Prophets 1:1-3
- > Superior to the Angels 1:4–2:18
- Superior to Moses



3:1-4:7



5 Warnings in Hebrews

- 1. Warning of discipline (2:1-4)
- 2. Warning of disinheritance (3:7-19)
- 3. Warning of death (6:4-8)
- 4. Warning of death (10:26-31)
- 5. Warning of disinterest (12:14-29)

1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).

Hebrews 3

He is better than Moses, so don't forfeit Canaan in the millennial kingdom (3:1–4:13).

Superior to Moses (3:1–4:7)



A Warning 2

Abandoning Jesus forfeits our future rule (Hebrews 3:7-19).

Hebrews 3:7-9 (NLT)

That is why the Holy Spirit says, "Today when you hear his voice, 8don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled, when they tested me in the wilderness. 9There your ancestors tested and tried my patience, even though they saw my miracles for forty years.



Hebrews 3:10-11 (NLT)

So I was angry with them, and I said, 'Their hearts always turn away from me. They refuse to do what I tell them.' ¹¹So in my anger I took an oath: 'They will never enter my place of rest.'"



Hebrews 3:12-14 (NLT)

Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. ¹⁴For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

Hebrews 3:15-16 (NLT)

Remember what it says: "Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled." 16And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt?



Hebrews 3:17-19 (NLT)

And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness? ¹⁸And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him? ¹⁹So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.

Hebrews 3:12-14 (NLT)

Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. ¹⁴For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.



Hebrews 4

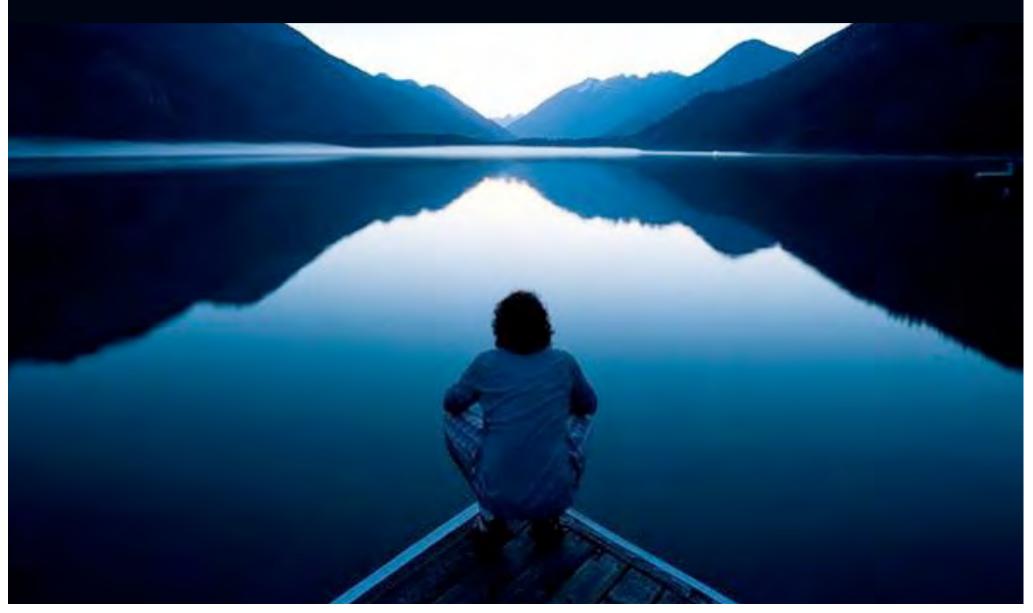
Christ is Superior in His Person

- Superior to the Prophets 1:1-3
- ➤ Superior to the Angels 1:4–2:18
- Superior to Moses 3:1−4:7
- Superior to Joshua 4:8-13

Jesus is Superior to Joshua (Hebrews 4:8-13)



"There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰ for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. ¹¹ Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience" (4:9-11 NIV)



Seven views on the Hebrews 4 266g-h "Sabbath-rest for the people of God"



Jody Dillow is the key author of the Partakers View



Final Destiny

The Future Reign of the Servant Kings

Joseph Dillow





- 1. A difference exists between inheriting the land of Canaan and living there. The former refers to ownership and the latter to mere residence.
- 2. While Israel was promised the inheritance as a nation, the condition for maintaining their inheritance right to the land of Canaan was faith, obedience, and completion of one's task. The promise, while national, was applied only to the believing and obedient remnant.

- 3. The inheritance is not to be equated with heaven but with something in addition to heaven, promised to those believers who faithfully obey the Lord.
- 4. Just as Old Testament believers forfeited their earthly inheritance through disobedience, we can also forfeit our future reward (inheritance) by a similar failure. Loss of inheritance, however, does not mean loss of salvation.

5. Two kinds of inheritance were enjoyed in the Old Testament. All Israelites who had believed and were therefore regenerate had God as their inheritance but not all inherited the land. This paves the way for the concept that the New Testament may also teach two inheritances. We are all heirs of God, but we are not all joint-heirs with Christ, unless we persevere to the end of life. The former refers to our salvation and the latter to our reward.

6. A child of Israel was both an heir of God and an heir of Canaan by virtue of faith in God resulting in regeneration. Yet only those believers in Israel who were faithful would maintain their status as firstborn sons who would actually receive what had been promised to them as an inheritance.



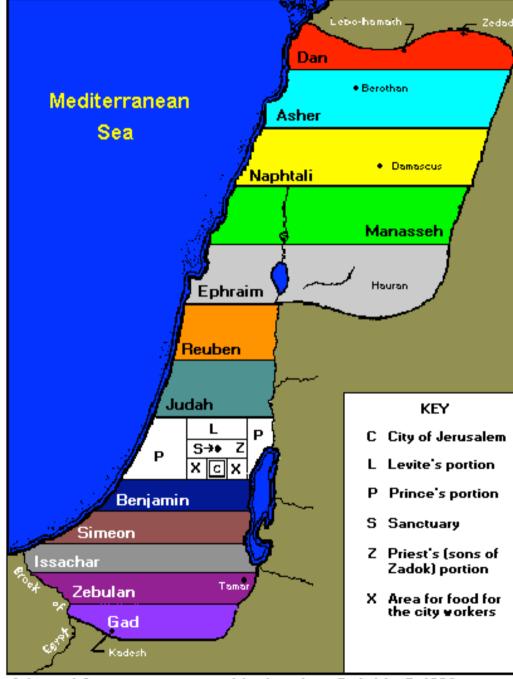
Two Types of Inheritance

"Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his suffering in order that way also share in his lory" (Rom. 8:17 NIV).

= Salvation

= Reward

LAND ALLOTMENT IN THE MILLENIUM ACCORDING TO EZEKIEL



Adapted from map prepared by Lambert Dolphin @ 1996

266i

Support for the Future Millennial Rest in Hebrews 4

- 1. The context
- 2. The land promise
- 3. Other Scripture
- 4. Extra-biblical references
- 5. Hebrews 4:8 time period
- 6. An objection rebuffed

Tribal Redistribution

Dan Asher

OTS 531d 531e

Tyre After Conquest (Josh.

Joppa,

Kedesh Cabul Rimmon ULUN

Jezreel

EAS Kinnereth Golan **Ashtaroth**

Mt. Moreh MANASSEH Edrei

Taanach* Ramoth Beth Shan Gilead Jabesh Gilead

Samaria, Jabbok R. Mahanaim? Succoth

Shiloh. EPHRAIM

Rabbah AMMON Gezer Gibeon BENJAMIN Jericho

Kiriath Jearim Ashdod Heshbon Bezer Ekron Mt. Nebo Bethlehem Gath*

Ashkelon, Shemesh REUBEN Hebron

Megiddo

Aphek

Eglon?* Lachish Dibon Gaza En Gedi *Aroer

Sea Gerar* Ziklag MOAB Beersheba.

> Hormah SIMEON

Millennial Israel (Ezek. 47-48)

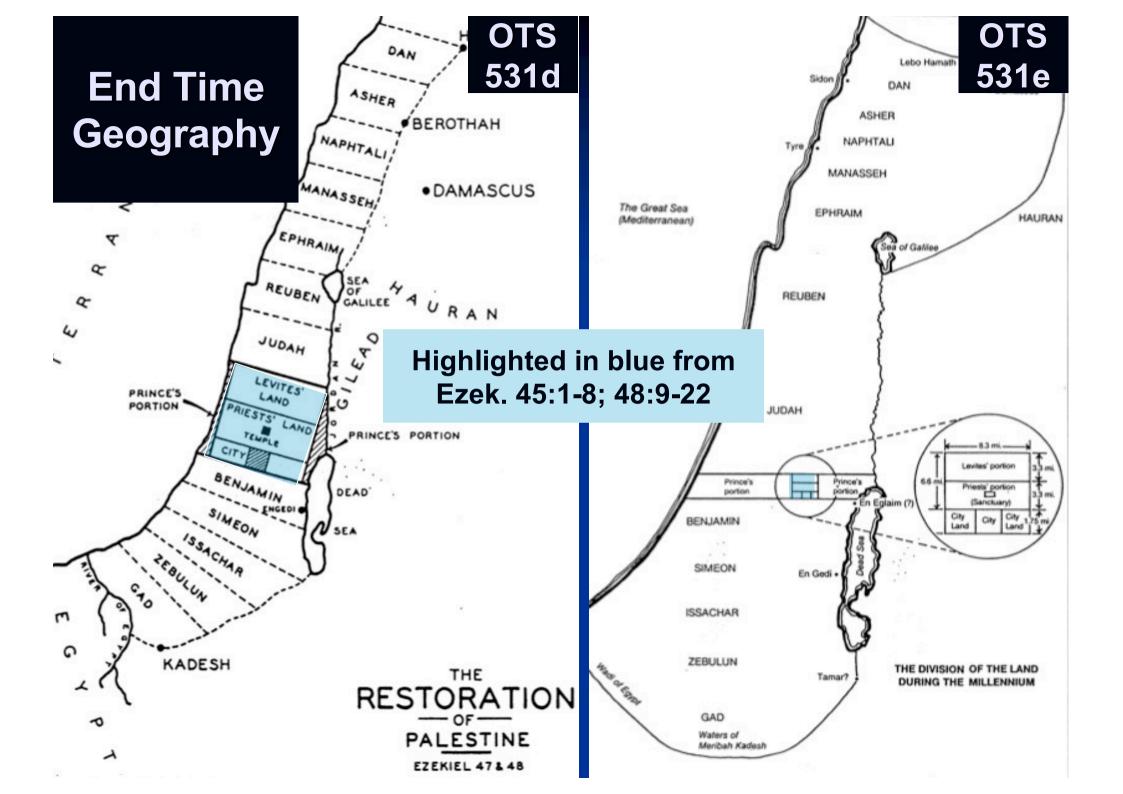
Naphtali Manasseh **Ephraim**

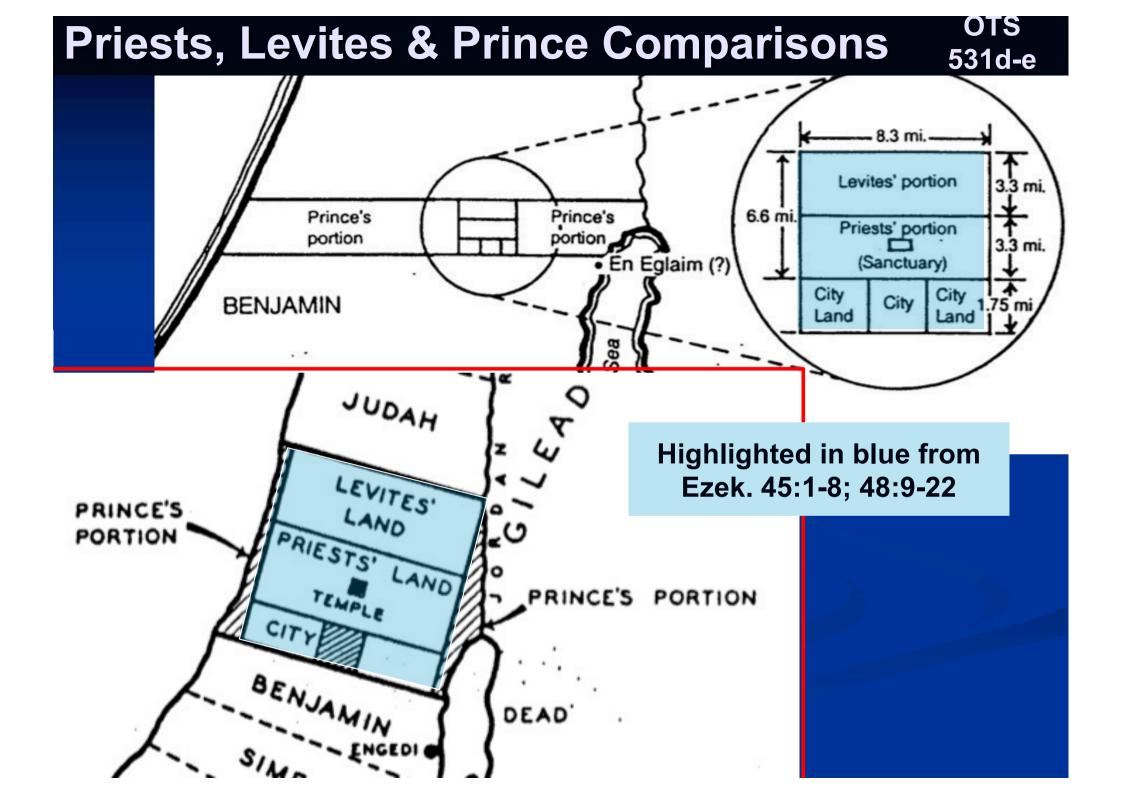
Reuben

Judah

Leaders & Temple

Benjamin Simeon Issachar Zebulun Gad





The Ten Commandments

Old Testament Commands

New Testament Repetitions

And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me" (Exod. 20:1-3).

"Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God..." (Acts 14:15; mentioned at least 50 times).

"You shall not make for yourself an idol... of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below... for I... am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers ... but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me..." (Exod. 20:4-6).

"Dear children, keep yourselves from idols" (1 John 5:21; cf. 1 Thess. 1:9; Rev. 2:14, 20; 9:20; mentioned in the NT 12 times = 12x).

* This chart is adapted and expanded from one by Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, 4:209-10

"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name" (Exod. 20:7).

"Above all...do not swear-not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your 'Yes' be yes, and your 'No,' no, or you will be condemned" (James 5:12; 4x).

2

#

3

#

Old Testament Commands

New Testament Repetitions

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work... nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth... but he rested on the seventh day..." (Exod. 20:8-11).

No NT text requires this of Christians.
However, one passage clearly prohibite the practice as required for believers: "Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" (Col. 2:16-17; 0x).

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you" (Exod. 20:12).

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother'— which is the first commandment with a promise—that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth" (Eph. 6:1-3; Matt. 15:4-6; 19:19; Mark 7:10; 10:19; 6x).

"You shall not murder" (Exod. 20:13).

"Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him" (1 John 3:15; cf. Matt. 19:18; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; Rom. 13:9; James 2:11; 6x).

5

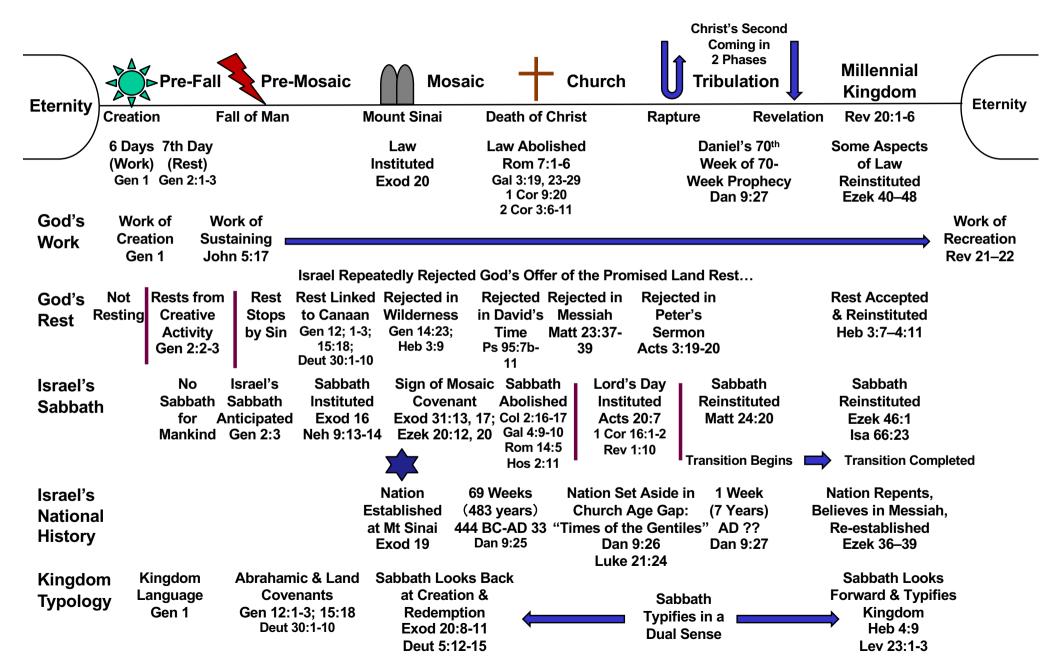
6

The Ten Commandments 155m-1

#	Old Testament Commands	New Testament Repetitions
7	"You shall not commit adultery" (Exod. 20:14).	"Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral" (Heb. 13:4; cf. Mark 10:19; 12x).
8	"You shall not steal" (Exod. 20:15).	"He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands" (Eph. 4:28; cf. Matt. 27:64; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; Rom. 13:9; Titus 2:10; 6x).
9	"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor" (Exod. 20:16).	"Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices" (Col. 3:9; cf. Eph. 4:25; 4x).
10	"You shall not covet your neighbor's house wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor" (Exod. 20:17).	"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15; Rom. 7:7; 13:9; Eph. 5:3; James 4:2; 2 Pet. 2:3, 14; 9x).

The Eschatological Significance of the Sabbath

A visual summary of the ThD dissertation by Richard James Griffith, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1990

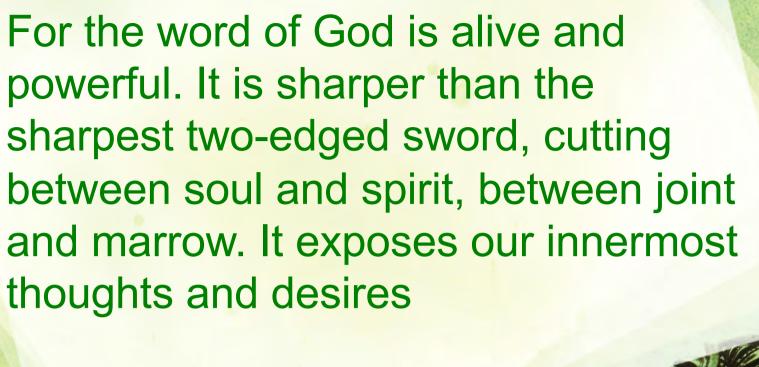


1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).

A Warning 2

Abandoning Jesus forfeits our future rule (Hebrews 3:7-19).





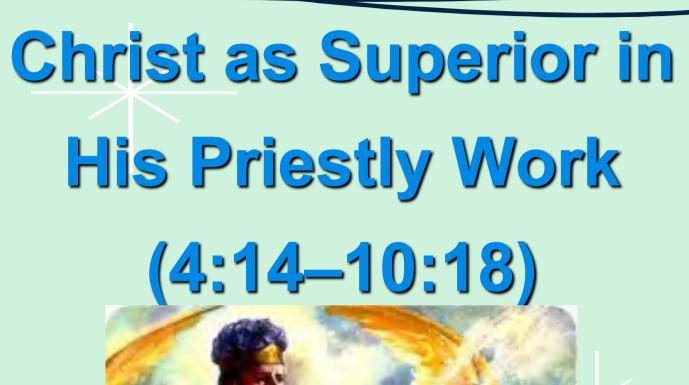


He is better than Judaism's *high* priest, so go to him (4:14–6:20).

Theme

Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Hebrews





Christ's Superior Priesthood

Superior to Aaron

4:14-6:20



Superior to Aaron (4:14–6:20)



"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we many receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:15-16

Christ understands suffering



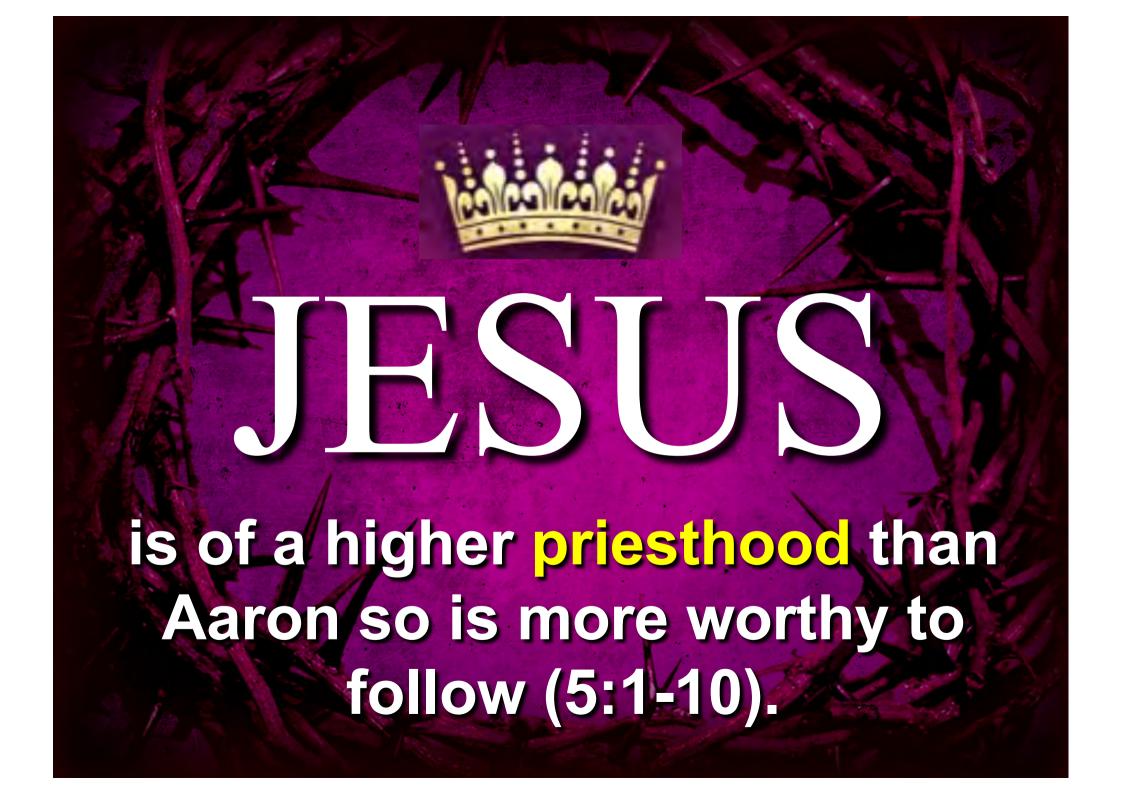
5 Warnings in Hebrews

- 1. Warning of discipline (2:1-4)
- 2. Warning of disinheritance (3:7-19)
- 3. Warning of death (6:4-8)
- 4. Warning of death (10:26-31)
- 5. Warning of unconcern (12:14-29)

Hebrews 5

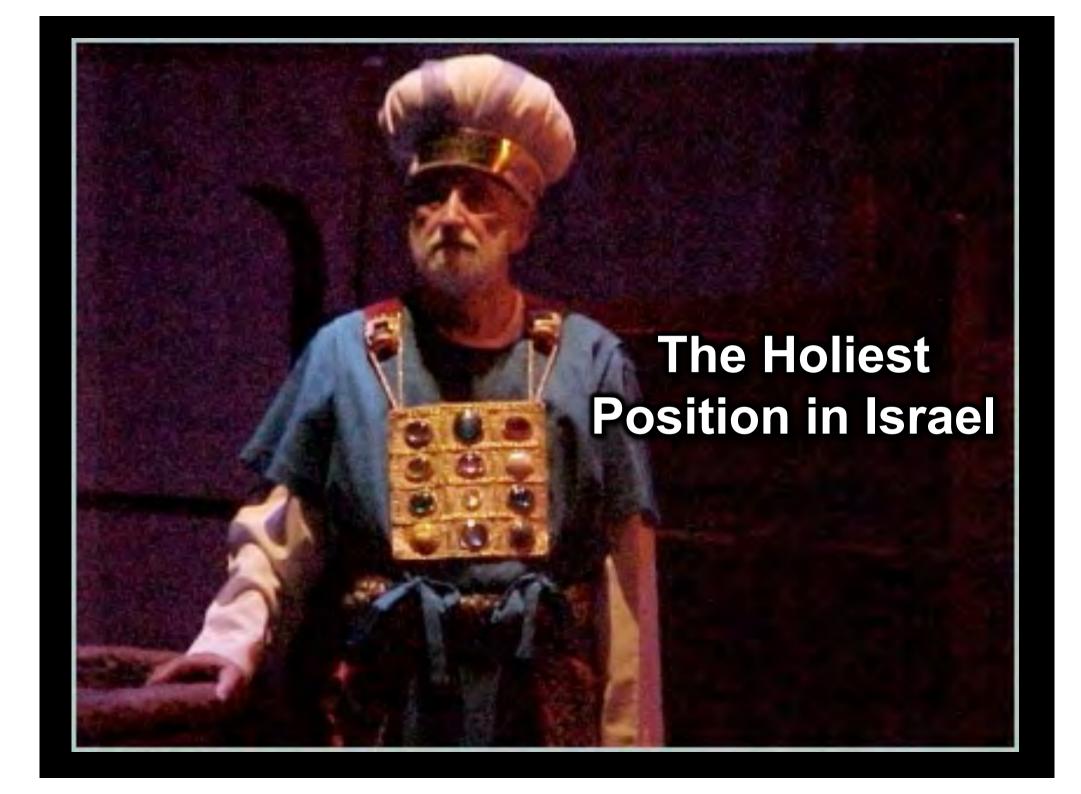


is the Son of God who helps us draw near rather than drift away (4:14-16).



The OT Background on the High Priest





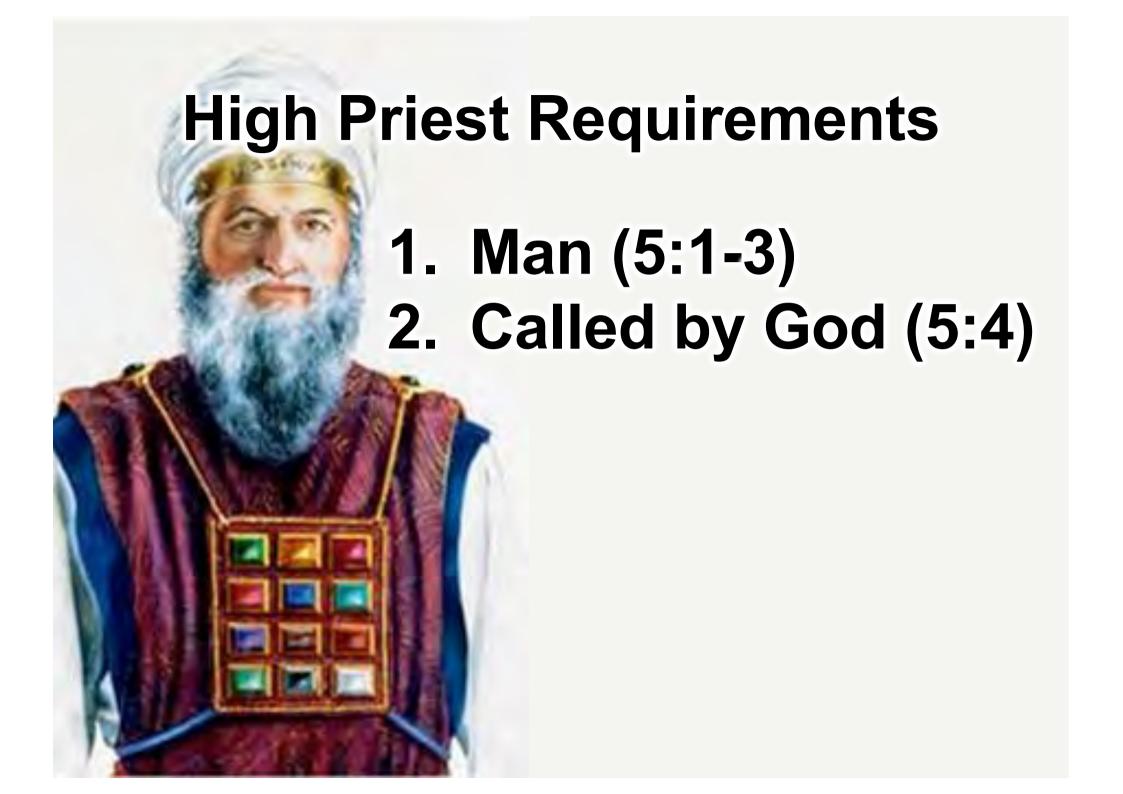


Turban: "Holy to the Lord"



The Day of Atonement (Lev. 16)

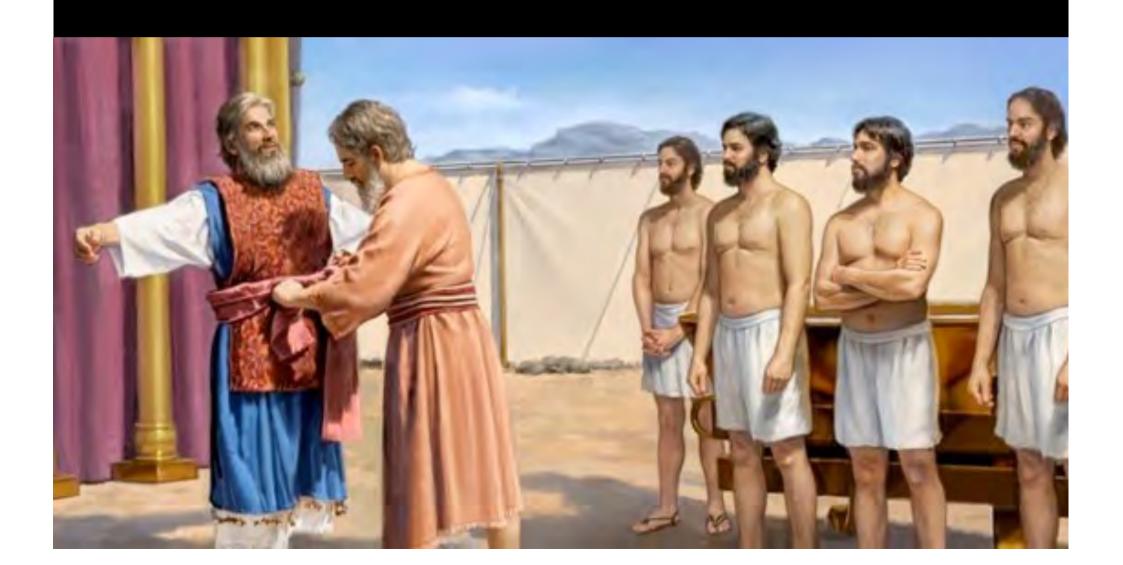




"Every high priest is a man chosen to represent other people in their dealings with God. He presents their gifts to God and offers sacrifices for their sins.

²And he is able to deal gently with ignorant and wayward people because he himself is subject to the same weaknesses. 3That is why he must offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as theirs" (5:1-3 NLT).

Called by God

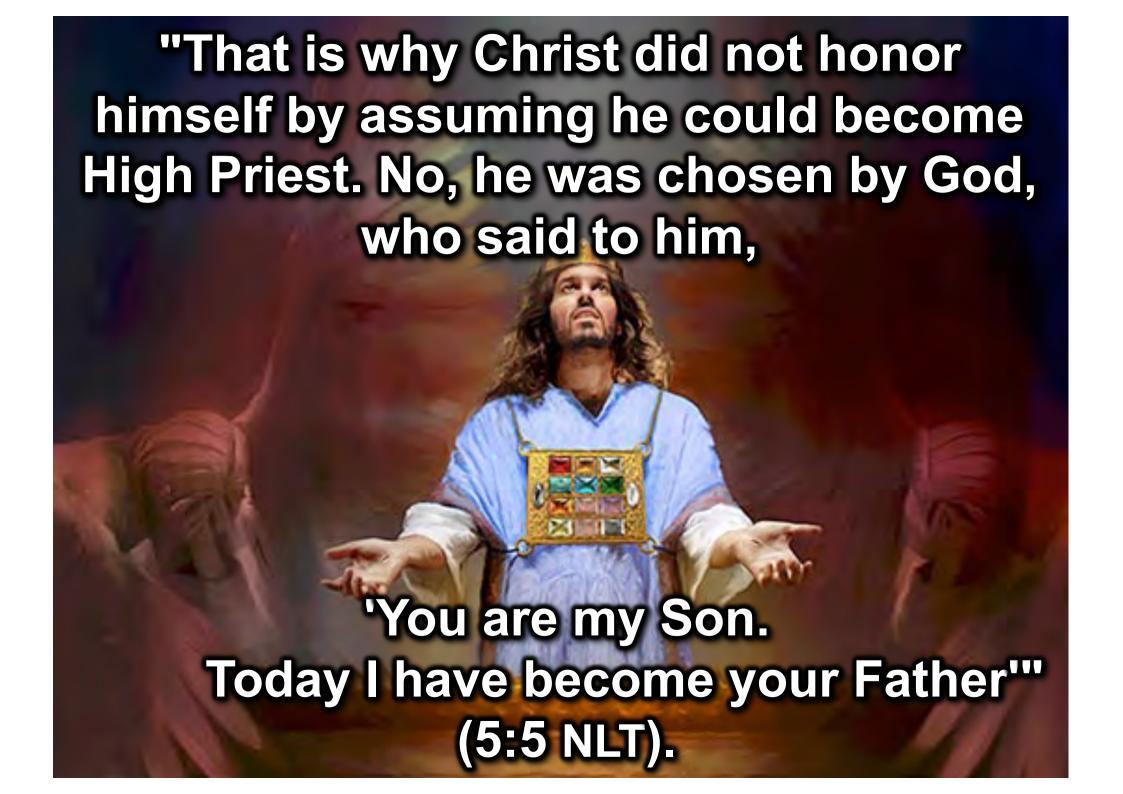




"And no one can become a high priest simply because he wants such an honor. He must be called by God for this work, just as Aaron was" (5:4 NLT).

Jesus: A Man Called by God





"And in another passage God said to him, 'You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek'" (5:6 NLT).

"While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God. ⁸Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. 9In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him. ¹⁰And God designated him to be a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek" (5:7-10 NLT).

Hebrews 6

A Warning 3

Rejecting Christ can lead to physical death (5:11–6:20).



It is impossible to repent from apostasy because you're dead (Hebrews 6:4-8).

An Impossibility (Heb. 6:4-6 NLT)

"For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ⁶and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame."

47_A WORD BIBLICAL COMMENTARY

Hebrews 1-8

WILLIAM L. LANE

General Editor: Bruce M. Metzger Did Testament Editors: John D. W. Watts, James W. Watts New Testament Editors: Ralph P. Martin, Lynn Allan Losie

Will some Christians go to hell?

Warning

6:4-12

10:26-36

(1)
Description
of the
apostate

"fallen away"
(6:6)
"crucifying
the Son of
God" (6:6)
"exposing him
to open
shame" (6:6)

"deliberately persist in sin" (10:26) "trample upon the Son of God" (10:29) "treat the blood of the covenant as defiled" (10:29) "insult the Spirit of grace" (10:29)

Warning

6:4-12

10:26-36

(2) Prior experience

"once for all brought into the light" (6:4) "have experienced the gift from heaven" (6:4) "have received a share in the Holy **Spirit"** (6:4) "have experienced the goodness of God's word and the coming age" (6:5)

"have received the full knowledge of the truth" (10:26)
"consecrated by means of the blood of the covenant" (10:29)

William L. Lane, Hebrews 9–13, vol. 47, Word Biblical Commentary (Dallas: Word, 1991), 2:296-97

Warning

6:4-12

10:26-36

(3) Impossibility of renewal "It is impossible... to restore them to repentance" (6:4, 6)

"no longer any sacrifice for sins" (10:26)

Warning

6:4-12

10:26-36

(4) "loss" (6:6) Expectation "curse" (6:8) "burning" (6:8)

"terrifying expectation of judgment" (10:27) "raging fire" (10:27) "severer punishment" (10:29) "dread" (10:31)

Comfort

6:4-12

10:26-36

(1) Basis

Appeal to
"better things
which
accompany
your salvation"
(6:9)

Appeal to "remember those earlier days after you had received the light" (10:32)

Comfort

6:4-12

10:26-36

(2) Past experience as Christians

"work and love demonstrated" (6:10)
"you served... fellow Christians" (6:10)

"endured a hard contest with sufferings" (10:32) "showed solidarity with those who were harshly treated" (10:33) "shared the sufferings of those in prison" (10:34) "cheerfully accepted the seizure of your property" (10:34)

Comfort

6:4-12

10:26-36

(3) Present

"demonstrate the responsibility same earnest concern" (6:11) "not become sluggish" (6:12) "become imitators of those with steadfast endurance" (6:12) "Do not throw away your boldness" (10:35)["endurance" (10:36)]

Comfort

6:4-12

10:26-36

(4) Incentive "the realization of your hope" (6:11) "inherit the promise" (6:12) "great reward" (10:35) [receive the promise" (10:36)]

47 A WORD BIBLICAL COMMENTARY

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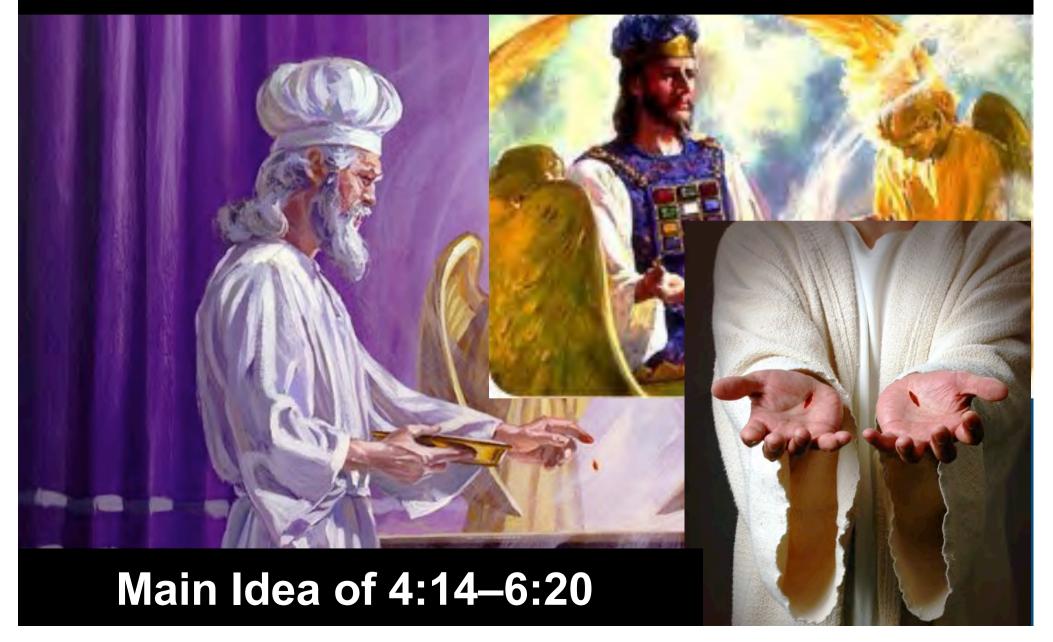
Will some Christians go to hell?

He says yes.

What is the danger in 6:4-8?

- 1. A Christian who loses his salvation?
- 2. A hypothetical, impossible situation that could never happen?
- 3. A profession that really wasn't genuine and thus results in hell?
- 4. A believer who is disqualified for Christian service and will never again return to spiritual commitment due to death has the best evidence

Following a lesser mediator than Jesus can lead to death



Hebrews 7

He is better than *Abraham and Levi* as a Melchizedek Priest, so follow him (Heb 7).

Christ's Superior Priesthood

Superior to Aaron

4:14-6:20

Superior via Melchizedek

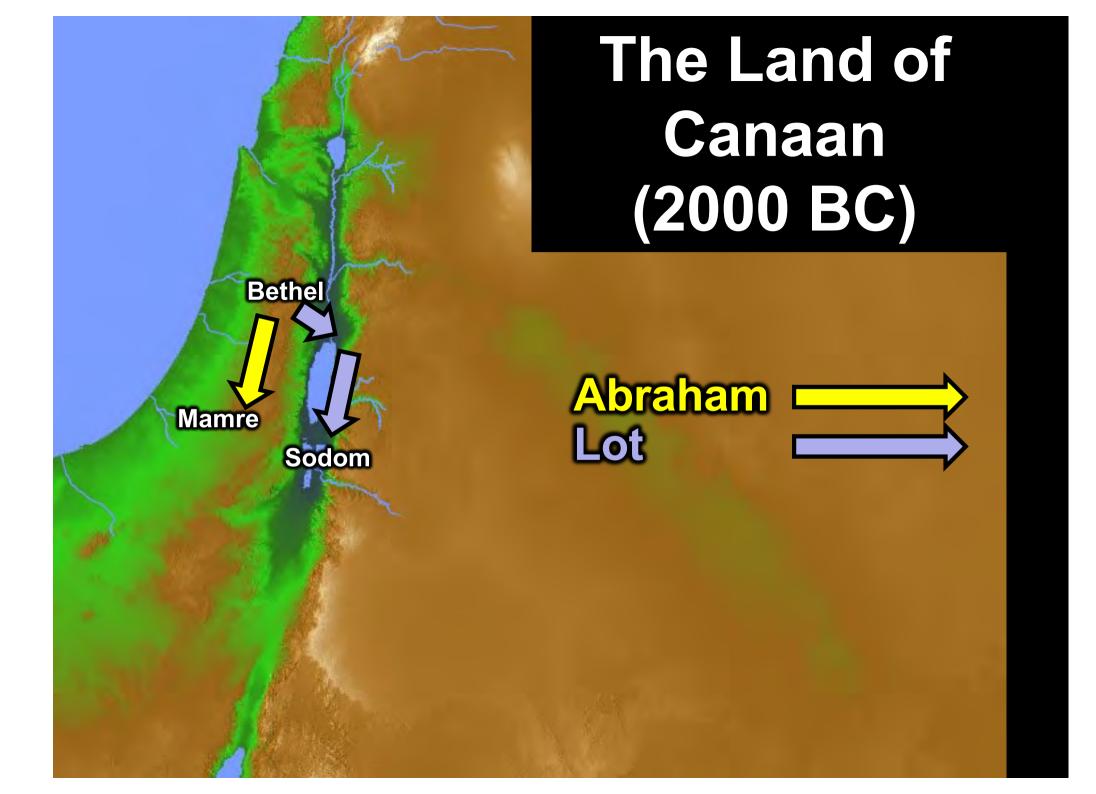
7:1-28





How should we respond to attacks against our faith in God?





"Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the LORD" (Gen. 13:10 NLT)



The Lush Jordan Valley

Lot first pitched his tent near Sodom





Perils of Success





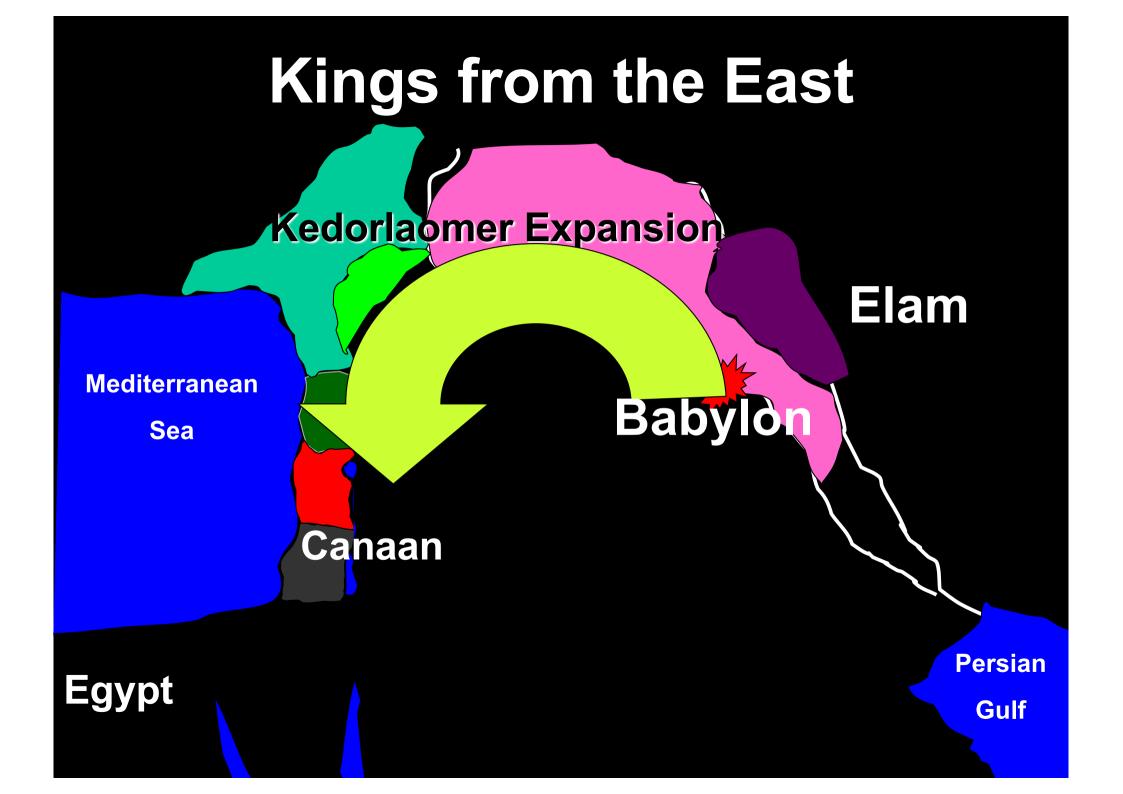
SUCCESS

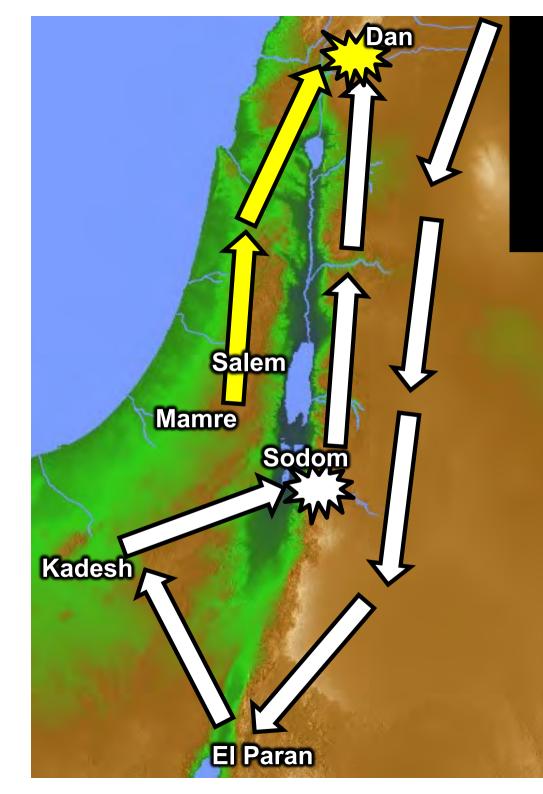
is not always what you see

How should we respond to attacks against our faith in God?



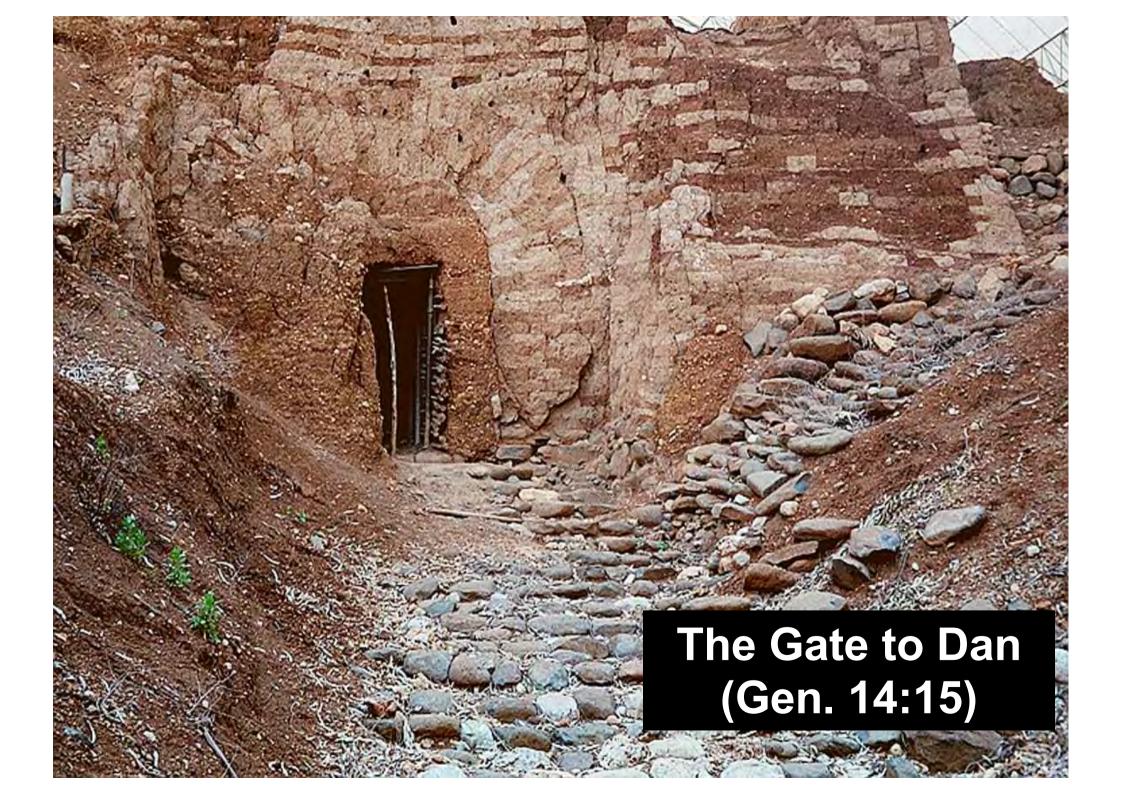


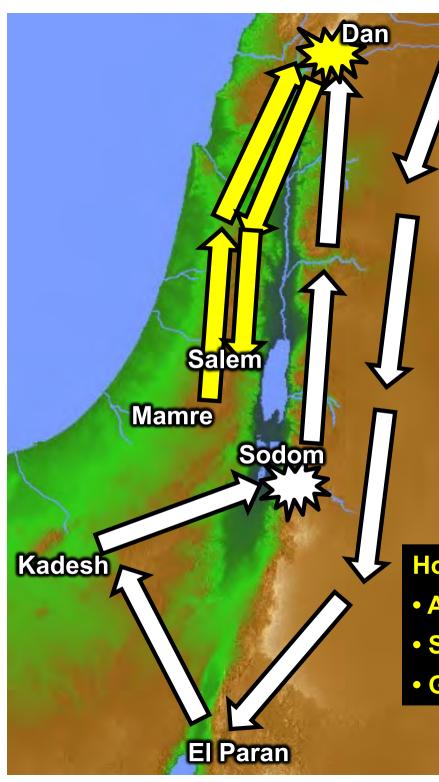




The Land of Canaan (2000 BC)

5 Kings _____



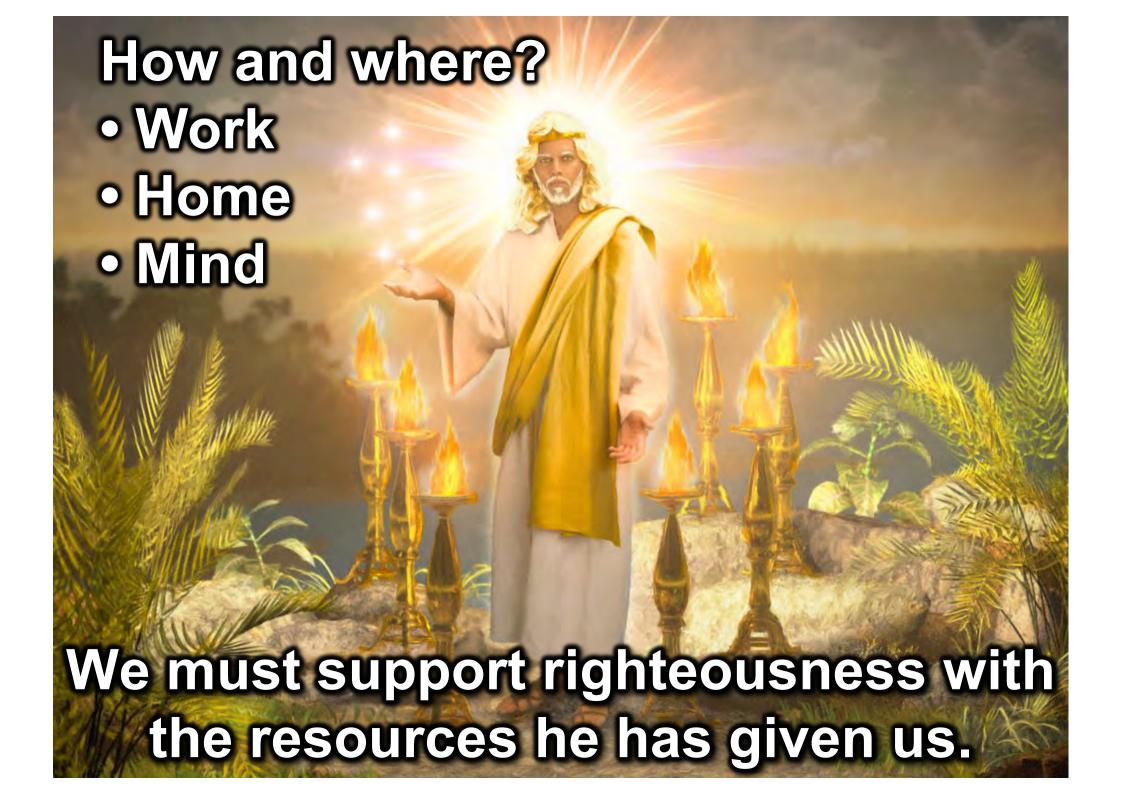


The Land of Canaan (2000 BC)

5 Kings
Abraham

How could Abraham win?

- Allies Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre (14:13, 24)
- Surprise night attack
- God

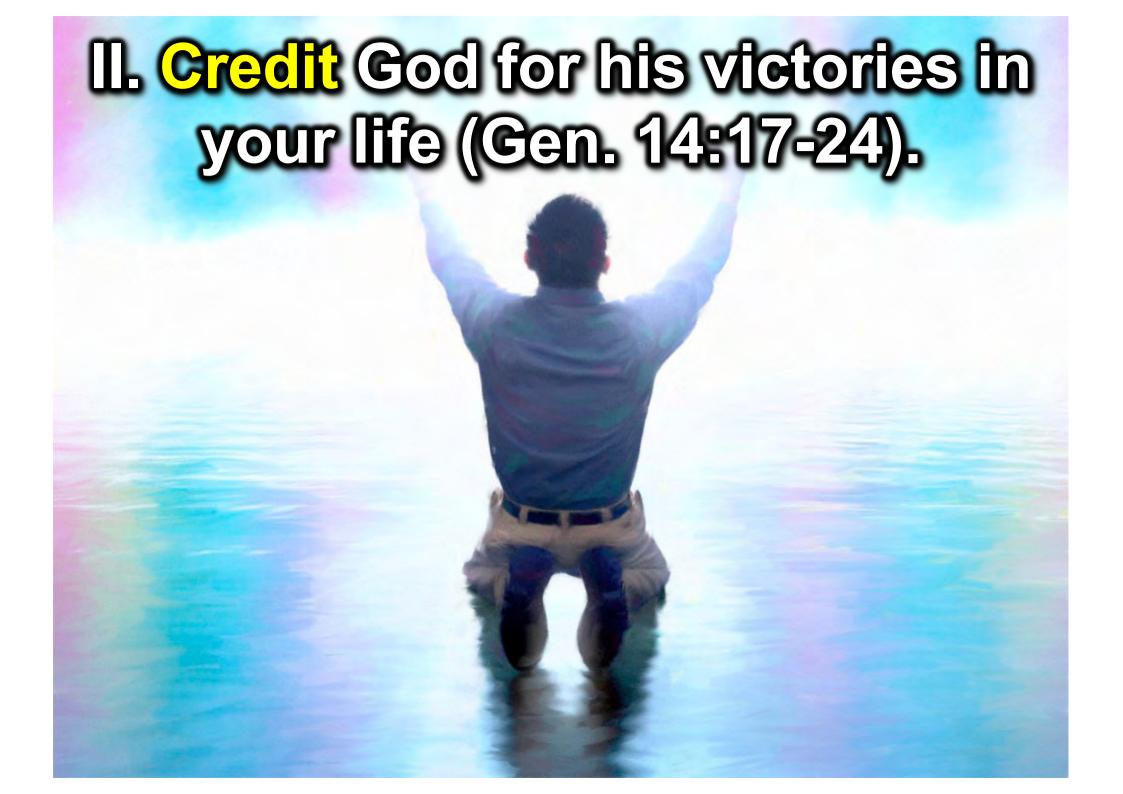


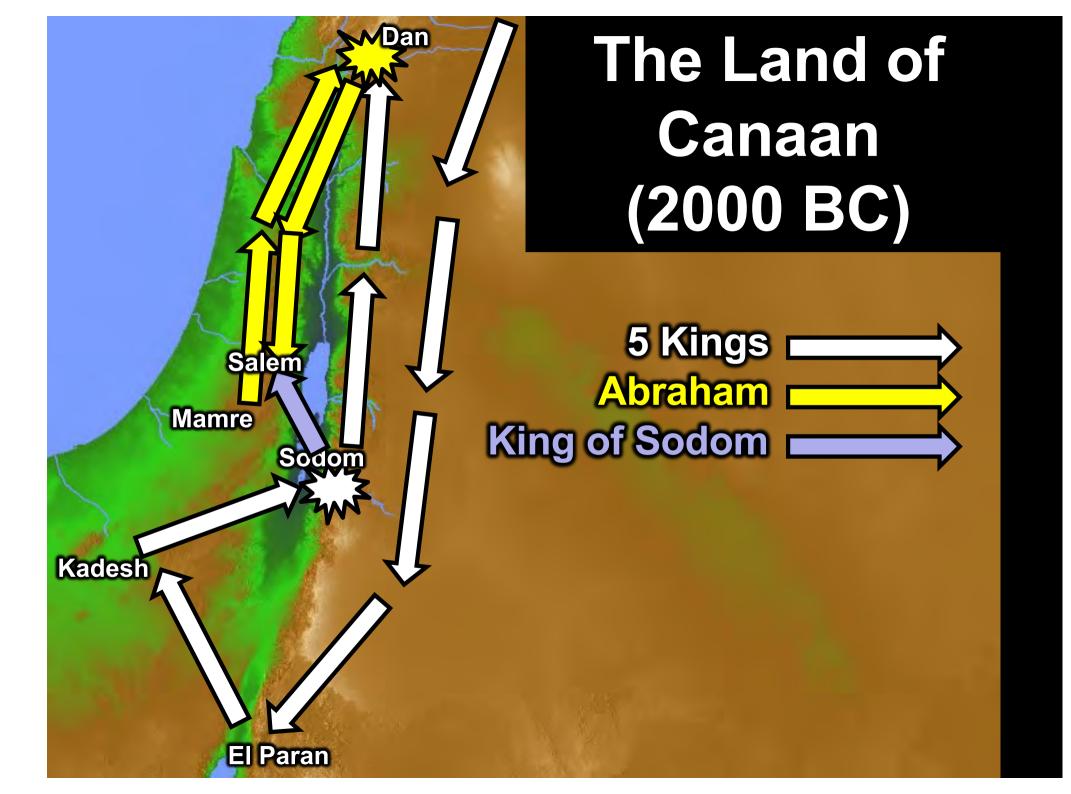


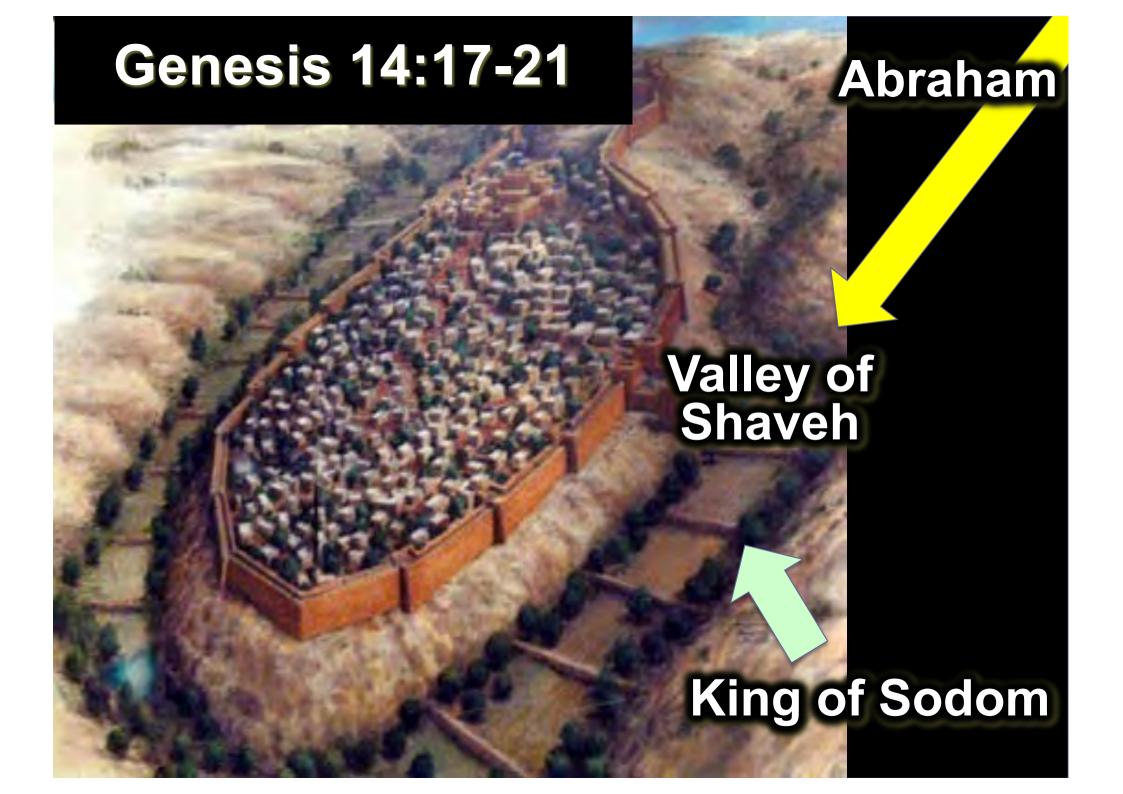


Our greater danger is not failure.

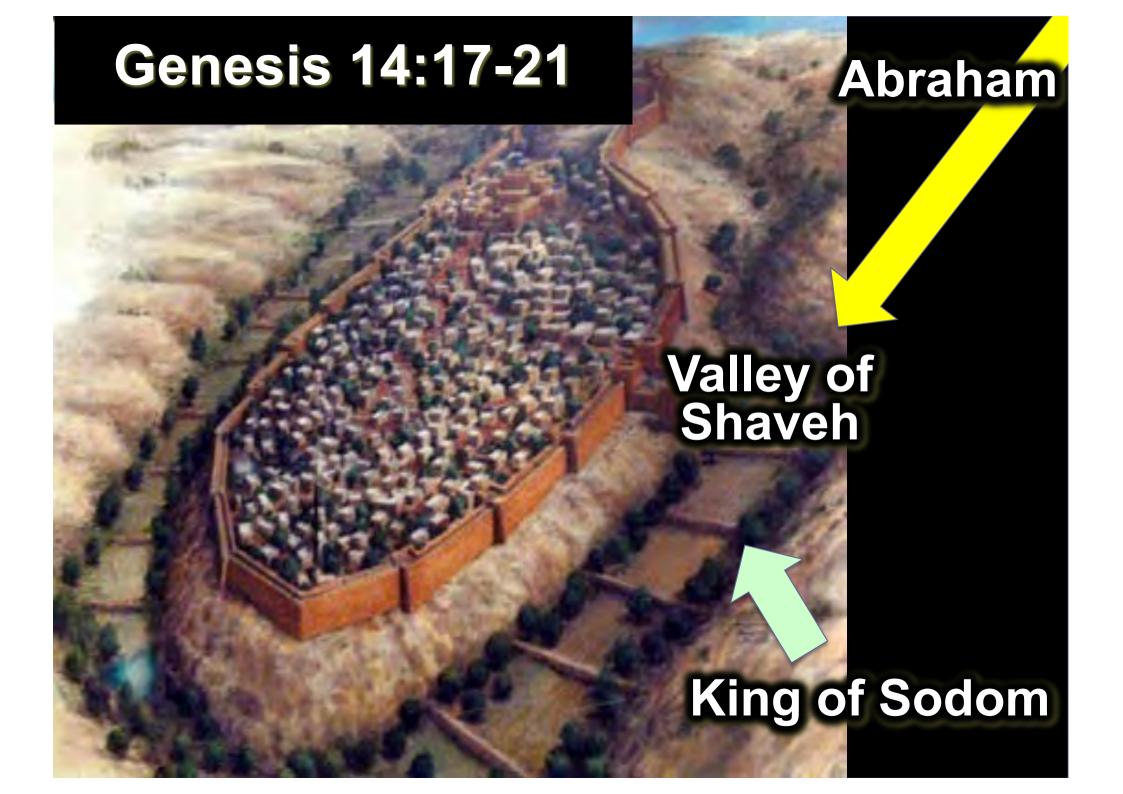
It is success.











The Valley of Shaveh

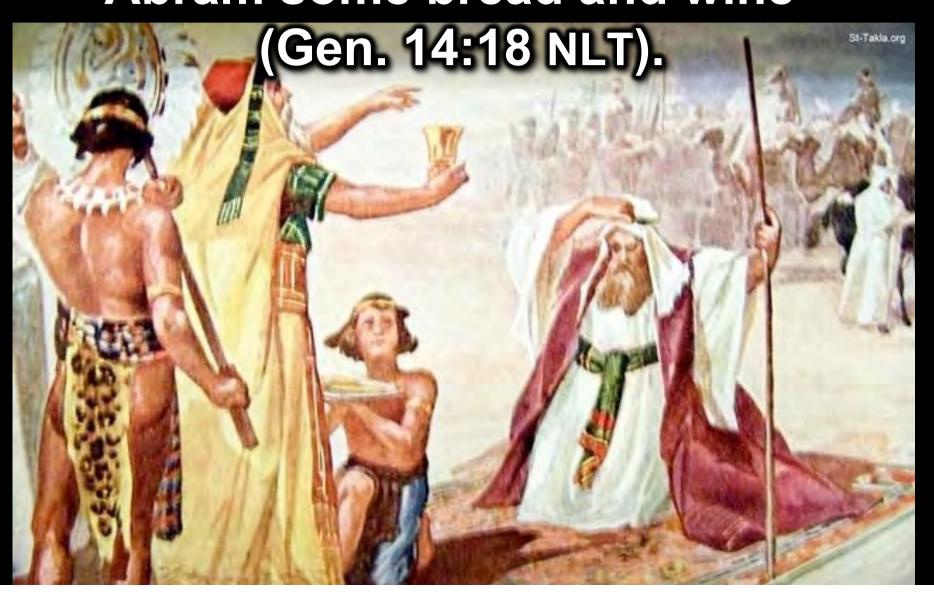
"During his lifetime, Absalom had built a monument to himself in the King's Valley, for he said, 'I have no son to carry on my name.' He named the monument after himself, and it is known as Absalom's **Monument to this day"** (2 Sam. 18:18 NLT)

Absalom's Pillar



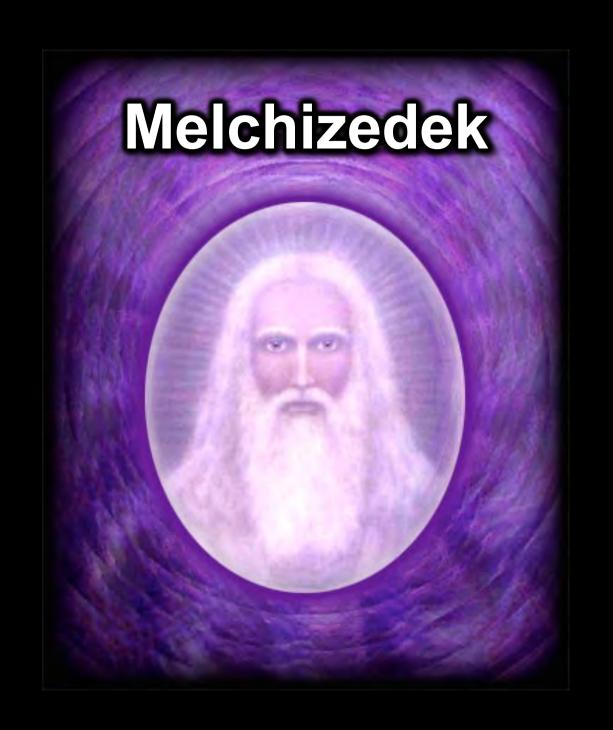
Absalom's Pillar

"And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest of God Most High, brought Abram some bread and wine"













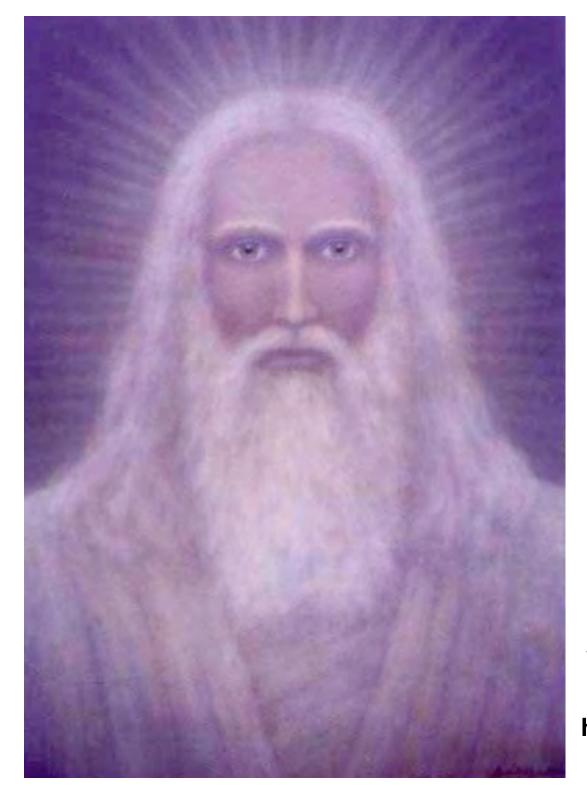




The Pre-Incarnate Christ?

The Angel Melchizedek

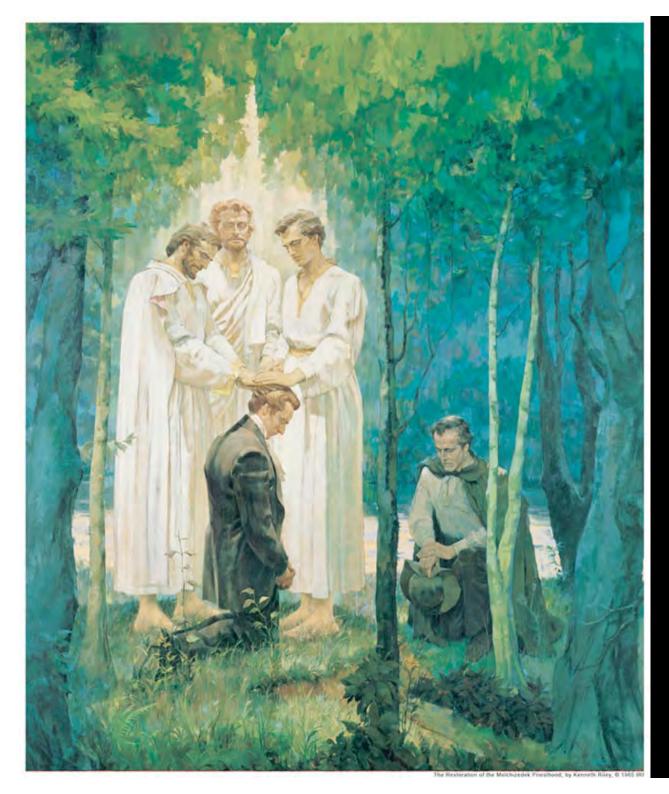




(Judaism; New Age)

"...Ancient mystical texts describe Melchizedek as one who conducts spirit releasement on a massive scale, working in conjunction with **Archangel Michael.**"

http://www.angelsandmasters.net/A5 7.html



Mormon Priesthood

A painting depicting the restoration of the Melchizedek Priesthood by Peter, James, and John

Mormonbeliefs.org

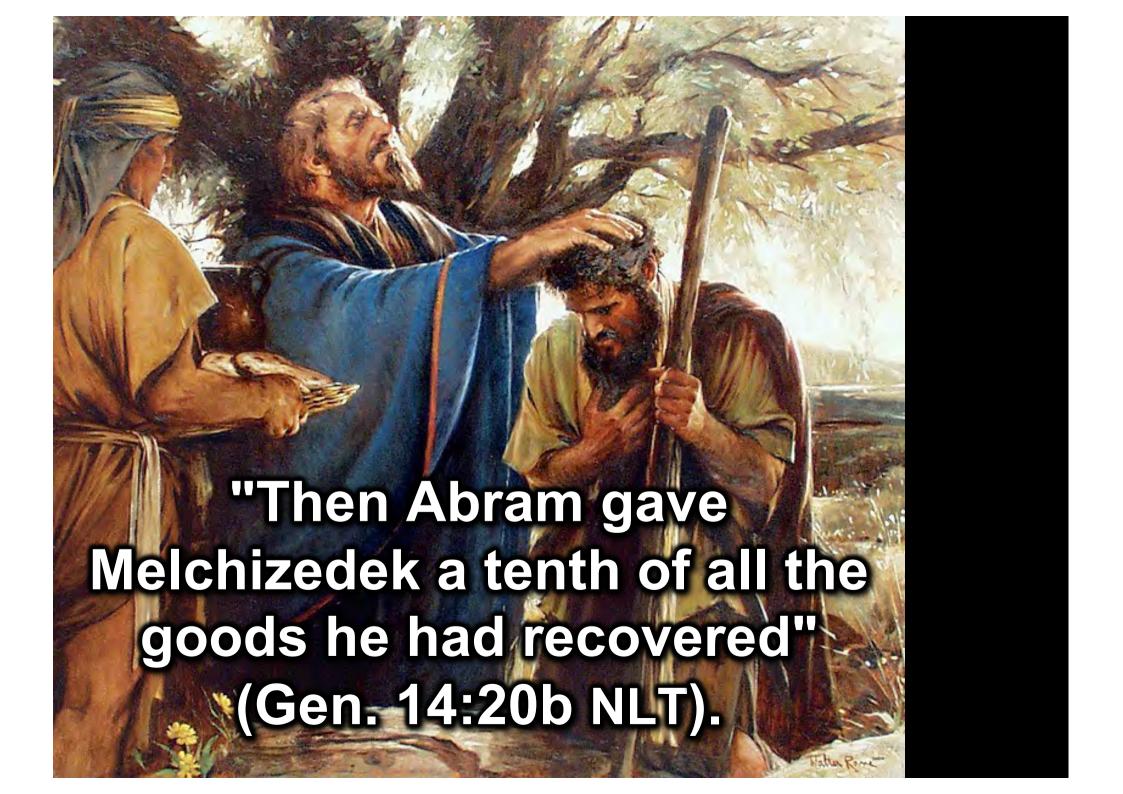


Who really was Melchizedek? (Gen. 14)

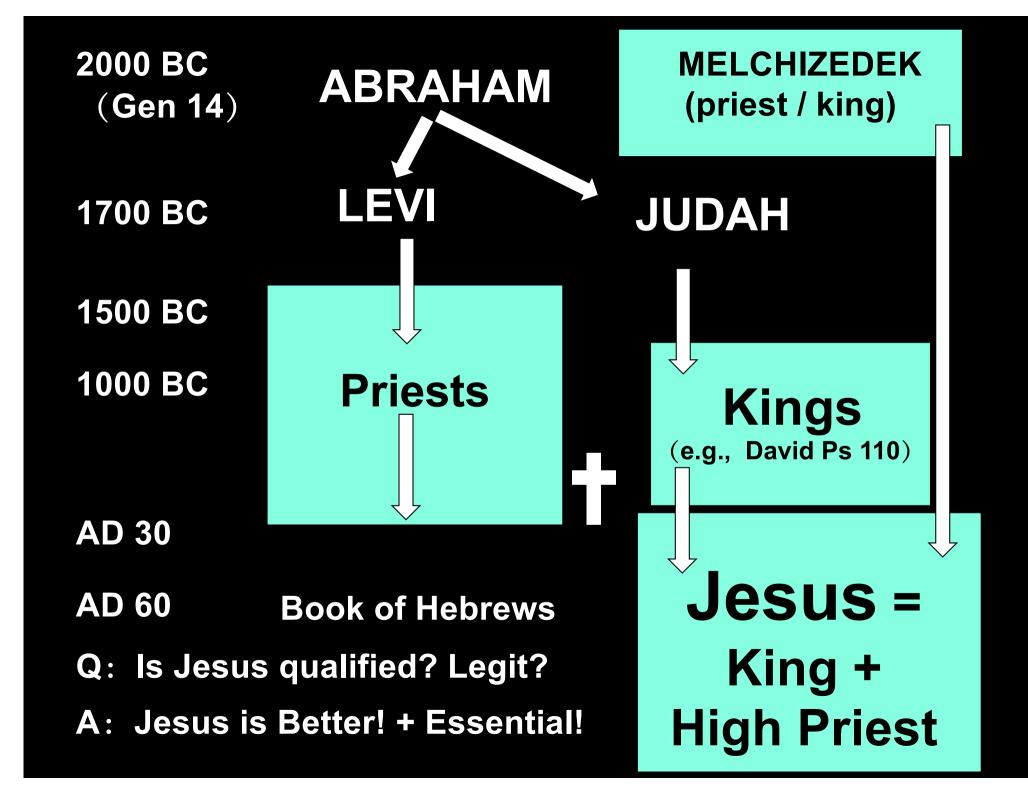
- "King of righteousness"
 King of Jerusalem (cf. Ps. 76:2)
 Priest of God Most High









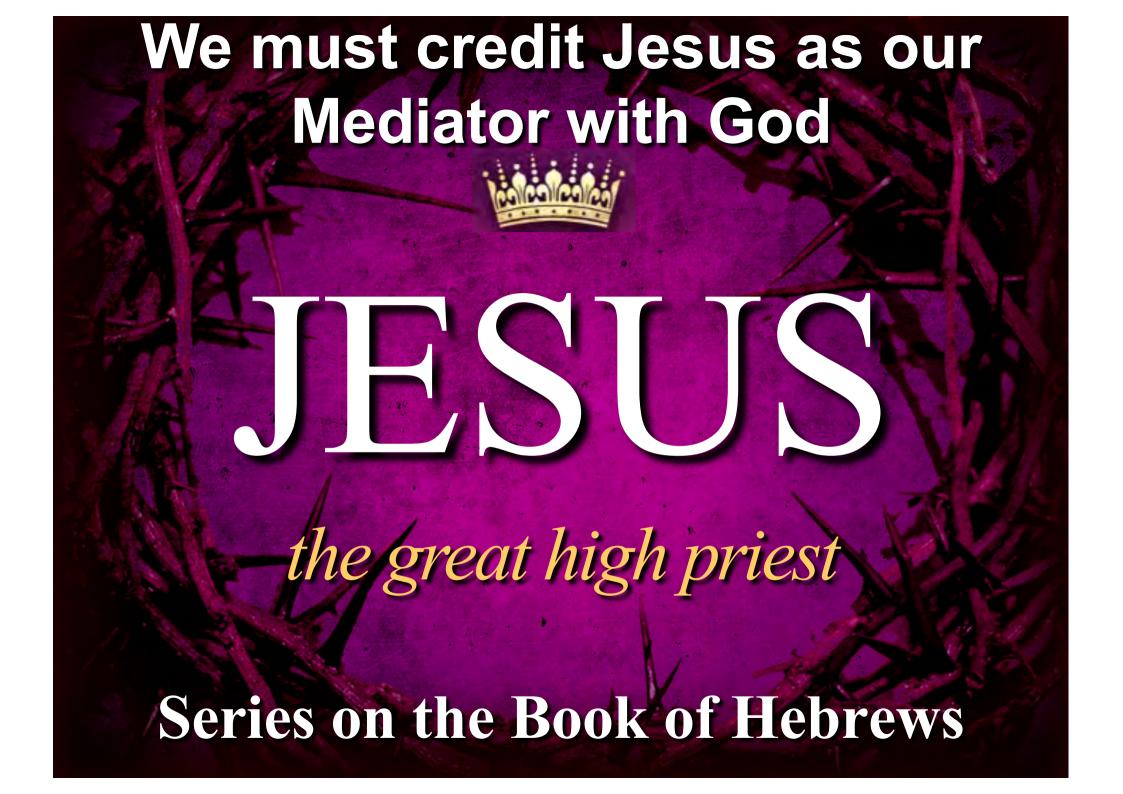


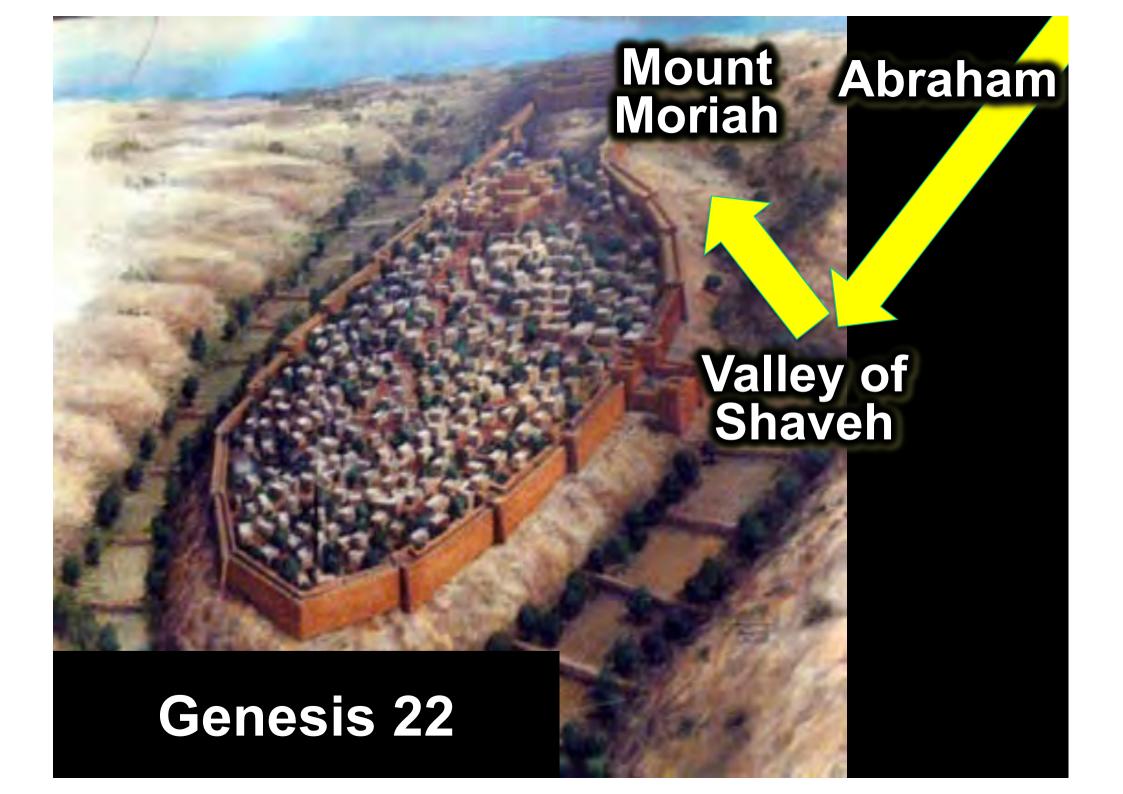


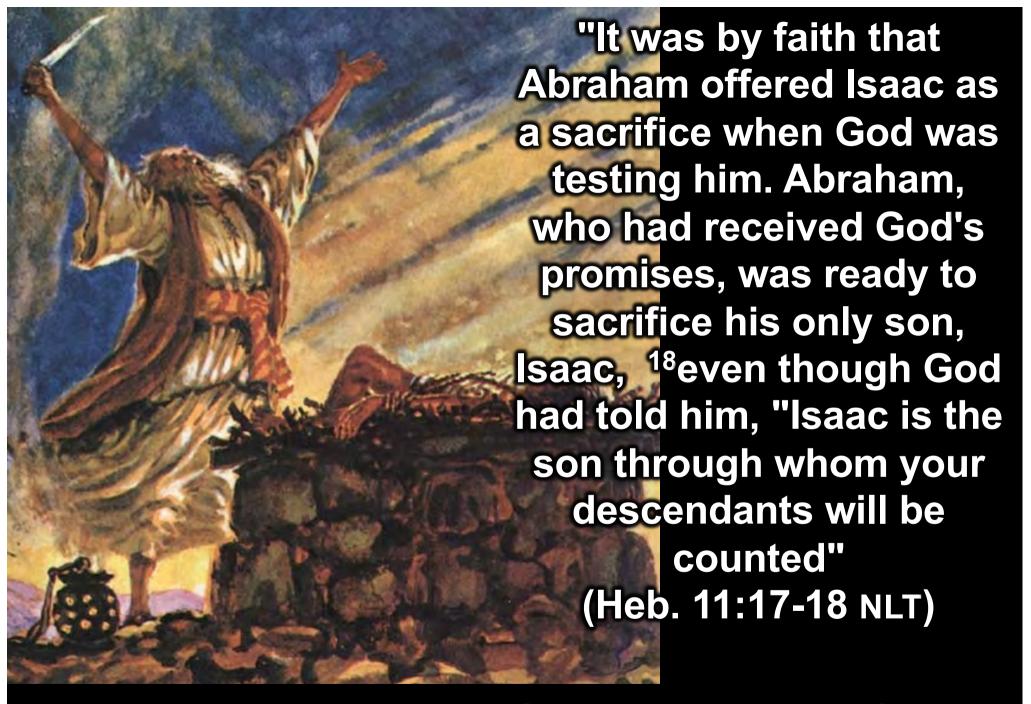
Offer Rejected

"The king of Sodom said to Abram, 'Give back my people who were captured. But you may keep for yourself all the goods you have recovered.' ²²Abram replied to the king of Sodom, 'I solemnly swear to the LORD, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, ²³that I will not take so much as a single thread or sandal thong from what belongs to you. Otherwise you might say, 'I am the one who made Abram rich.' 24 will accept only what my young warriors have already eaten, and I request that you give a fair share of the goods to my allies—Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre'' (Genesis 14:21-24 NLT).

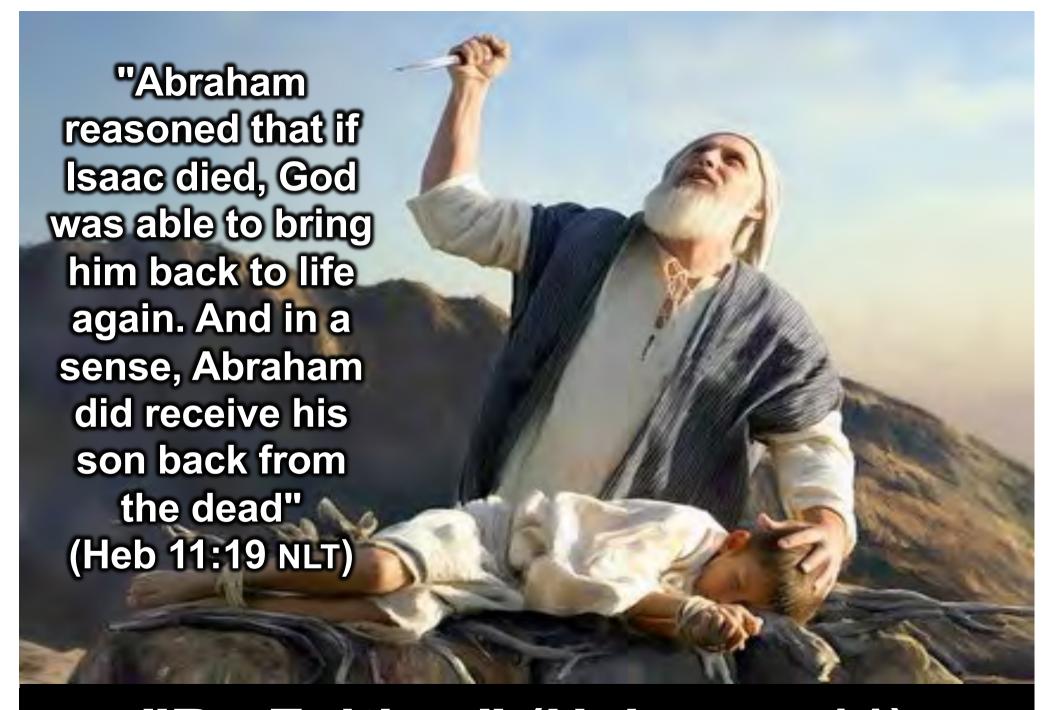








"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)

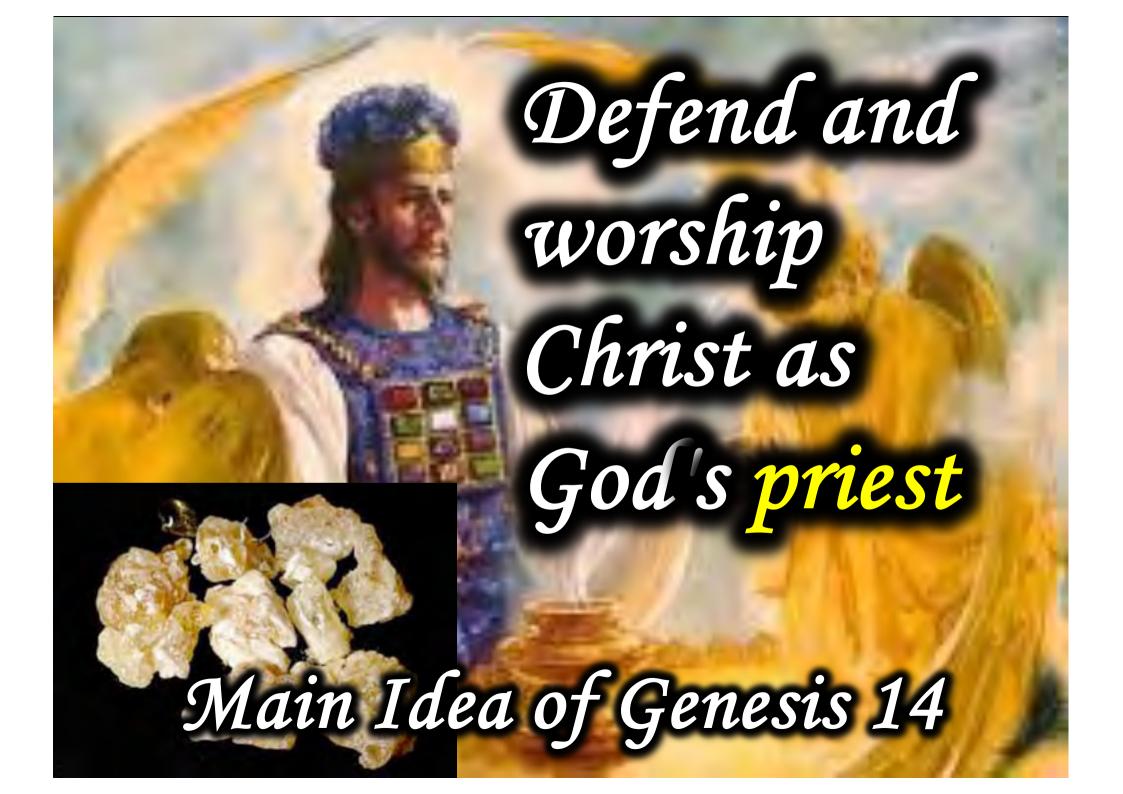




"The LORD has taken an oath and will not break his vow: 'You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek'" (Ps. 110:4 NLT).

How should we respond to attacks against our faith in God?











- Like Abraham, defend God's honor against attackers.
- Like Abraham, accept God's blessing instead of the best the world can offer.
- Trust in Christ as God's appointed Mediator-Priest.

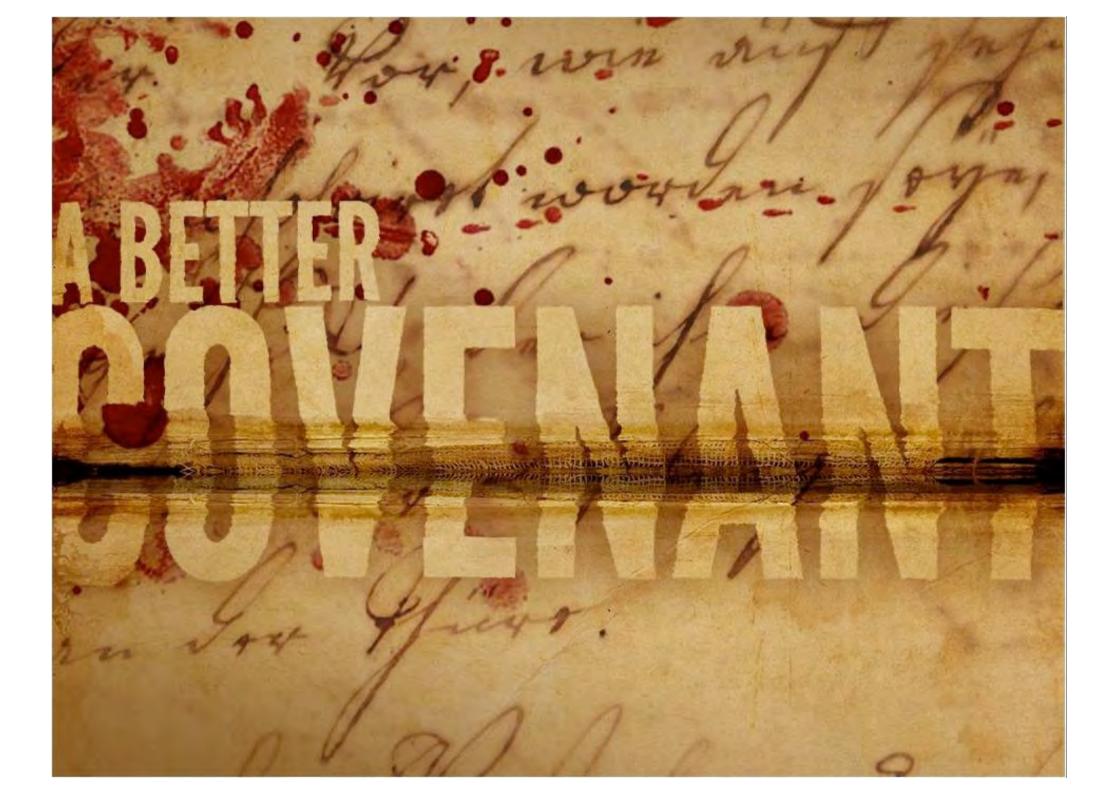
Christ's Superior Priesthood

Superior to Aaron 4:14–6:20

Superior via Melchizedek 7:1-28

Superior to the Old Covenant 8:1-13

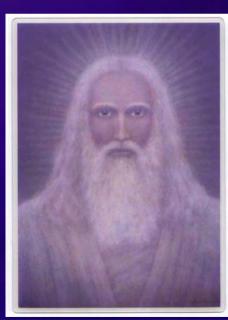




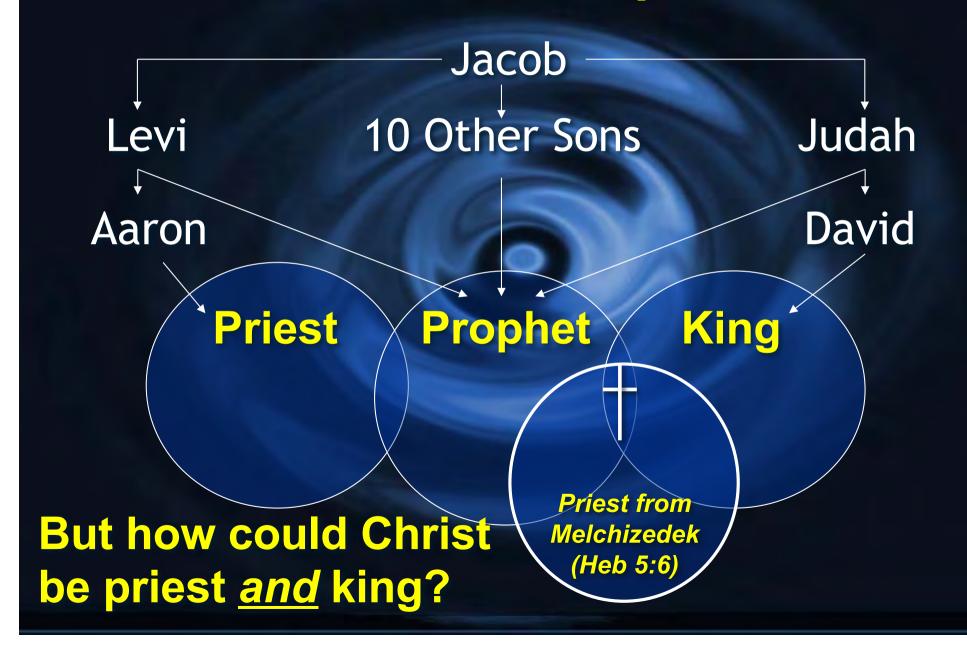
Who was Melchizedek?

Gen. 14:18-20; Psalm 110; Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:1-17

- 1. Shem, one of Noah's sons
- 2. Godly priest king of Salem (Jerusalem) (first mention of Holy City in the Bible)
- 3. Christ Himself (Heb. 7:3)
- 4. Angel who reigned for a time at Salem (Not superior to Christ)



Christ as Priest, Prophet, & King



Implications of Christ's High Priesthood



- We gain confidence that we are truly forgiven
- Jesus being worthy of worship motivates us to persevere in our faith
- Christ has a heart for us



 It gives us boldness to approach Christ in prayer

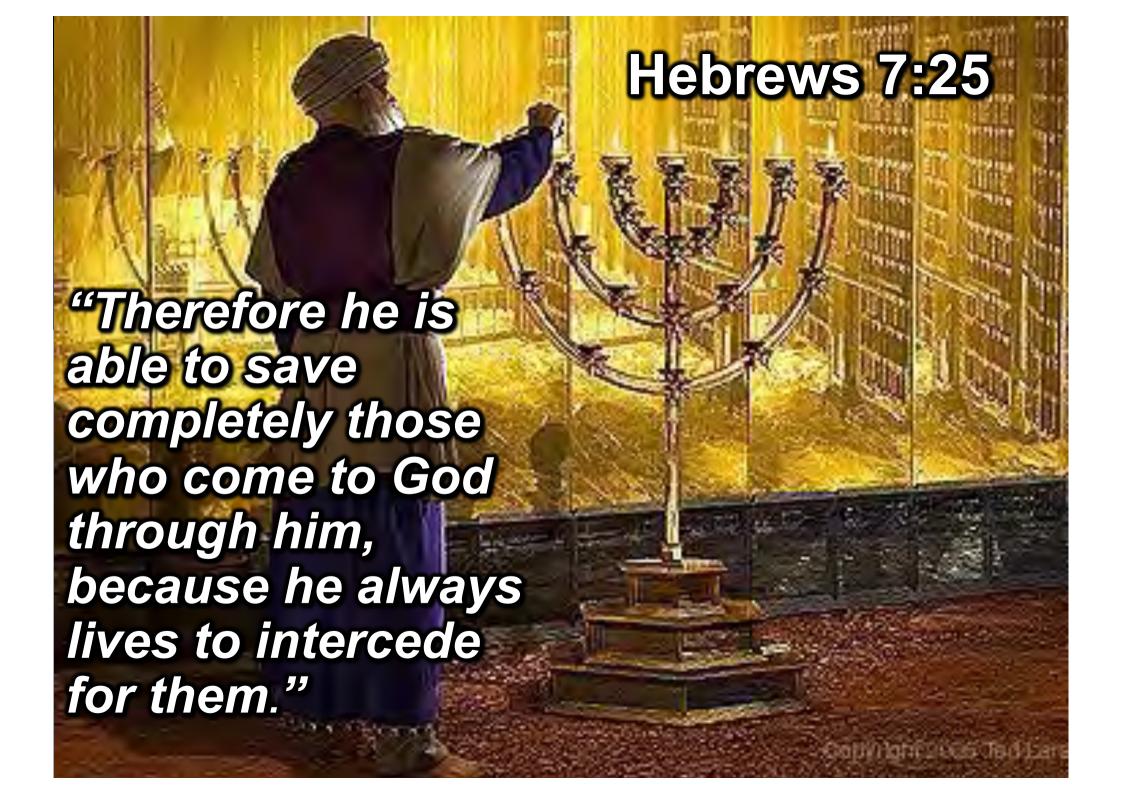
Implications of Christ's High Priesthood



- We find mercy and grace in times of need
- His priesthood affirms that believers are not under Mosaic Law
- It assures our salvation due to his intercession
- Christ fully meets our needs, so we need not repeat sacrifices



²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood.



1:4 Christ is "better than the angels"
6:9 We are confident of "better things in your case"

7:7 Melchizedek "better" ("greater") than Abraham

7:19 "We have confidence in a better hope"

7:22 Jesus is the "guarantee of a better covenant"

8:6 Christ is the "mediator of a better covenant"

8:6 New covenant "established on better promises"

9:23 Priestly garments need "better sacrifices"

10:34 Heaven a "better and lasting possession"

18:16 Heaven a "better country"

18:35 They obtain a "better resurrection" experience

18:40 God "provided something better for us"

12:24 Christ's blood is "better than the blood of Abel"

Note:

18:4 "Abel offered to God a better sacrifice" uses a different Greek word often translated "better"

Summary Statement

An unknown author shows Hebrew believers the superiority of Christ as High Priest and the superiority of Christianity over Judaism to exhort them to endure persecution rather than return to their former life under Judaism.



5 Warnings in Hebrews

- 1. Warning of discipline (2:1-4)
- 2. Warning of disinheritance (3:7-19)
- 3. Warning of death (6:4-8)
- 4. Warning of death (10:26-31)
- 5. Warning of disinterest (12:14-29)

1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).

A Warning 2

Abandoning Jesus forfeits our future rule (Hebrews 3:7-19).

Marning 3

Rejecting Christ can lead to physical death (Hebrews 6:4-8).

Hebrews 8

He is better than the old covenant in his new covenant, so follow him (Heb 8).



Two Covenants

The Purposes of the Law

- 1. It revealed or exposed the *sinfulness* of man (Gal. 3:19).
- 2. It revealed the holiness of God (1 Pet. 1:15).
- 3. It revealed the *standard of holiness* for people in fellowship with God (Ps. 24:3-5).
- 4. It *supervised* the physical, mental, and spiritual development of the redeemed Israelite until he could come to maturity in Christ (Gal. 3:24).

The Purposes of the Law

- 5. It *unified* the people to establish the nation in voluntary submission to God's decrees (Exod. 19:5-8; Deut. 5:27-28).
- 6. It separated Israel among the nations as a kingdom of priests to mediate God's truth to these nations (Exod. 31:13).
- 7. It provided *forgiveness* of sins for individual Israelites to restore their fellowship with God, even though they already functioned as a redeemed people (Lev. 1–7).

The Purposes of the Law

- 8. It made provision for Israel to worship God as a redeemed people (Lev. 23).
- 9. It tested if one was in the kingdom or the theocracy over which God ruled (Deut. 28). Faith led to obedience and blessing; lack of faith led to disobedience and judgment.
- 10. It revealed Jesus Christ (typology in the sacrificial system; Luke 24:27).

Interpreting and Preaching Legal Literature

- 1. Interpretation: Study the *intent behind* the legal command, asking, "Why was this command given in Israel?"
- 2. Principlizing: State the law's intent in a general principle showing God's character.
- 3. <u>Application</u>: Show how this principle relates to a modern parallel situation.



Principlizing: Universal truth

Interpretation: Intent behind the command Application:
Parallel Modern
Situation



Divinely Ordained Laziness?

"When you harvest the crops of your land, do not harvest the grain along the edges of your fields, and do not pick up what the harvesters drop. Leave it for the poor and the foreigners living among you. I am the LORD your God" (Lev. 23:22 NLT).



Principlizing: God wants His people to give the underprivileged the chance to earn a living

Interpretation:

Do not harvest the corners of the fields because God had compassion on the poor who should glean for their food

Application:

As an employer you should provide opportunities for the poor to support themselves



Divinely Ordained Stealing?

"When you enter your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat your fill of grapes, but you must not carry any away in a basket.

²⁵And when you enter your neighbor's field of grain, you may pluck the heads of grain with your hand, but you must not harvest it with a sickle" (Deut. 23:24-25 NLT).



Principlizing: God allows taking small items for He cares more for human need than human property

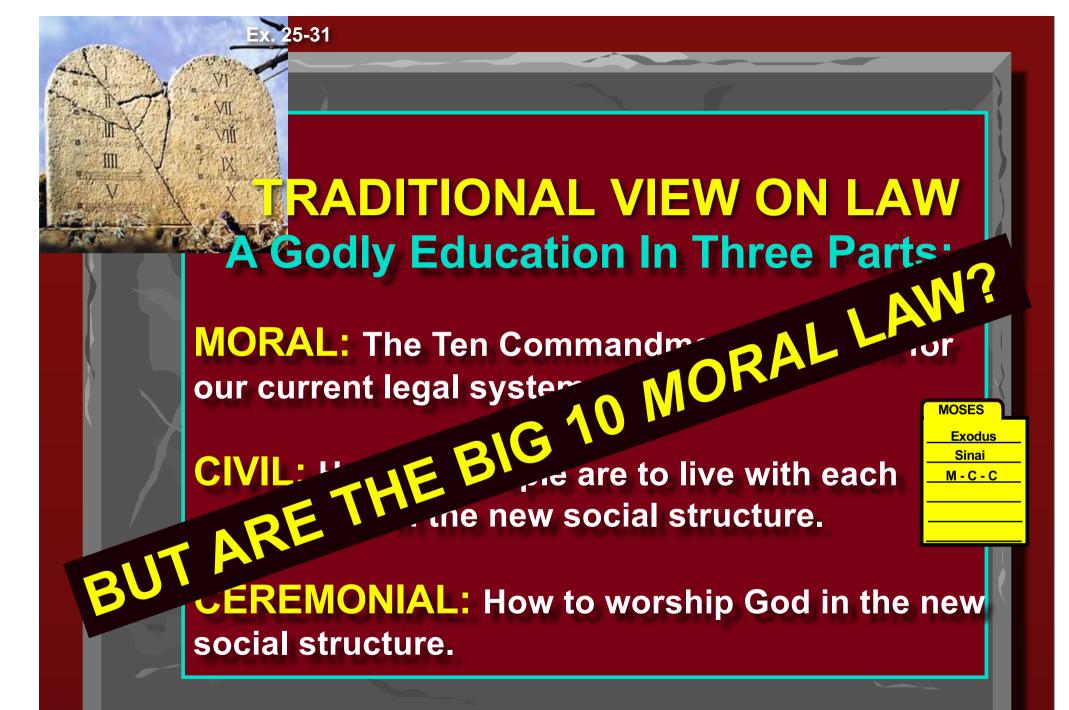
Interpretation:

Do not steal your neighbor's crops, but also don't be so fearful of stealing that you become ridiculous

Application:

As a guest, don't be afraid to take the food given to you—but don't secretly pack a lunch or steal the towels!





Handbook pg. 26-29



Spectrum on Degree of Applicability:

	Theonomic Greg Bahnsen	Reformed Willem VanGemeren	Weightier Issues Walter Kaiser	Modified Lutheran Douglas Moo	Wayne G. Strickland
6	Law as fully applicable in every sense				Law as fully abolished in every sense

This chart summarizes Stanley N. Gundry, ed. *Five Views on Law and Gospel* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), where each author presents his view and responds to the other four views. Generally speaking, views 1-2 are similar as both are Reformed (stressing continuity between the NT and OT) and these stand against views 3-5 which alike stress discontinuity. In my opinion, the dispensational view has the most to commend it as law in the NT is never broken into component parts and this view clearly distinguishes Israel from the church. Further, it is inconsistent to change the Sabbath (Saturday) to Sunday but not apply the OT penalties for Sabbath-breaking today (i.e., death by stoning; cf. Exod. 31:14-15; 35:2). The following chart **is a**dapted from Lee Hwee Chin, "The Applicability of the Law Today," unpublished research paper for the course "Old Testament Survey," Singapore: Singapore Bible College, 2001), 1.

	THEONOMIC Bahnsen	REFORMED Van Gemeren	WEIGHTIER ISSUES Kaiser	MODIFIED LUTHERAN Moo	DISPENSATIONAL Strickland
What is the Law?	Same definition as the views 3-5	God's oral or written instructions since creation	The whole Mosaic law given in the Pentateuch (Genesis to Deuterono		Deuteronomy)

Who is the Law for?	The Elect (Israel = Church)	All mankind (Israel = Church)	Believers (Israel and	Believers (Israel and	Israel only (Israel ≠ Church)
for?	,		Church)	Church)	

	THEONOMIC Bahnsen	REFORMED Van Gemeren	WEIGHTIER ISSUES Kaiser	MODIFIED LUTHERAN Moo	DISPENSATIONAL Strickland
Which parts of the Law apply today? • "Moral law"? (i.e., Decalogue or 10 Commandments)	All moral laws apply to people of God only in every age, so all elect persons since creation should observe either the Jewish Sabbath (Sat. before Christ) or "Christian Sabbath," (Sunday, after Christ)	All moral laws apply to believers and unbelievers of every age (e.g., all persons—including unbelieving Gentiles since creation—should observe the Sabbath or "Christian Sabbath," being Sunday)	All moral laws that stem from God's character: • 10 Commandments • Leviticus 18–19 (sex) (i.e., Sabbath is required since Israel's nationhood & prohibited sexual practices still apply)	The Mosaic Law is fully abolished, but its moral content are good Christian guidelines. Yet Christ holds the final say via the Spirit's ministry in believers today; Sabbath obedience is not consistently applied (?)	God's "moral law" before Moses is now called the "law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2) and governs believers through the Spirit's new covenant indwelling; The Law does not easily divide into "parts" and is done away with in its entirety (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13), including the Sabbath (Col. 2:16-17)

Stanley N. Gundry, ed. Five Views on Law & Gospel summarized by Lee Hwee Chin, SBC, 2001

laws? (e.g., laws apply principles principles thes today (e.g., still (not laws) apply now regulations and apply as the Israe		THEONOMIC Bahnsen	REFORMED Van Gemeren	WEIGHTIER ISSUES Kaiser	MODIFIED LUTHERAN Moo	DISPENSATIONAL Strickland
law) require don't moral law was such death charge laws given only and for believers underlie to Israel com	laws? (i.e., judicial	(e.g., laws today should require death for	apply (e.g., still tithe and don't charge believers	principles (not laws) apply since moral laws underlie all judicial and ceremon-	principles apply now as the Mosaic law was given only	None apply as these regulated Israel alone (but principles such as love and compassion still apply)

Ceremonial laws? All five views agree that ceremonial aspects such as the sacrificial system and Jewish priesthood are now fulfilled in Jesus Christ

	THEONOMIC Bahnsen	REFORMED Van Gemeren	WEIGHTIER ISSUES Kaiser	MODIFIED LUTHERAN Moo	DISPENSATIONAL Strickland
What is the relation-ship of the Abrahamic Covenant to Mosaic Covenant?	Both are God's "covenant of grace." They consist of the same substance of God's saving relation- ship which makes the MC still apply today	MC was added to the AC; both still apply though they are similar in substance but different in form and purpose	MC was given specifically to Israel but its moral principles are still relevant to all believers under the AC	Like dispensationalists, MC was conditional but AC was not; MC was a temporary framework that prescribed terms of obedience for Israel in Law period	MC regulated Israel's life so she could experience the blessings of the AC, but MC is no longer operative as it is fulfilled in Christ

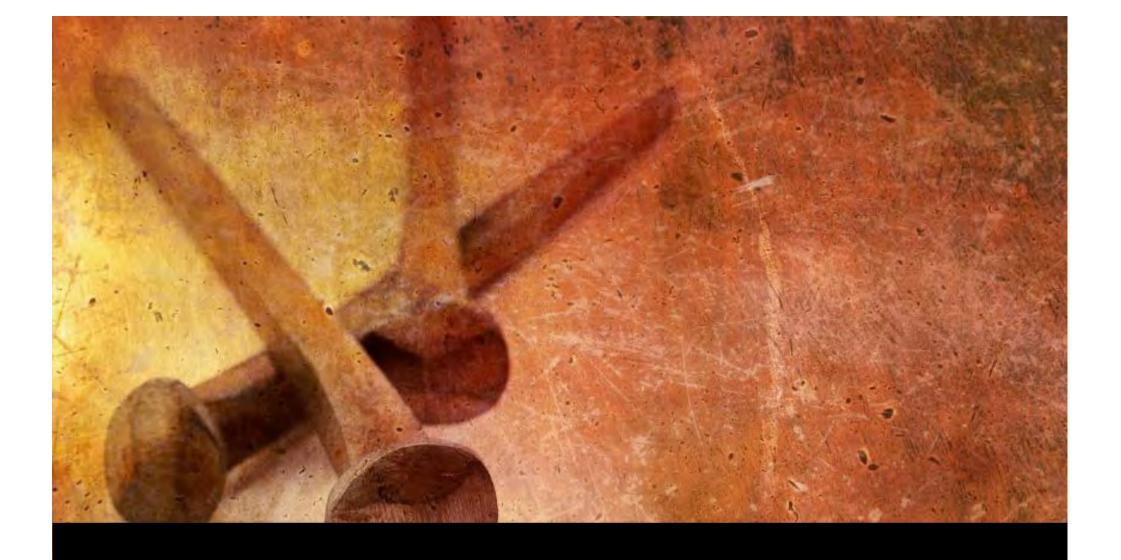
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	THEONOMIC Bahnsen	REFORMED Van Gemeren	WEIGHTIER ISSUES Kaiser	MODIFIED LUTHERAN Moo	DISPENSATIONAL Strickland
Weak- nesses	 Dividing law as moral, civil & ceremonial not biblical Misguided to apply godly commands to unregenerate All "law" need not be Mosaic (natural law and law of Christ also exist) The NT never applies the OT to civil matters Law condemned man (2 Cor. 3:9) 	 Dividing law as moral, civil & ceremonial not biblical Using "law" in differing ways is inconsistent & confusing Requiring Sabbath for today contradicts Col. 2:16-17 Unclear if moral law became law of Christ Merges Israel & church 	 Dividing law as moral, civil & ceremonial not biblical Arbitrary to pick and choose which parts of the law are required Choice of Decalogue and Lev. 18–19 too narrow for moral law 	 Seeks to teach the indivisibility of the law while upholding its moral content Too extreme to claim that the law has absolutely no purpose today Fails to see the gospel in the OT by demarcating Law and Gospel into distinct, discontinuous eras 	• Distinguishing law's revelatory aspects (eternal, revealing God's nature) from regulatory (temporary, ruled Israel) makes distinctions within an inseparable code—if the OT law is essentially a unity, then why divide it into two parts? • The law is not nullified but actually upheld



How is knowing Jesus better than anything you've ever experienced (or ever will experience)?



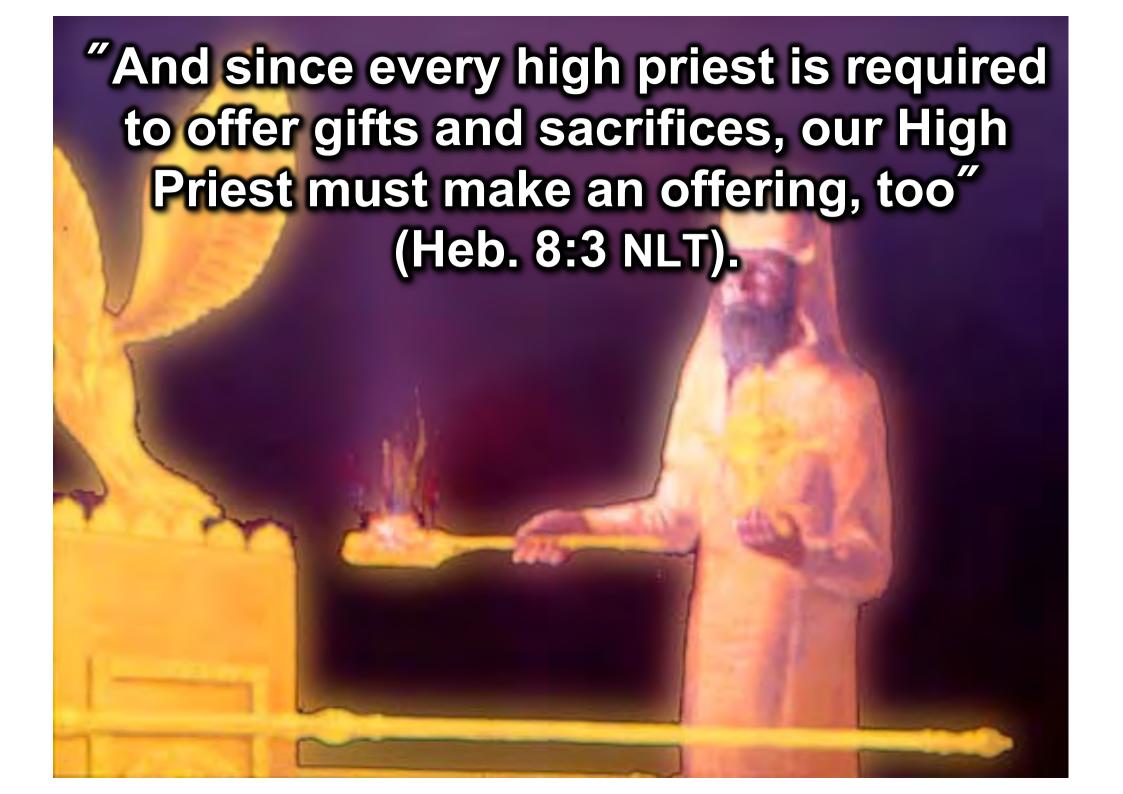


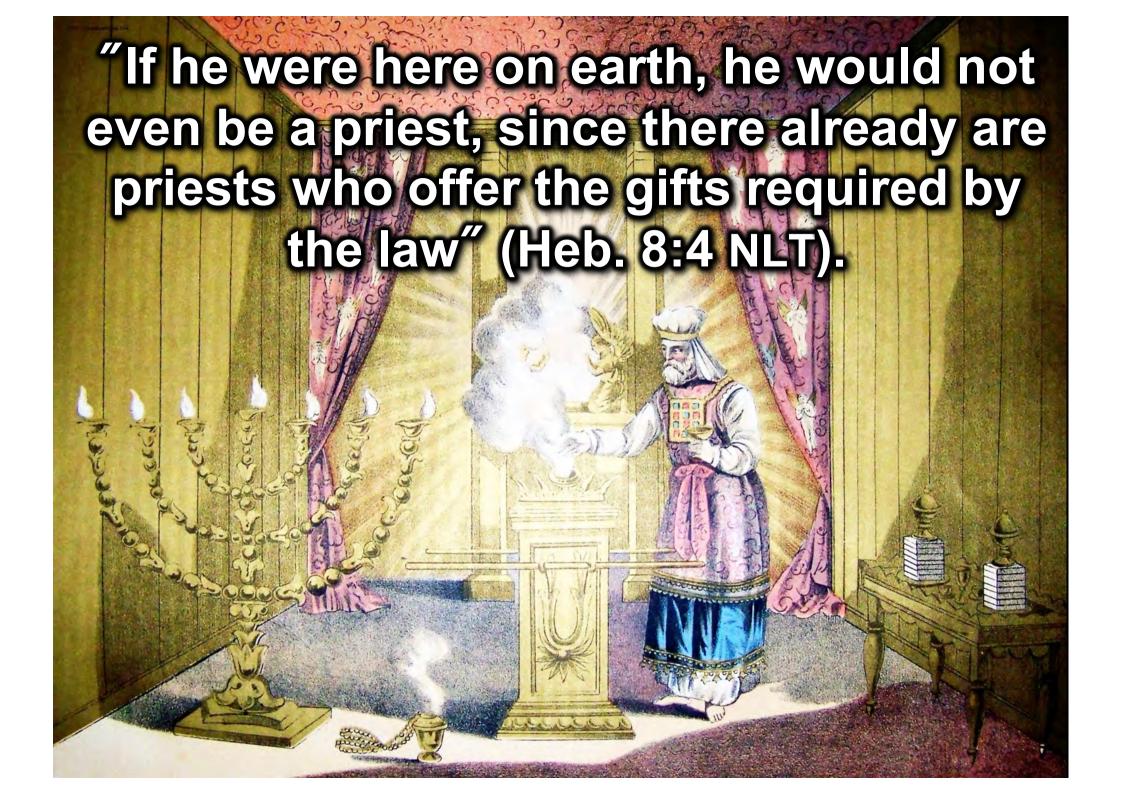
1. Jesus is the best possible representative before God (8:1-5).









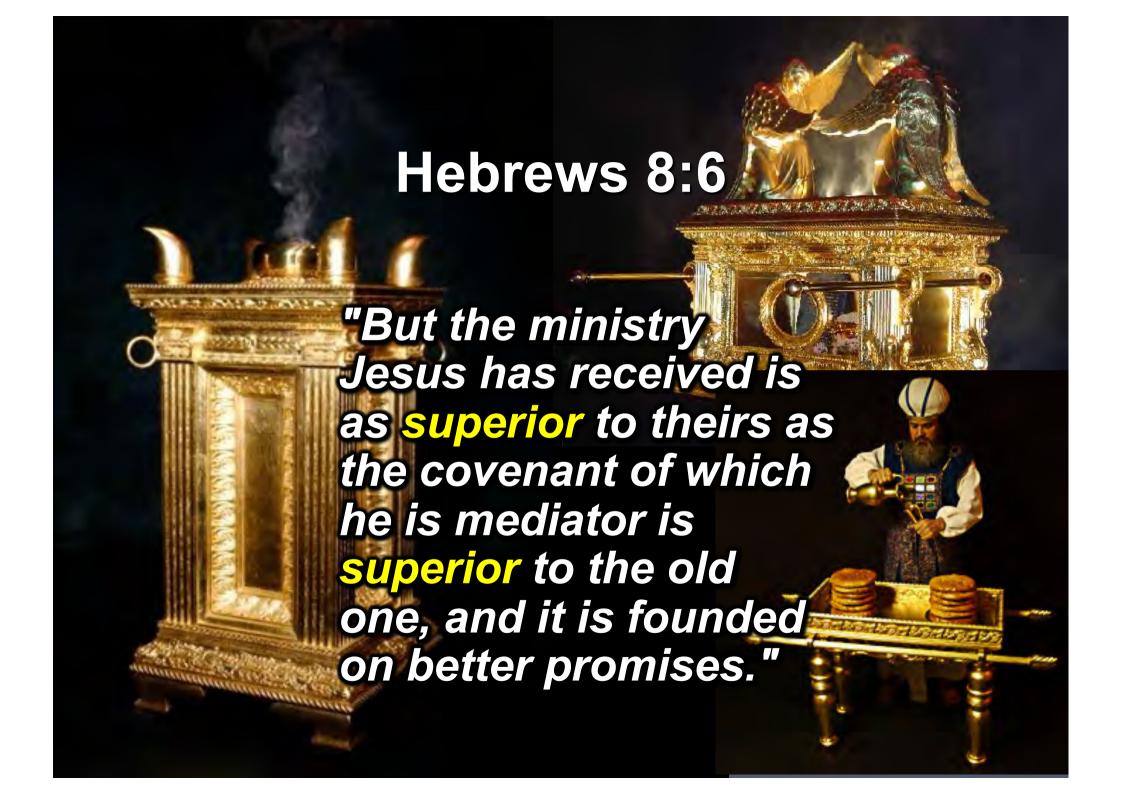


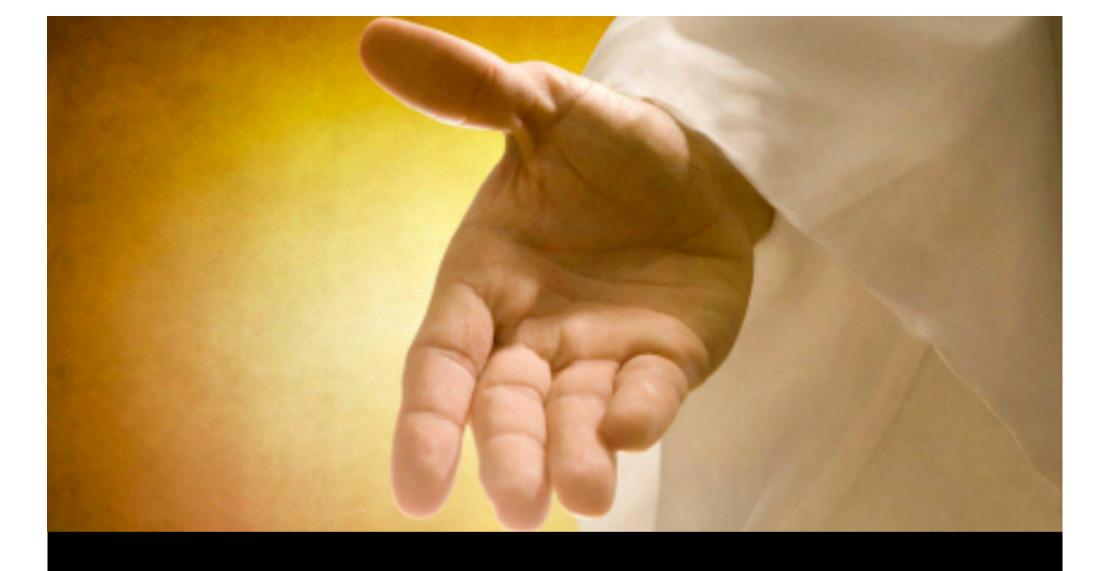
"They serve in a system of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven.' For when Moses was getting ready to build the..." (Heb. 8:5a NLT).



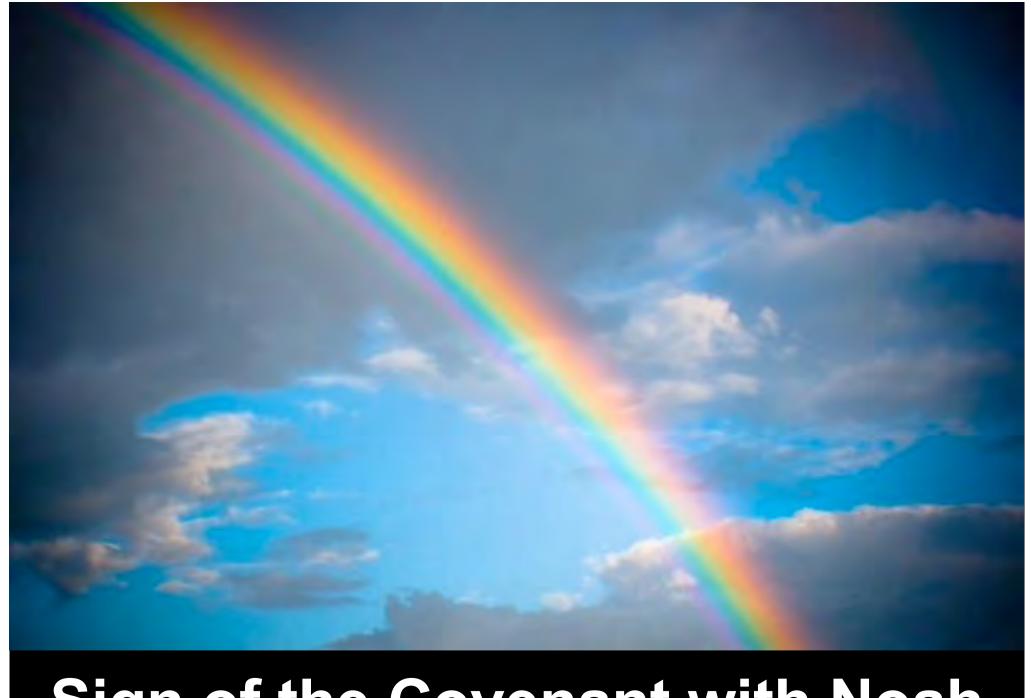
"...Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: 'Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain'" (Heb. 8:5b NLT).







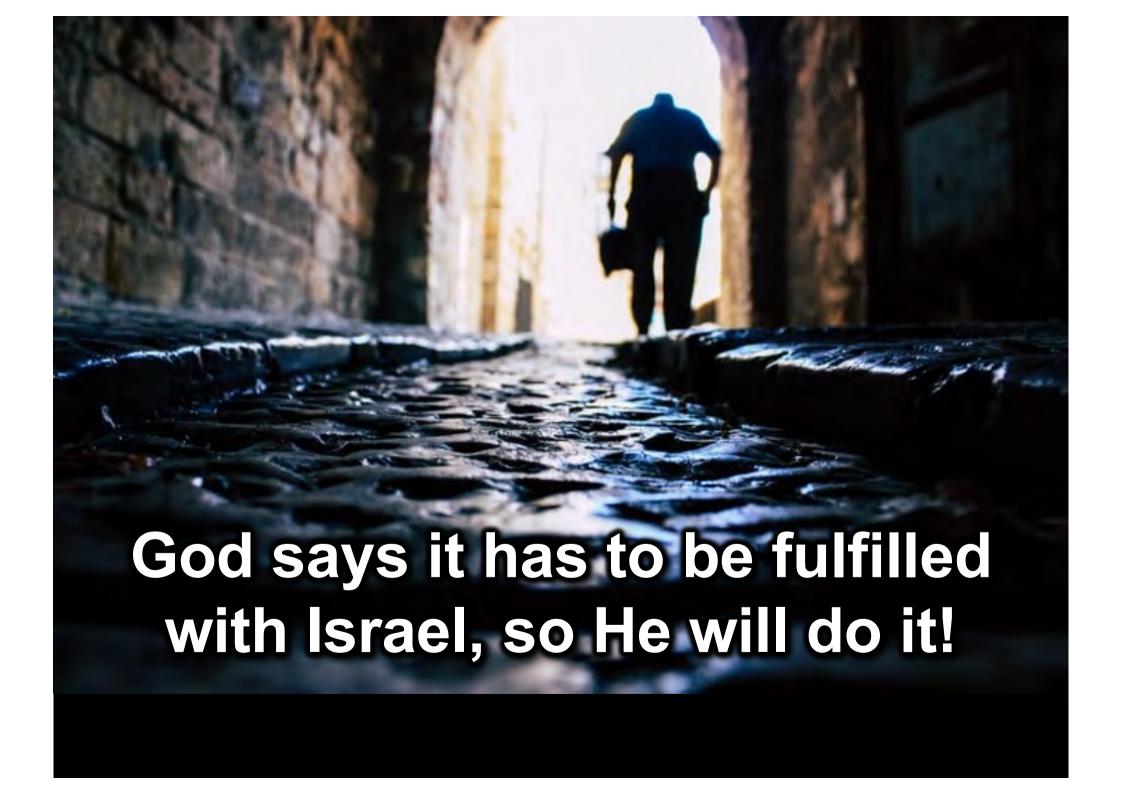
2. Jesus gives the best possible relationship (8:7-13)



Sign of the Covenant with Noah

Signs of the Covenants

Covenant	Definition	Promise	Fulfillment	Sign
Noahic	Unconditional promise not to flood earth again	Gen. 9:12-17	No more sea (Rev. 21:1)	Rainbow (Gen. 9:12-17)
Abrahamic	Promise to provide Israel a land, rule, and spiritual blessing	Gen. 12:1-3; 15:13-18	Continues at present (Gal. 3:17) but Israel still has a future (Rom. 11:25-27)	Circumcision (Gen. 17:11)
Mosaic	Conditional stipulations for blessing on Israel	Exod. 19-31; Deut. 28	Death of Christ (Rom. 7:4-6)	Sabbath (Exod. 31:13)
Land	Promise of <u>physical</u> land from the Wadi of Egypt to the River Euphrates	Deut. 30:1-10	Land blessed (Amos 9:13-15)	No sign (that I know of)
Davidic	Promise of eternal, <u>political</u> rule of a descendant of David	2 Sam. 7:12-17	Rule renewed (Amos 9:11-12)	Christ seated at the Father's right hand (Acts 2:34-36)
New	Promise of spiritual indwelling of the Spirit ("law written on hearts"), forgiveness, and total evangelization of Israel	Jer. 31:31-34	Paul & the Apostles (2 Cor. 3–4) All Israel saved (Rom. 11:26-27)	Cup of the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25)







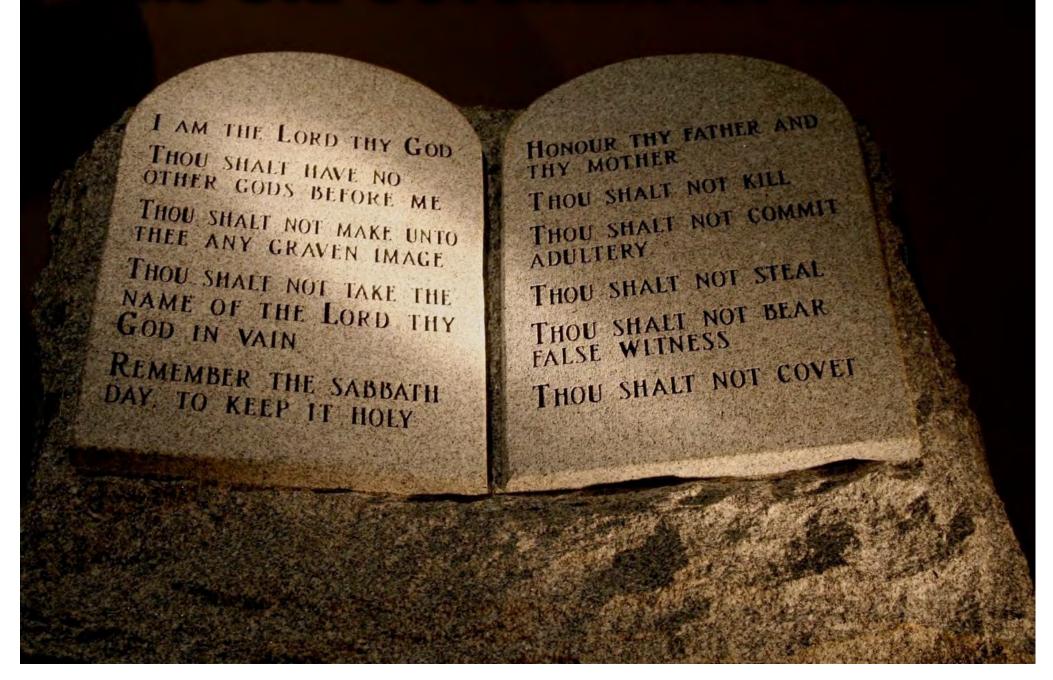
"This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. They did not remain faithful to my covenant, so I turned my back on them, says the LORD" (Heb. 8:9 NLT).

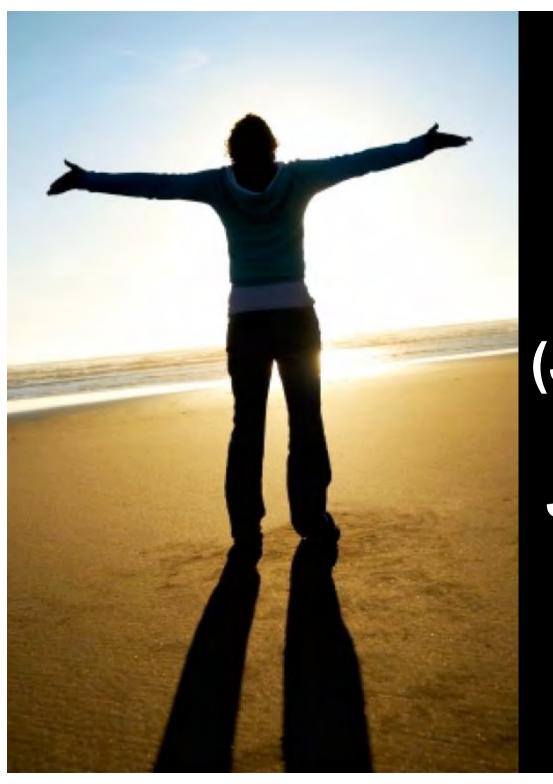






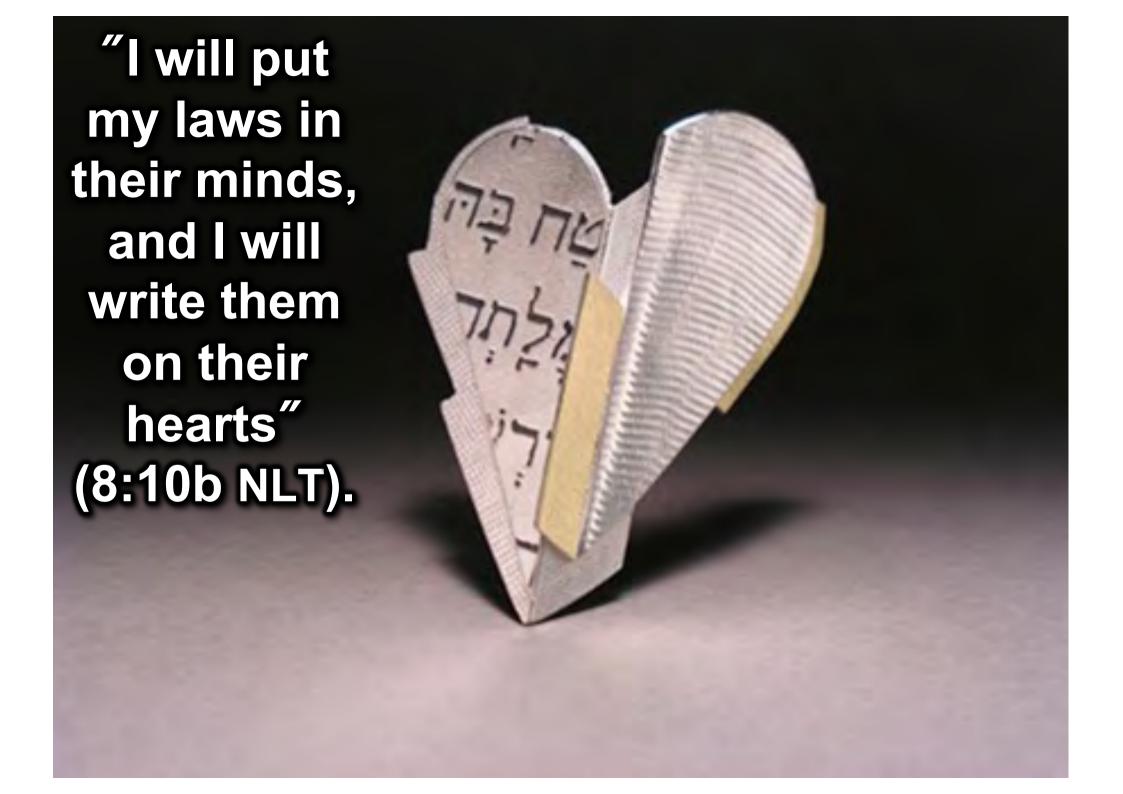
The Old Covenant for Israel

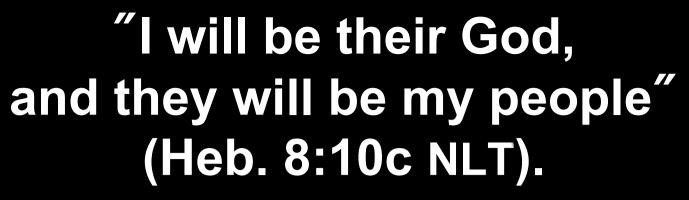




The New Covenant is for the Church now (Jew and Gentile), but many more Jews will believe in Christ during the Tribulation

-4)	Old Covenant	New Covenant NTS 166c	
3-	initiated by Moses (3:8)	initiated by Christ (3:4)	
Cor.	of the letter (3:6a)	of the Spirit (3:6a, 18b)	
2	kills (3:6b, 7a)	gives life (3:6b)	
(2	engraved on stone (3:3b, 7a)	engraved on hearts (3:3b; Jer. 31:33)	
ts.	glorious (3:7a)	more glorious (3:8, 10)	
an	glory faded (3:7b, 11a, 13b)	glory ever-increases (3:11b, 18)	
en	condemns men (3:9a)	brings righteousness (3:9b)	
Covenants	deception (3:13)	boldness (3:12)	
	veiled face of Moses (3:13b)	unveiled faces (3:13a, 18a)	
he	veiled minds (3:14a)	unveiled minds (3:14b; 4:3-6)	
ting the	veiled hearts (3:15)	unveiled hearts (3:16)	
ju	dullness (3:14a)	freedom (3:17)	
	Moses reflected God's glory	all believers reflect Son's glory (3:17)	
Contras	non-transforming (3:7)	transforming (3:18)	
	lack of zeal (3:13)	confidence, steadfastness (3:4-5; 4:1)	
C	deception (3:13)	sincerity (4:2)	

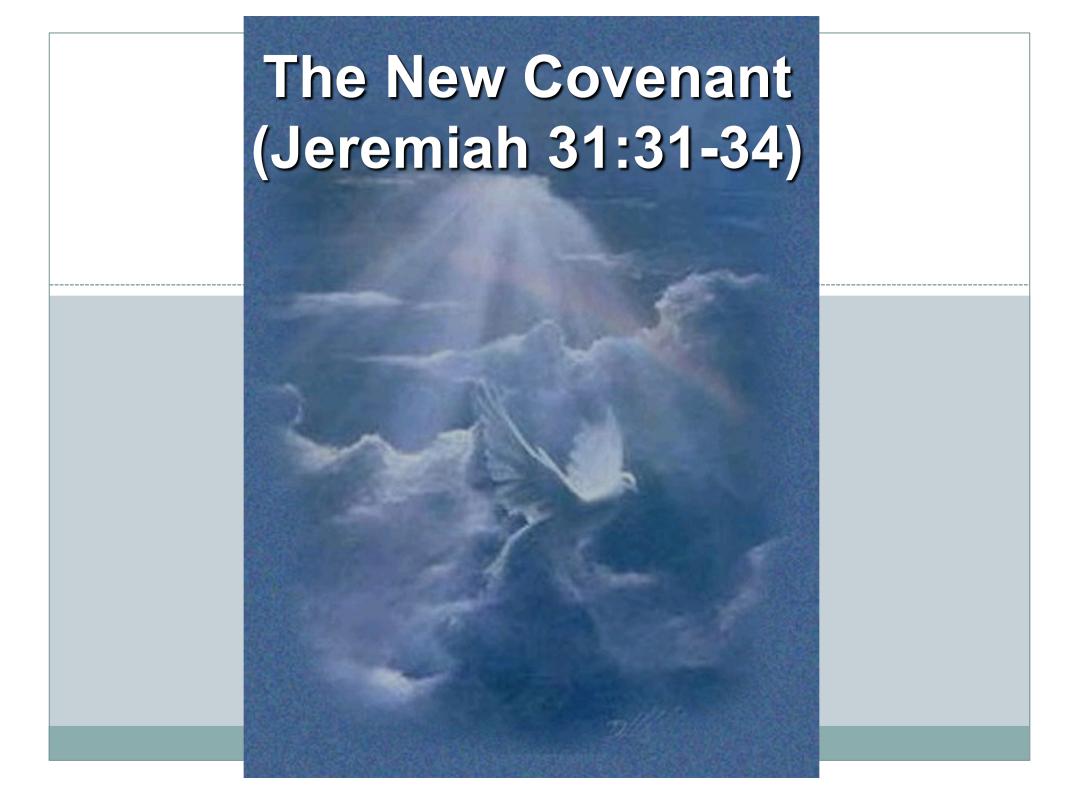




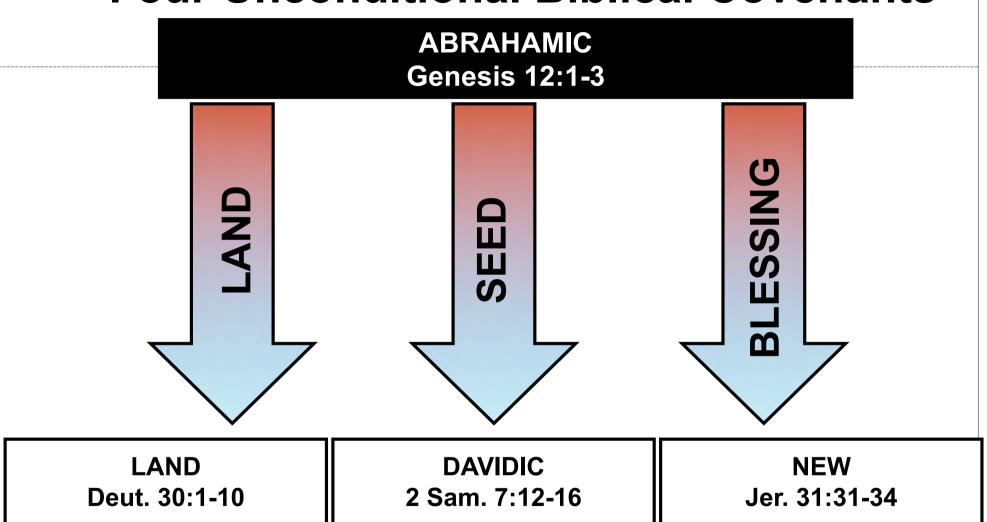


"And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already" (Heb. 8:11 NLT).





Four Unconditional Biblical Covenants



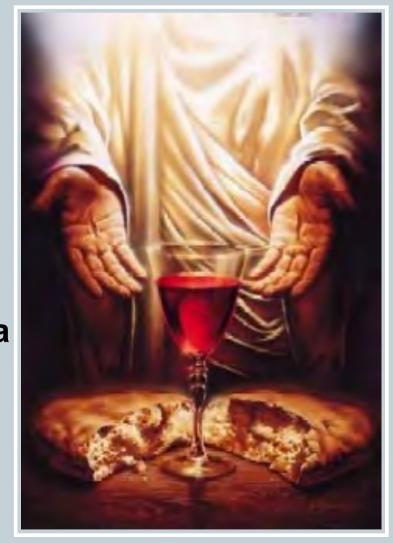
The new covenant is God's unconditional amplification of the blessing promise in the Abrahamic Covenant where Judah and Israel will experience national and spiritual redemption.

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD.

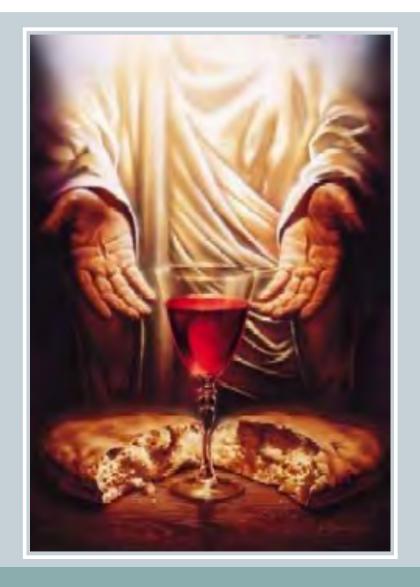
³³"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD.



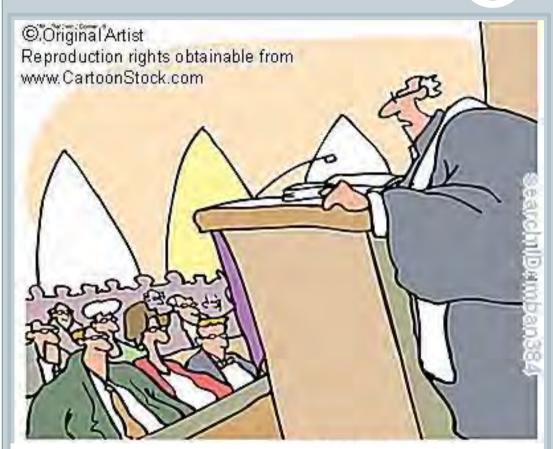
The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

33b "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."



Unconditional Nature



"God's love is unconditional. But you must act now. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Void where prohibited by law."

- A. Eternal (Jer. 31:36, 40; 32:40; 50:5; Isa 61:2. 8-9; 24:5; Ezek. 37:26)
- B. Amplification of the Abrahamic Covenant, which is unconditional
- C. Unqualified "I will" statements of God



...This cup is the NEW COVENANT in my blood, which is POURED OUT for you.

LUKE 22:20



How could Jesus apply the new covenant promises to his disciples when the other provisions were not fulfilled then?

(What about Israel and Judah reunified? What about all people knowing God?)

Provisions

FULFILLED

- Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Jer. 31:33 with Ezek. 36:27)
- New nature, heart & mind (Jer. 31:33; Isa. 59:21)
- Forgiveness of sins (Jer. 31:34b)

NOT YET FULFILLED

- Everyone will know the Lord (Jer. 31:34a)
- Israel and Judah will be reunited (Jer. 31:31)



HOW TO RECONCILE?

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (for Israel)

'everlasting covenant'

'a new heart'

'a new spirit'

'a covenant' 'a covenant of peace'

Luke 22:20 (for church)

Views on the Time of Fulfillment

Amillennialists often say all of the provisions of the New Covenant are being realized now in the church which they consider the "new Israel." But are they?

- 1. Partial Fulfillment in the present church age
 - a. Only one New Covenant for Israel (Darby)
 - b. Two New Covenants: one for Israel and one for the church (Chafer)
 - c. One New Covenant with a two fold- application: primarily to Israel, secondarily to the Church
- 2. Complete fulfillment after the return of Christ



View	Explanation	School & Scholars	Problems	OTS2 490
Restated Mosaic	No New Covenant	Critical: -Couturier -Duhm -Schmidt -Potter	 OC/NC distinctions in text ignored OC = conditional, NC = unconditional OC = temporal, NC = eternal OC = external, NC = internal OC = no enablement, 	
Views on New Covenant Fulfillment			NC = enablement 6. NC = peace, prosperity, sanctuary, Spirit (parallel passages)	
Church	No Israel Participation	Amillennial/ Postmillennial: -Allis -Cox -Smick -Boettner	Israel & the Control of Control o	ed ≠ fulfilled to I to know YHWH I to obey the Great

View	Explanation	School & Scholars	Problems	OTS2 490
Israel Alone	No Church Participation	Misc/Classical Dispensational: -Darby - Thompson -von Rad	1. Ignores NT data -Christ's Last Supper words -Paul's statements -Hebrews application to Church 2. Ignores present work of Spirit	
Vie	ws on Nev Fulfillr			
Two New Covenants	NC for Israel + NC for Church	Early 1900s Dispensational: -Chafer -Walvoord (old) -Ryrie (old)	1. Same terminol NCs 2. Israel/Church of sharp 3. Basis of forgive 4. If 2 NCs then notes that the share the share that the sh	distinction too eness the same to OC for Church t possess

View	Explanation	School & Scholars	Problems	OTS2 490
Church Participates	Primarily for Israel Secondarily for the Church	Misc/Present Dispensational: -Keil -Lemke -Bright -Scofield -Walvoord (DTS) -Ryrie (DTS) -Archer (TEDS) -Kaiser (TEDS)	Rom 11 2. Deals with bo 3. Forgiveness	perienced now aw

= My View on New Covenant Fulfillment

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline

Dr. Rick Griffith • BibleStudyDownloads.org



Kingdom Teaching...

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel witness to nations as a as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. kingdom of priests is 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to judged via exile under foreign rule

Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42: 23:37-39)

(National Focus)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Adam rules

with God

(Gen. 1:26.

28: 2:19)

Noahic Covenant

seed

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

ISRAEL CHURCH

Abrahamic Covenant land

Genesis 12:1-3

Land Covenant

Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises:

- ·Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12)
- •Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration
- •Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)

The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)

Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70-AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7) MESSIANIC Millennial

> **Full** New Jerusalem restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28) (Rev. 21-Jerusalem 22)

world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)

Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises:

- •Sons ("house" never wiped out)
- Kingdom (political dynasty)
- •Throne (right to rule by descendants)
- Temple (son to build it)

Christ is Head over His Church, which is a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 2 Cor. 6:16)

Mosaic Law replaced

with first three elements

of the New Covenant

(Luke 22:20: 2 Cor. 3:6)

reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)

Christ

hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)

Christ

KINGDOM

Eternal

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises:

- Forgiveness
- Indwelling Spirit
- New heart, nature, mind
- ·Reunification of Israel and Judah
- •No need for evangelism

All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

ΑII things made new! (Rev. 21:5)

Mosaic Covenant

blessing

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

Law abolished, fulfilled, and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6: 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

10th Edition 10 Nov 2020

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

NTS 266hh

"Old" Replaced by "New"

Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, 521

"What then is the 'old covenant' in contrast with the 'new covenant' in Christ? It is not the whole of the Old Testament, because the covenants with Abraham and David are never called 'old' in the New Testament. Rather, only the covenant under Moses, the covenant made at Mount Sinai (Ex. 19-24) is called the 'old covenant' (2 Cor. 3:14; cf. Heb. 8:6, 13), to be replaced by the "new covenant" in Christ (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25; 2 Cor. 3:6; Heb. 8:8, 13; 9:15; 12:24).

Hebrews 8:13

"By calling this covenant 'new,' he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear."

Obsolete

AD 33

Hebrews Written

AD 67-68

Disappeared

AD 70

Hebrews 9

He is better than *the tabernacle* by his sacrifice, so follow him (9:1–10:18).

Christ's Superior Priesthood

Superior to Aaron

4:14-6:20

Superior via Melchizedek

7:1-28

Superior to the Old Covenant 8:1-13

Superior to the Tabernacle

9:1-10:18



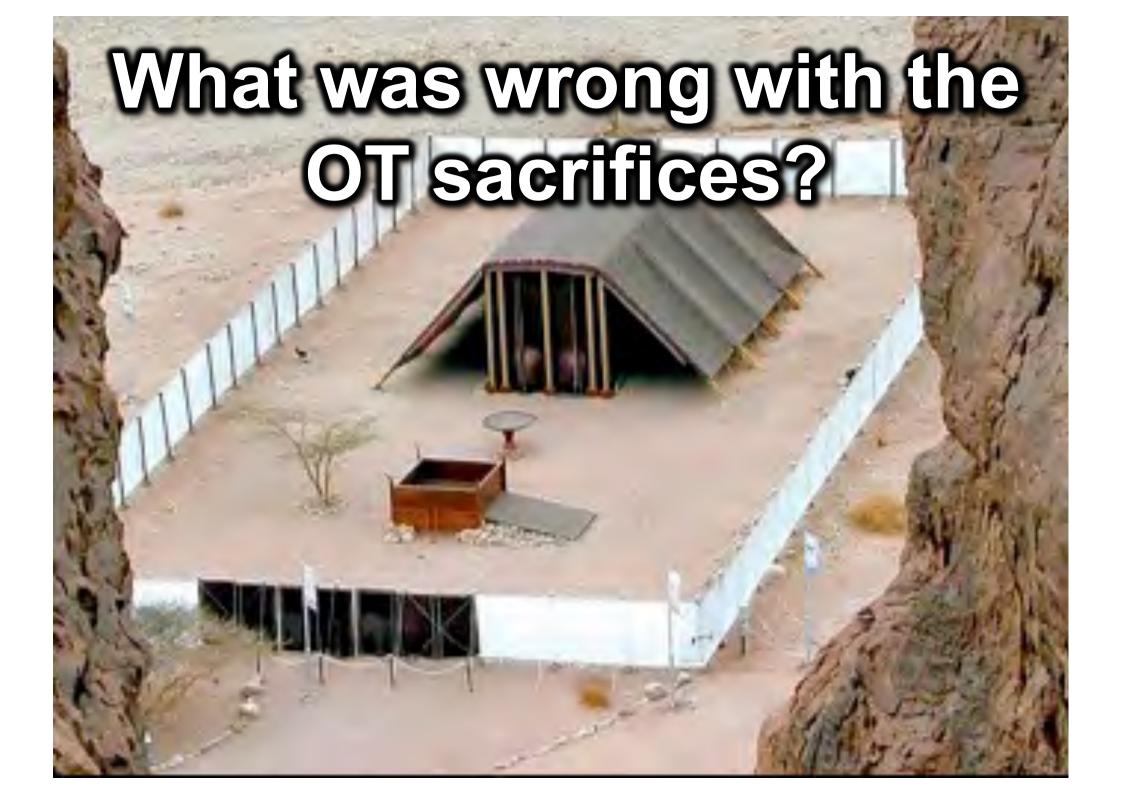


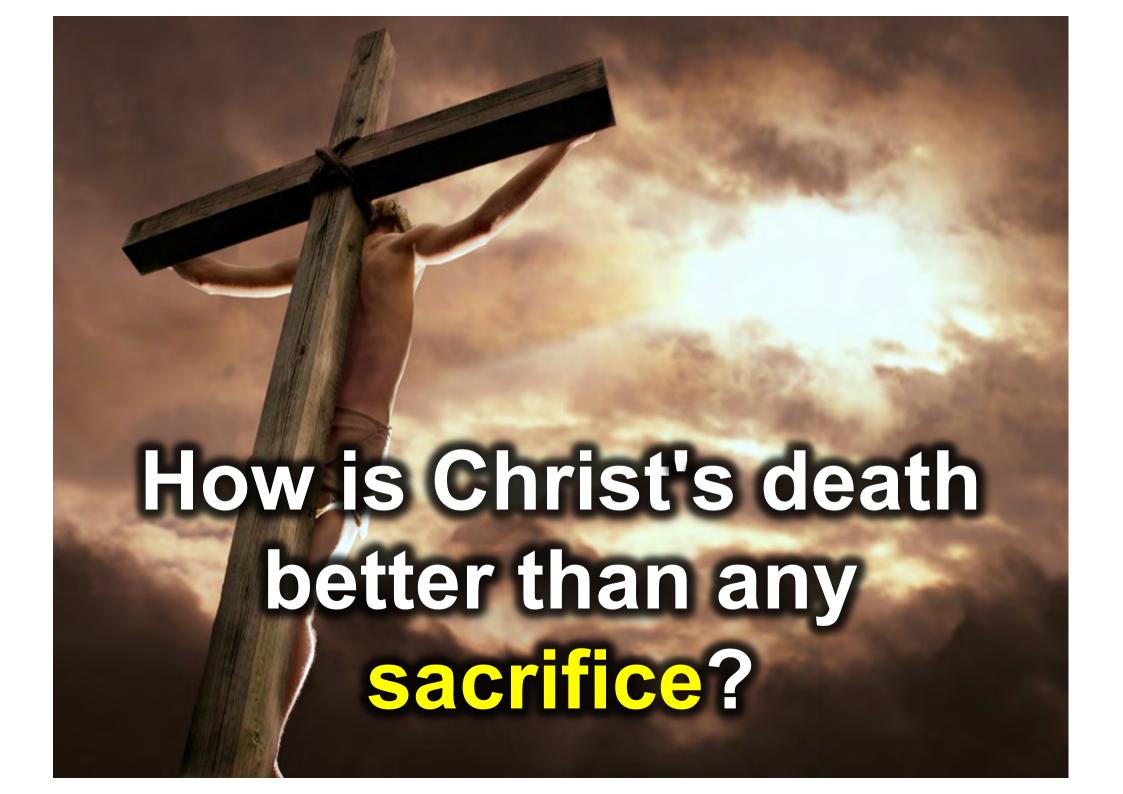


What was wrong with the OT sacrifices?

How was Jesus' death better?

Two questions to consider





Jesus saves us permanently.



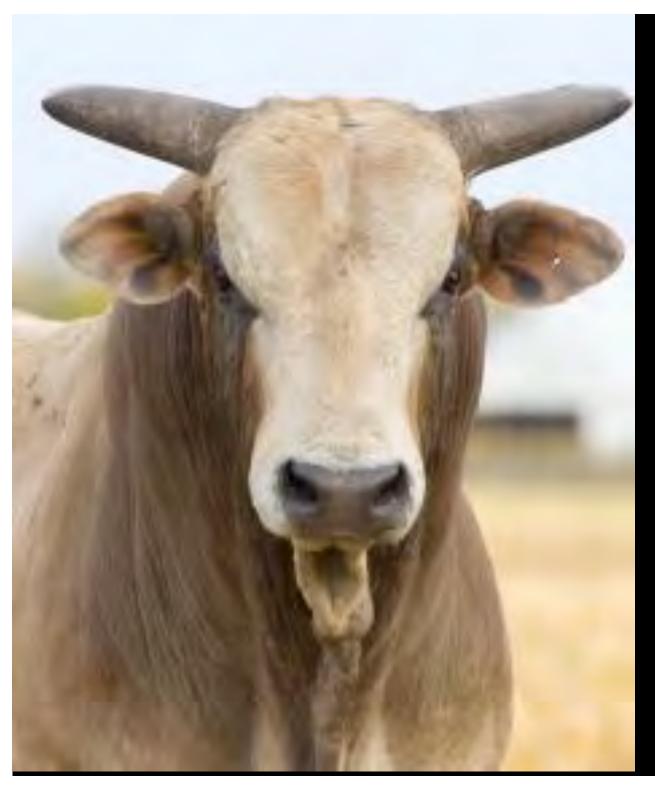




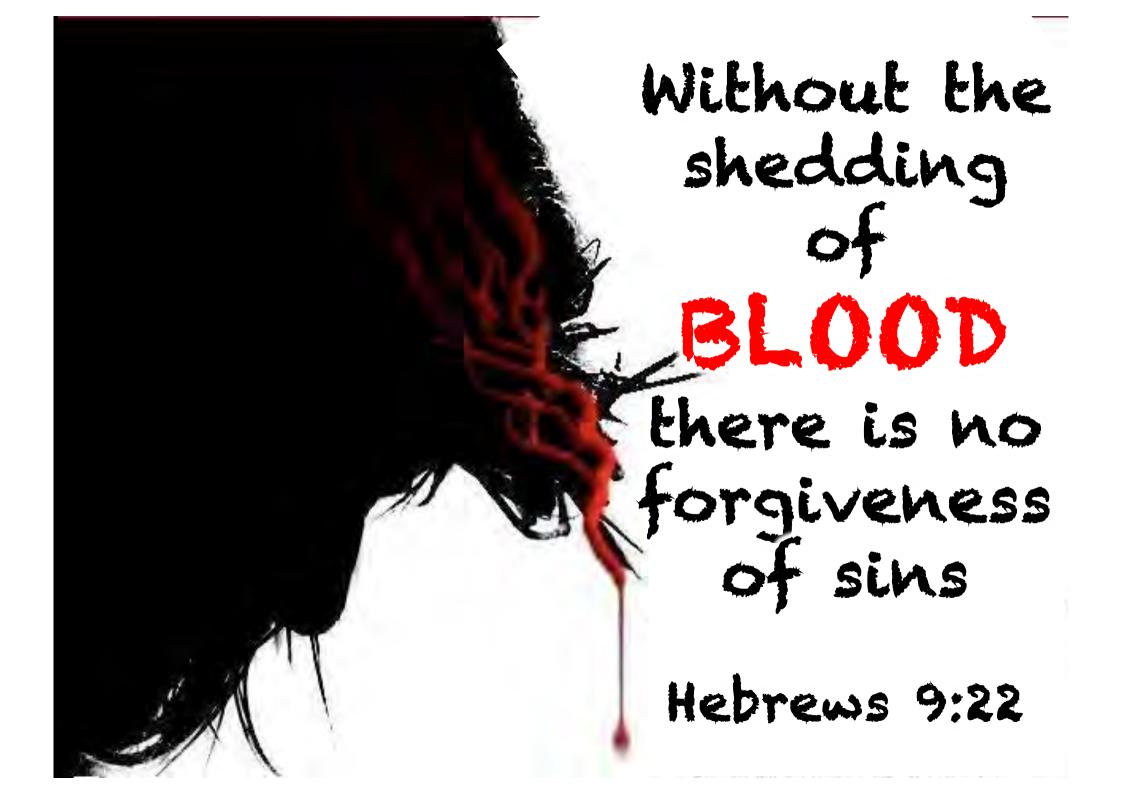
2. Christ's death saves us permanently (9:11–10:18).

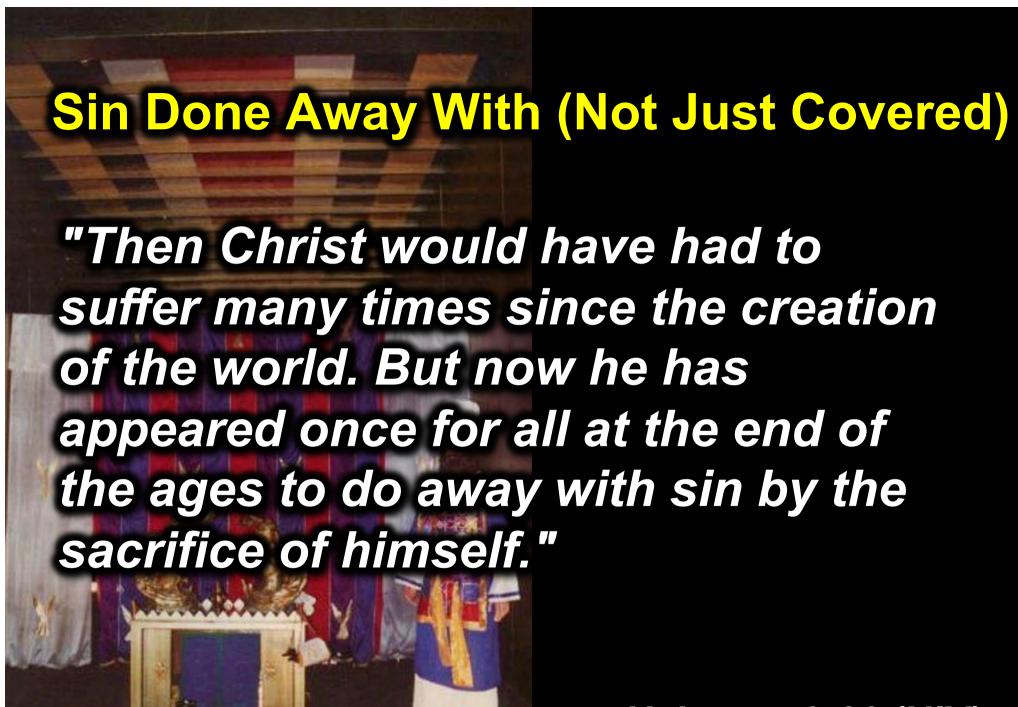
Hebrews 9:11

"When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not manmade, that is to say, not a part of his creation."



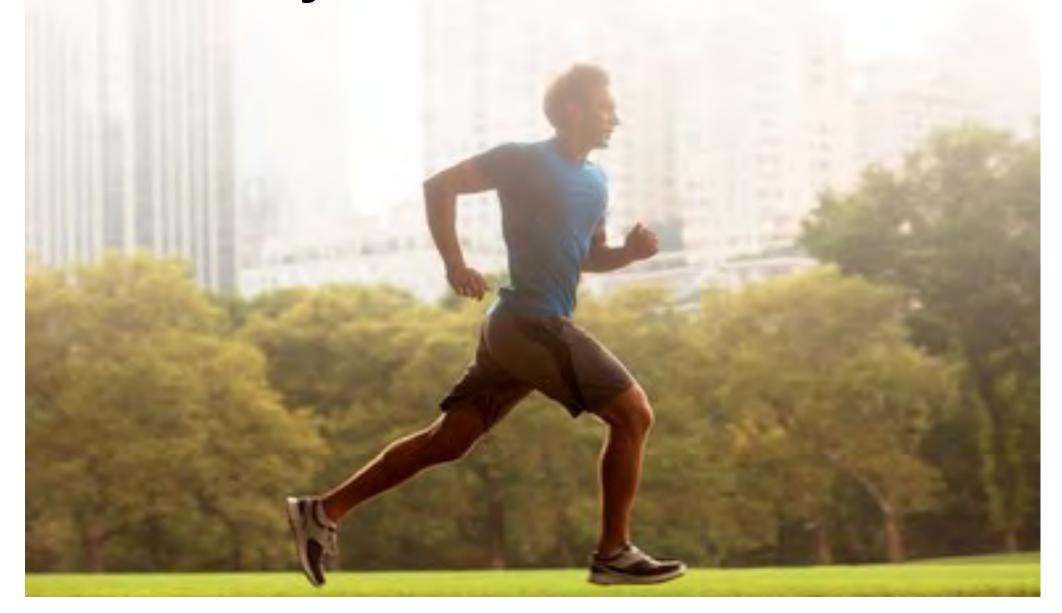
"For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness" (Heb. 9:22b NLT).



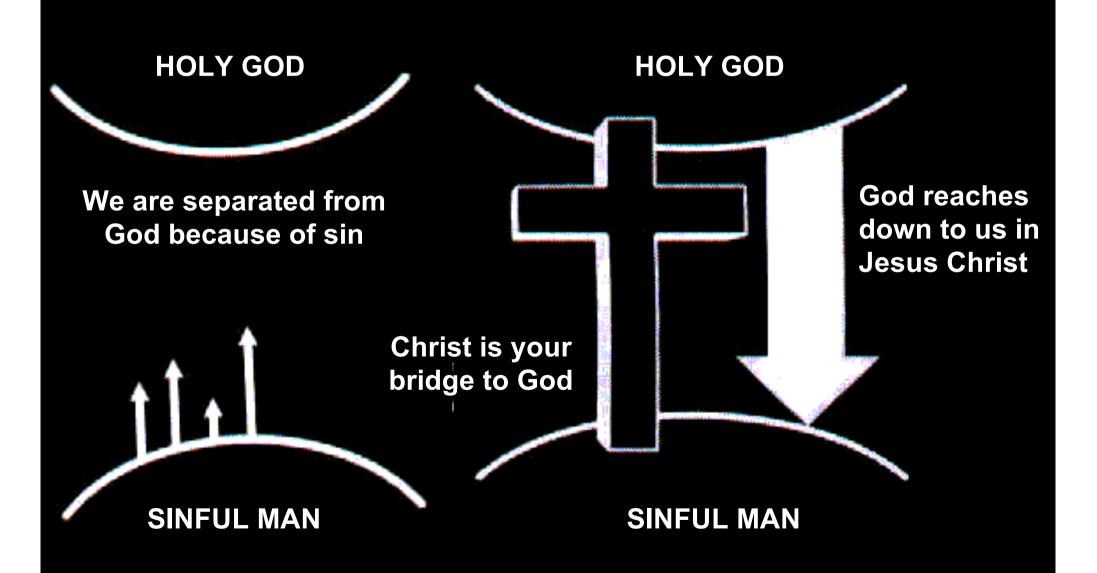


Hebrews 9:26 (NIV)

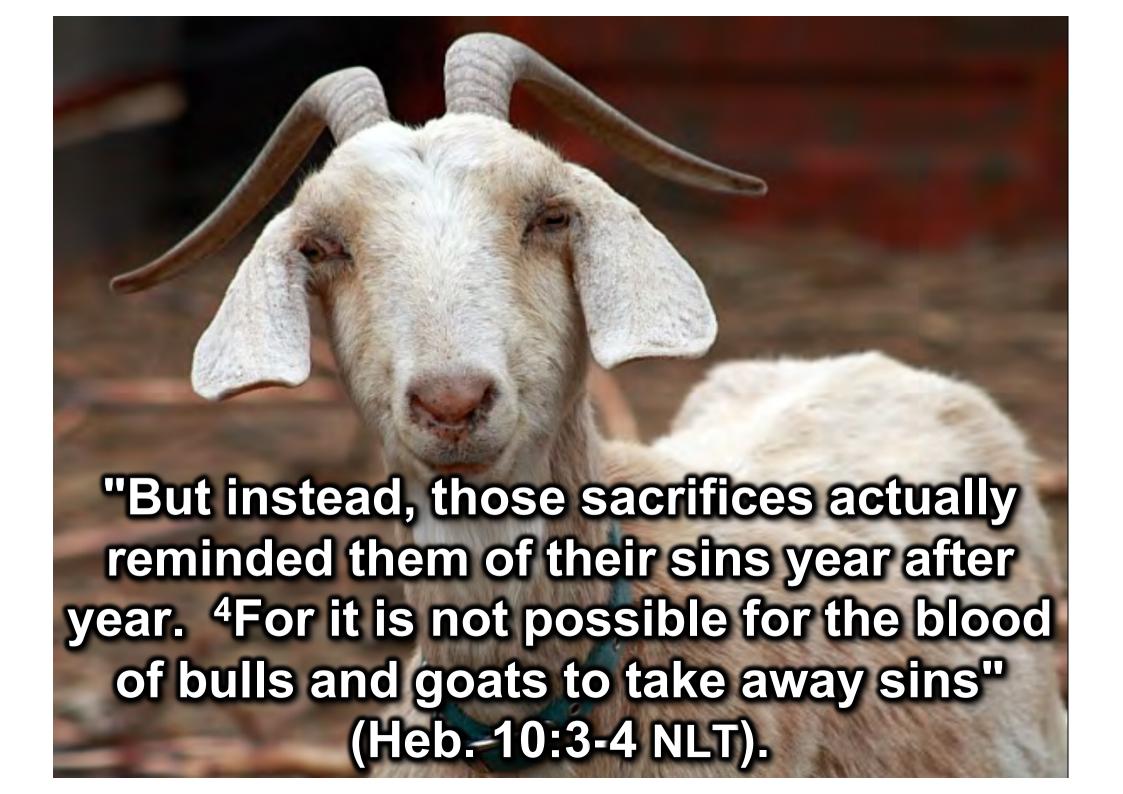
Why should you be uncompromising in your faith in Jesus?

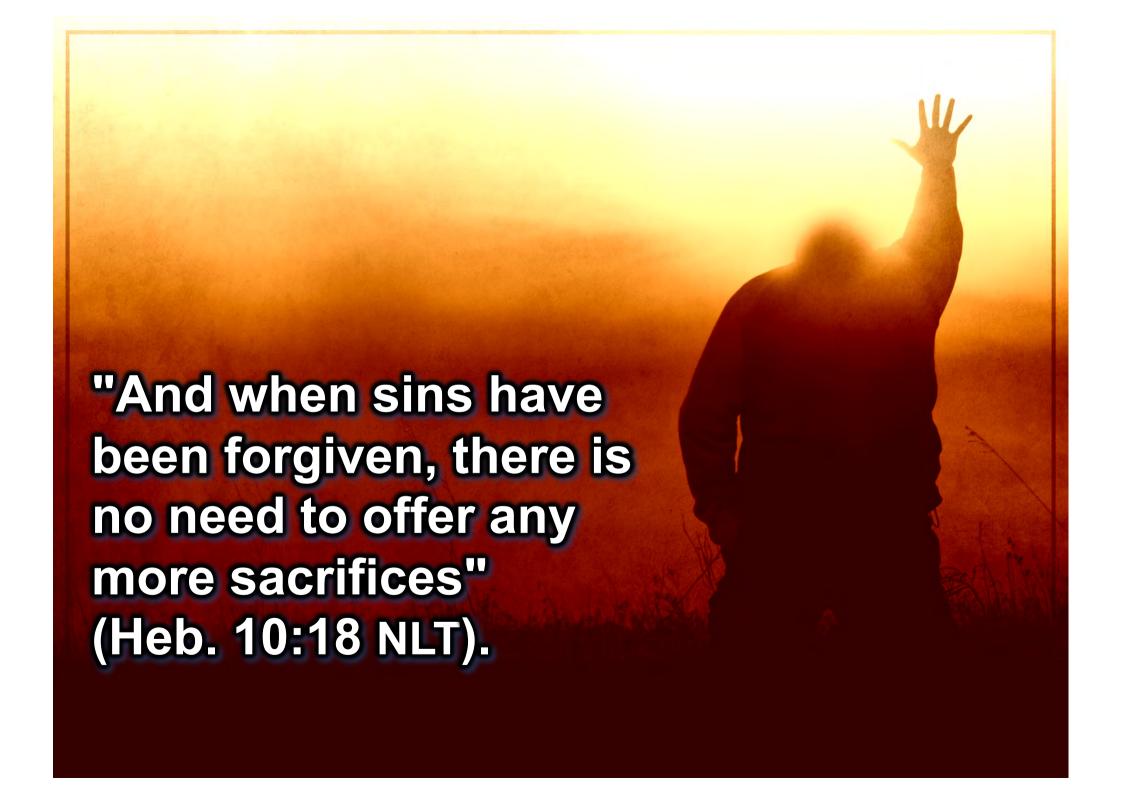


I. Jesus is better than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).

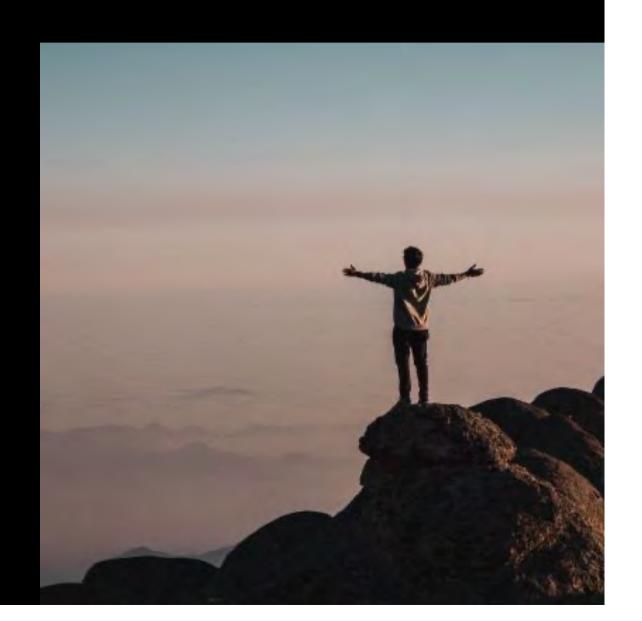


Hebrews 10

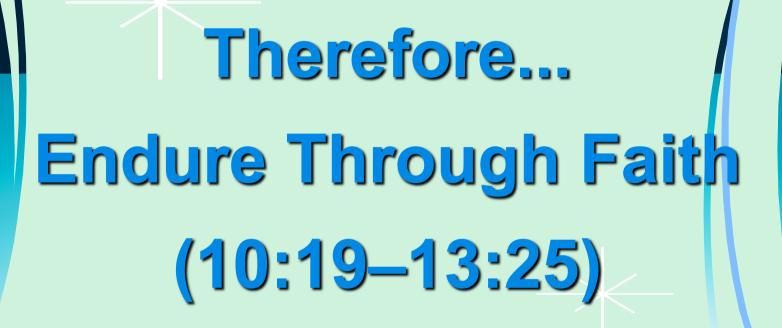




II. Don't compromise but persevere by faith (10:19–13:25).



Stubborn unbelief can even kill you—so press on (10:19-39).



FINISH LINE FAITH

1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).

Marning 2

Abandoning Jesus forfeits our future rule (Hebrews 3:7-19).

Marning 3

Rejecting Christ can lead to physical death (Hebrews 6:4-8).

A Warning 4

Willful sin can lead to physical death (Hebrews 10:26-31).

An Impossibility (Heb. 6:4-6 NLT)

"For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ⁶and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame."

"...if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received know of the truth, there longer any sacrifice PEOP 27 There is only CHRISTIANS? will cover these sins terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (10:26-27 NLT).

Why believers?

The letter repeatedly refers to the readers as believers. They had already professed this hope in Christ (10:23). They should build one another up in the faith (10:24-25). They had "received the knowledge of the truth" (10:26). The author also could sin like this (10:26). They had been "sanctified" (10:29). They had faithfully suffered for Christ (10:32-34). They had confidence in the Lord (10:35). They needed only to persevere in that faith (10:36). They were deemed among "the righteous" (10:38).

The readers were Jewish Christians

"brothers and sisters who belong to God and are partners with those called to heaven" (3:1)

"...let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands..."
(4:14b-15a)

"...dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly when you first learned about Christ...you remained faithful even of the blood of Jesus" though it meant terrible (10:19) suffering" (10:32)

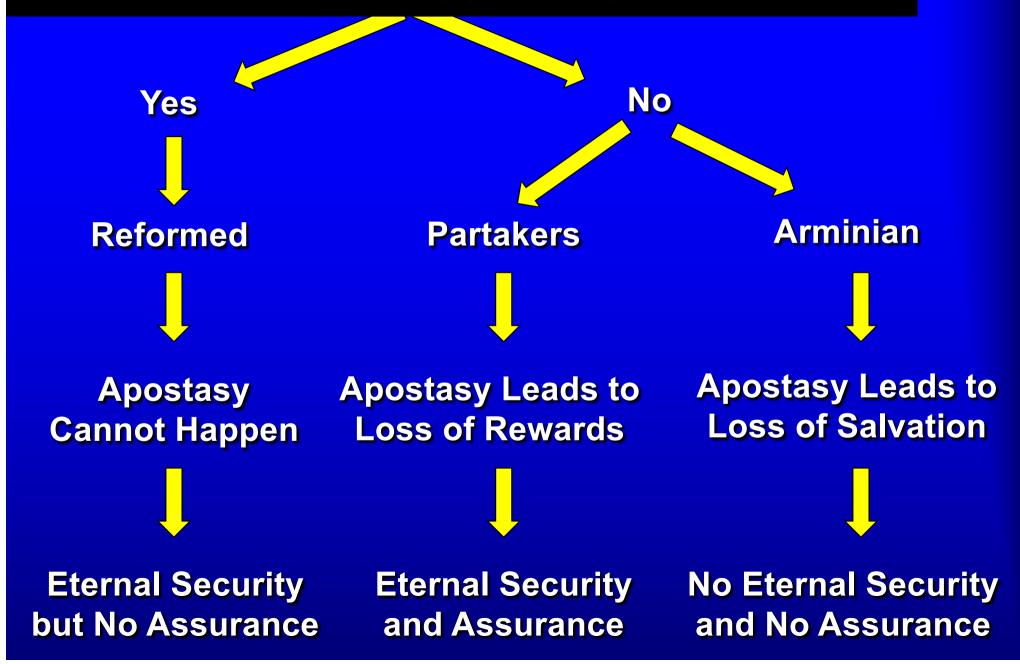
Distinguishing Terms

	Eternal Security	Assurance of Salvation
Basic Meaning	Being saved from the penalty of sin forever (once saved, always saved)	Knowing that we are saved from the penalty of sin forever
Definition	"The work of God which guarantees that the gift of salvation, once received, is forever and cannot be lost" (Ryrie, <i>Basic Theology</i> , 328)	"The realization of the truth of eternal security or perseverance" (Ryrie, Basic Theology, 328)

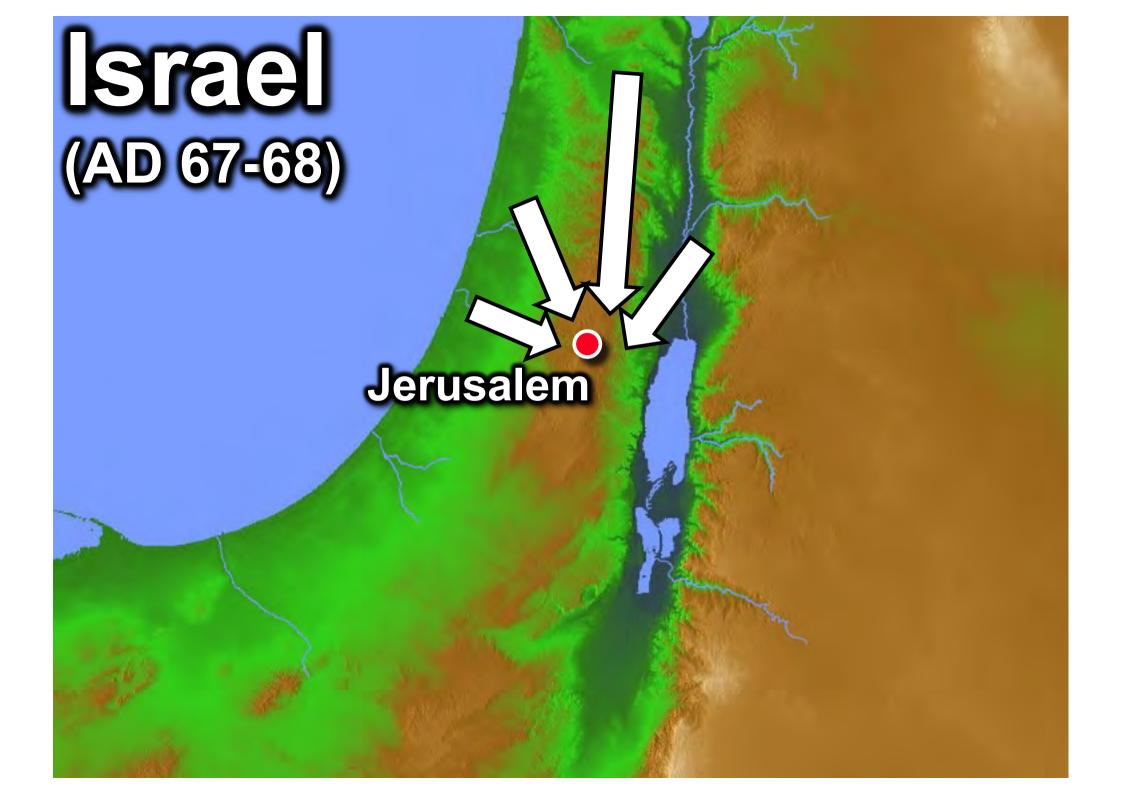
Distinguishing Terms

	Eternal Security	Assurance of Salvation
Spirit's Ministry	Sealing (Eph 1:13-14)	Assuring (Rom 8:15-17)
Believer's	Position as child of God (Rom 8:16b)	Practice or confidence (Rom 8:16a)
Recipients	All Christians possess	Some Christians doubt
Permanence	Can't be lost (John 6:39-40; 10:27-29; Rom 8:30, 38-39; Heb 7:25)	Can be lost (for this reason John wrote 1 John 5:11-13)
Songs	"I Know Whom I Have Believed" "In Christ Alone" "The Solid Rock"	"Blessed Assurance" (#367) "Now I Belong to Jesus"

Will each genuine Christian persevere in faithfulness at death?

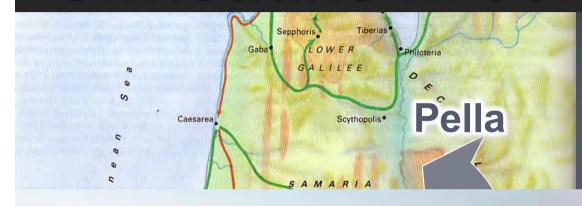






JEWISH REVOLT AGAINST ROME, A.D. 66-70

What happened to the Christians in Jerusalem?



A revelation told them to find protection in Pella.





Jerusalem Christians left



The Fire

"Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. ²⁷ There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (Hebrews 10:26-27 NLT).

Hell fire?

No, Jerusalem fire!



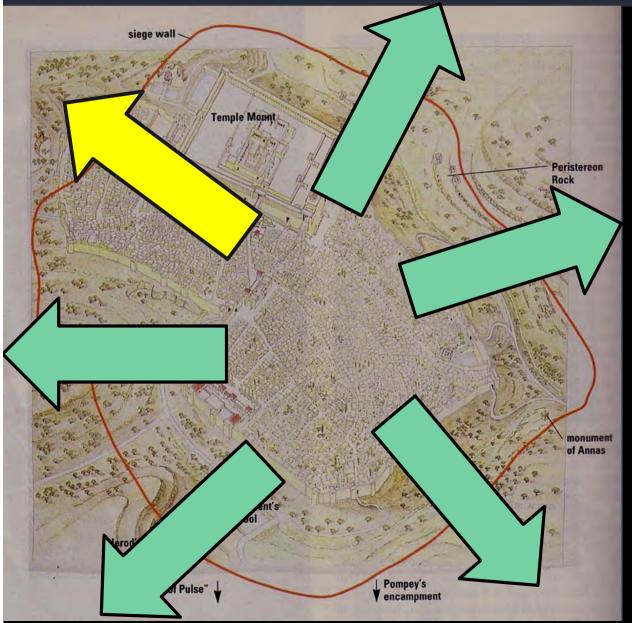
"And when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then you will know that the time of its destruction has arrived."

Luke 21:20 NIV



Luke 21:20 NIV

Application: "Leave Jerusalem"



"So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood"

(Heb. 13:12 NLT)

13 So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore"

(Heb. 13:13 NLT)

Leen & Kathleen Ritmeyer, "Akeldama: Potter's Field or High Priest's Tomb?" BAR 20 (Nov/Dec 94): 34

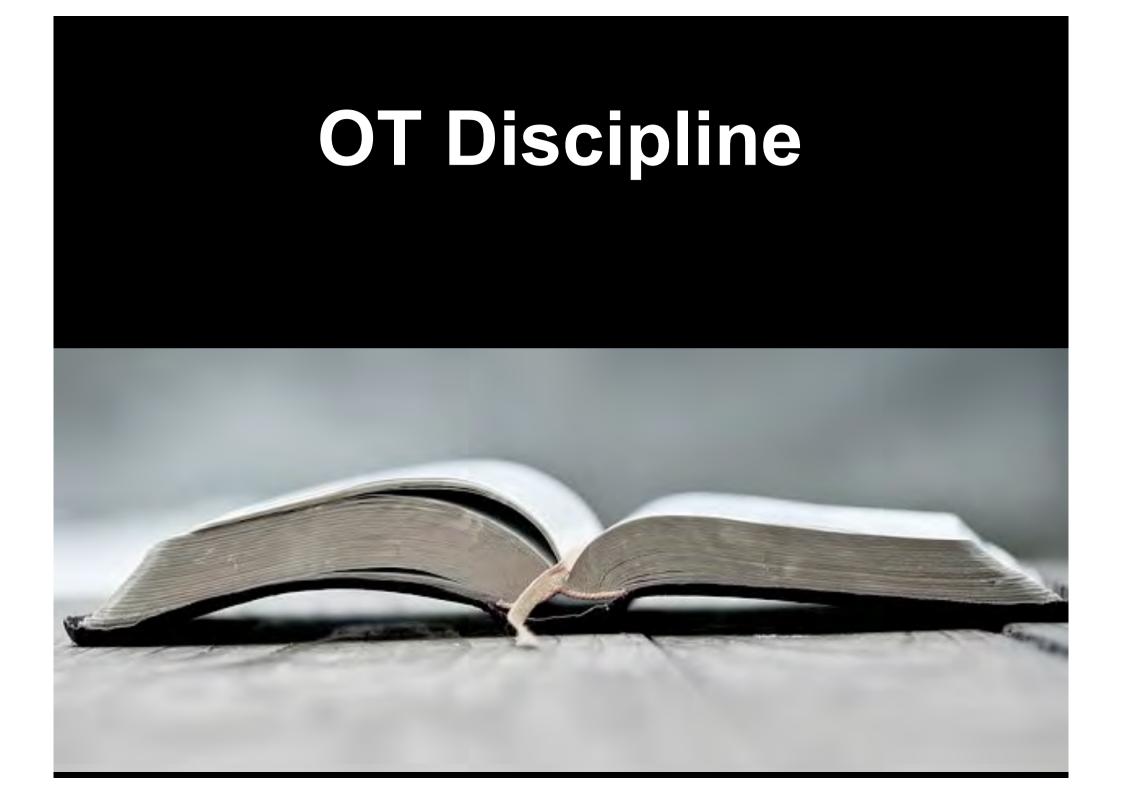
Jeremiah's Application: "Leave Jerusalem"



Jeremiah 24 portrayed all the Jews as two types of figs during Babylon's siege: 1.The "bad figs" who refused to submit to God's discipline by the **Babylonians would** disobey God by staying in the city and dying. 2.The "good figs" would spare their lives by leaving the city to surrender to the Babylonians outside!

Jeremiah 24 Figs

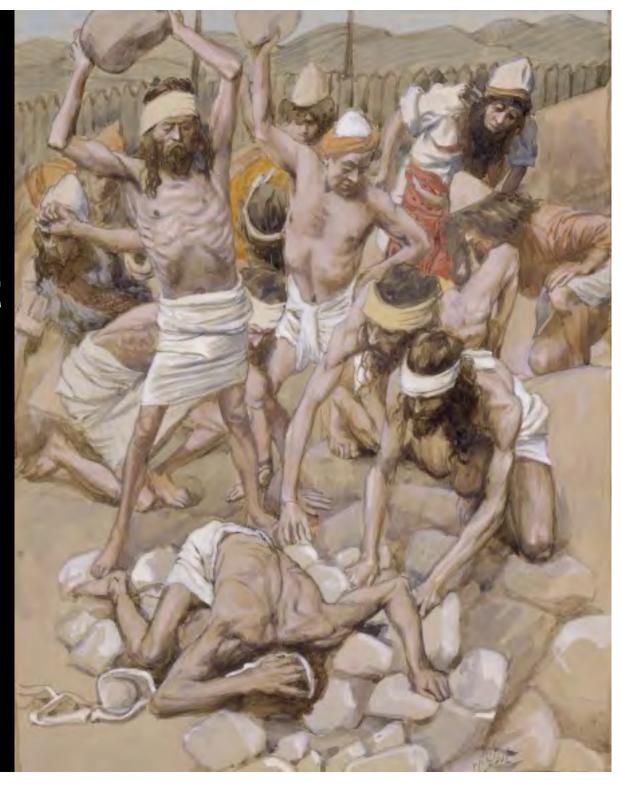
AD 70 was no different!



The Man Picking Up Sticks on the Sabbath (Numbers 15:30-36)



"For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses" (Hebrews 10:28; cf. Num. 15:30-36 NLT).



"Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy **Spirit who brings God's** mercy to us" (Hebrews 10:29 NLT).

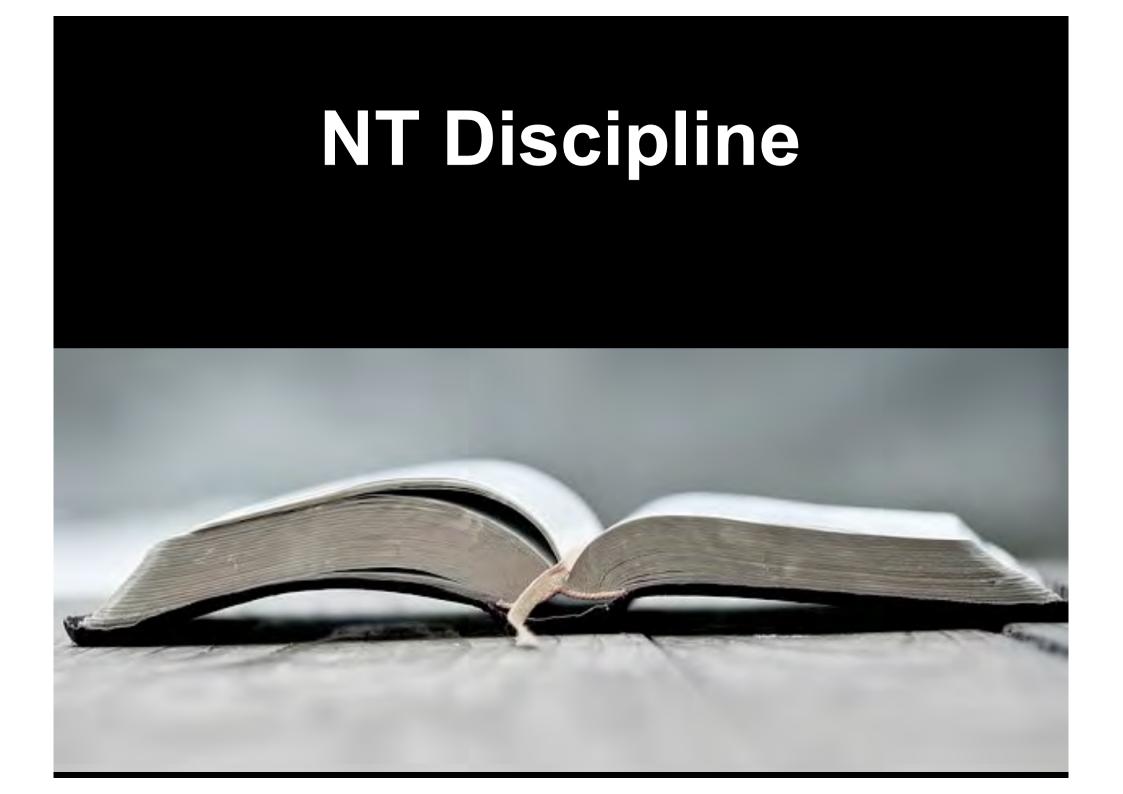




Worse Than Death?

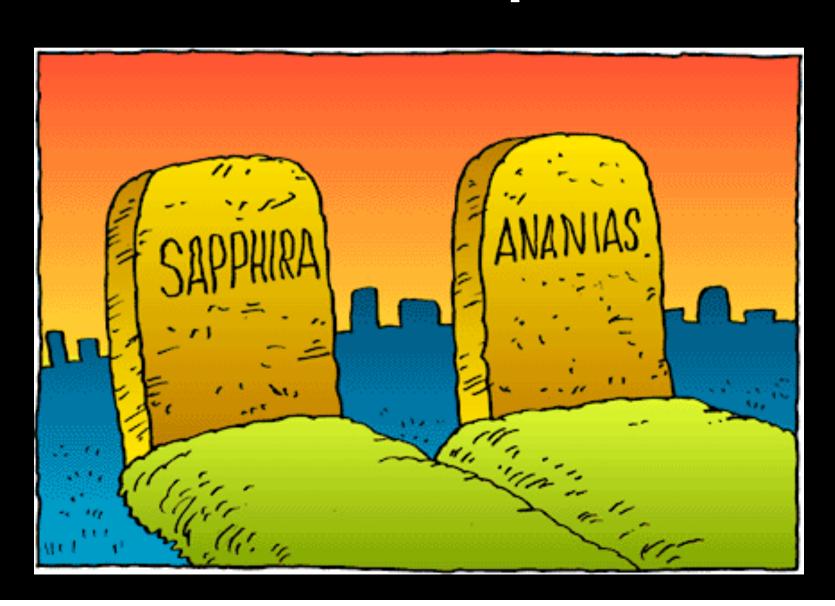
"This kind of spiritual rebellion clearly calls for a much worse punishment than the capital penalty that was inflicted under the Mosaic setup. But again the writer was not thinking of hell. Many forms of divine retribution can fall on a human life which are worse than immediate death. In fact, Jeremiah made just such a complaint about the punishment inflicted on Jerusalem (Lam. 4:6, 9). One might think also of King Saul, whose last days were burdened with such mental and emotional turmoil that death itself was a kind of release."

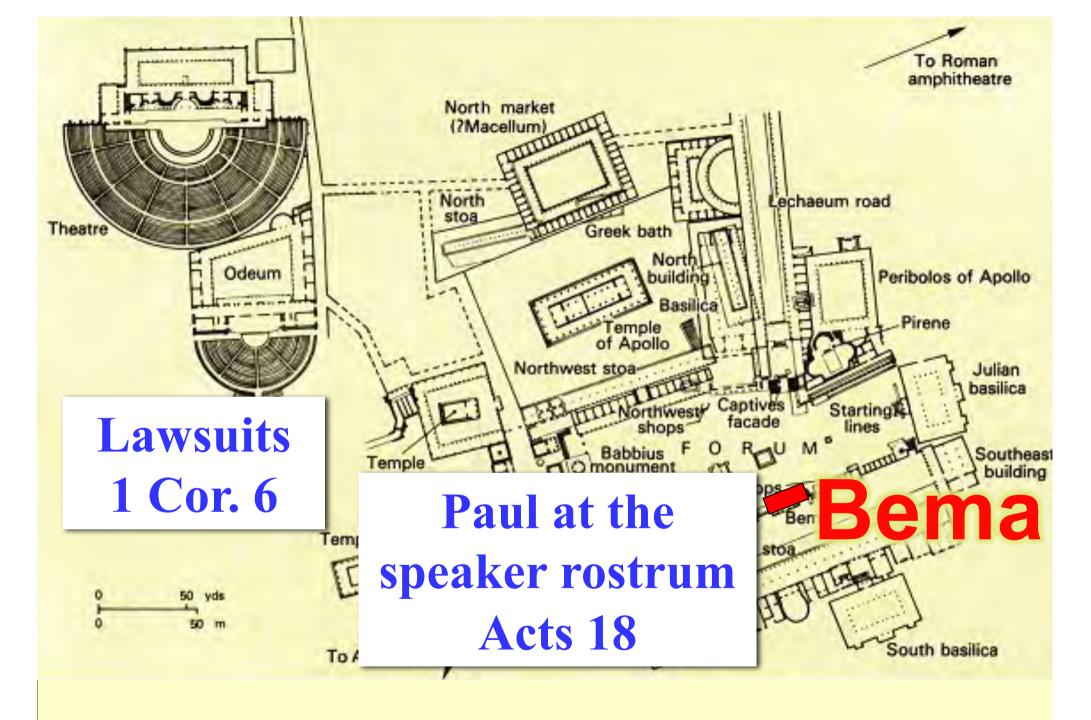
Zane C. Hodges, "Hebrews," in Bible Knowledge Commentary, 2:806





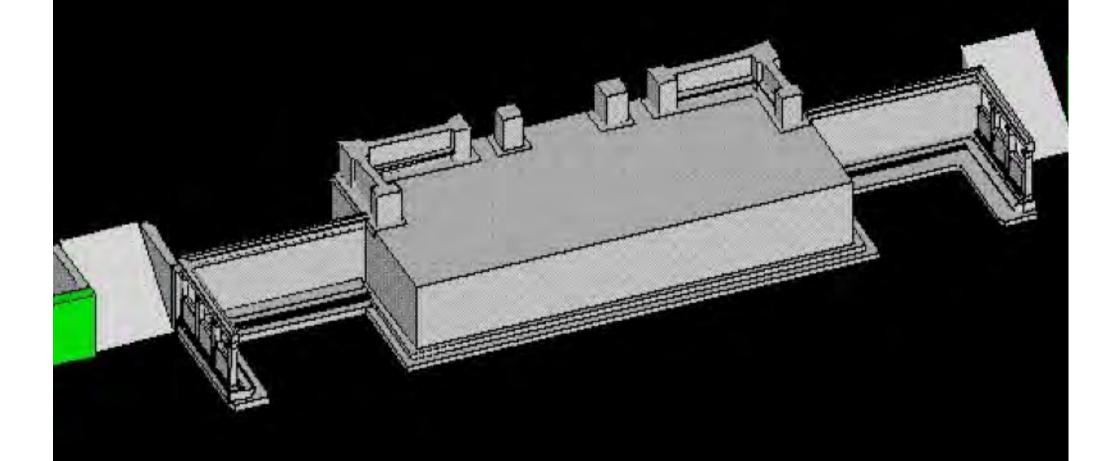
Grace, yes, but there is still divine discipline...





The Bema at Corinth

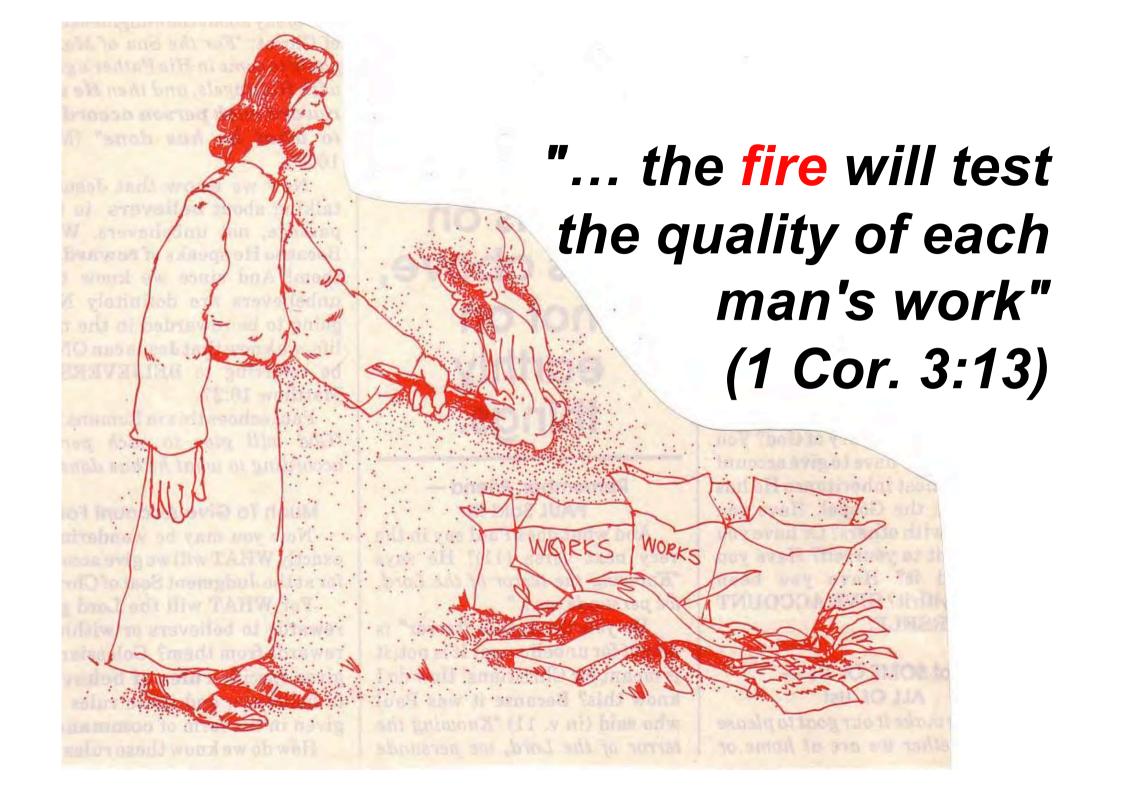
Bema Close-up

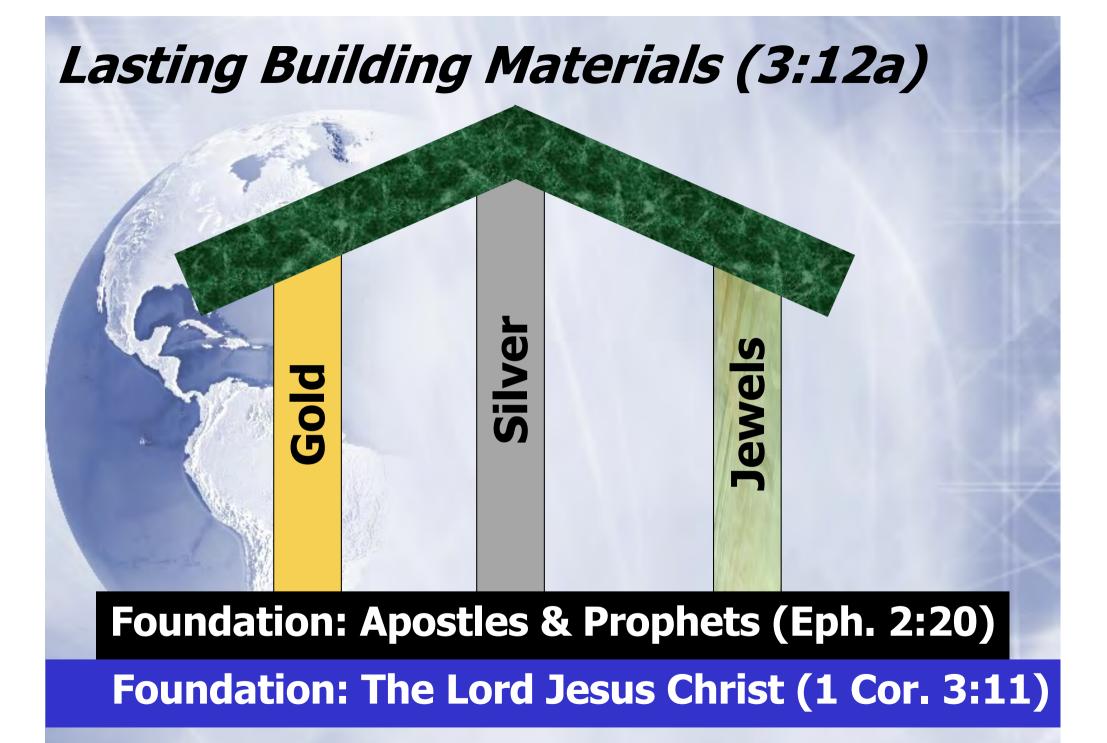


The Speaker or Judge Above







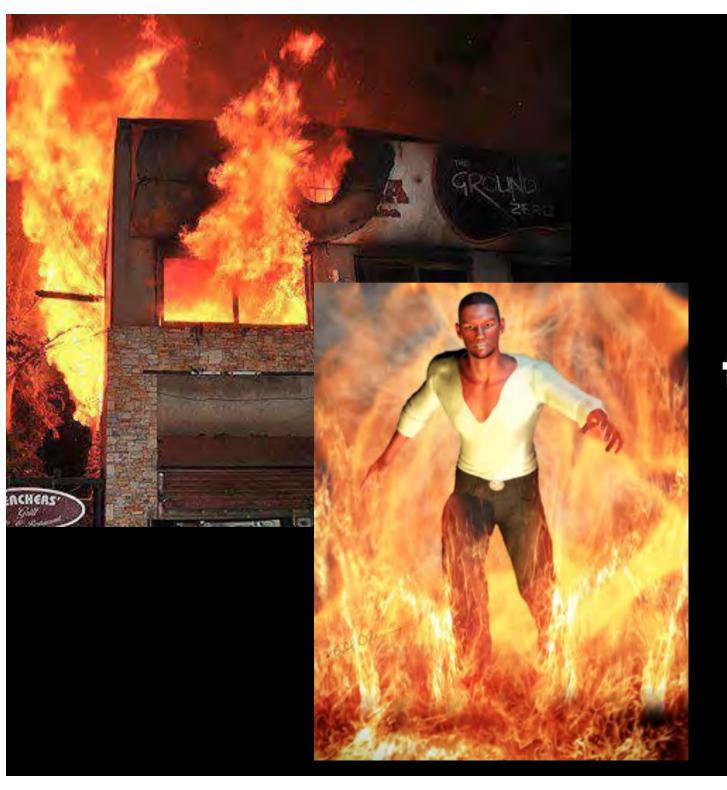


Perishable Building Materials (3:12b)



Foundation: Apostles & Prophets (Eph. 2:20)

Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

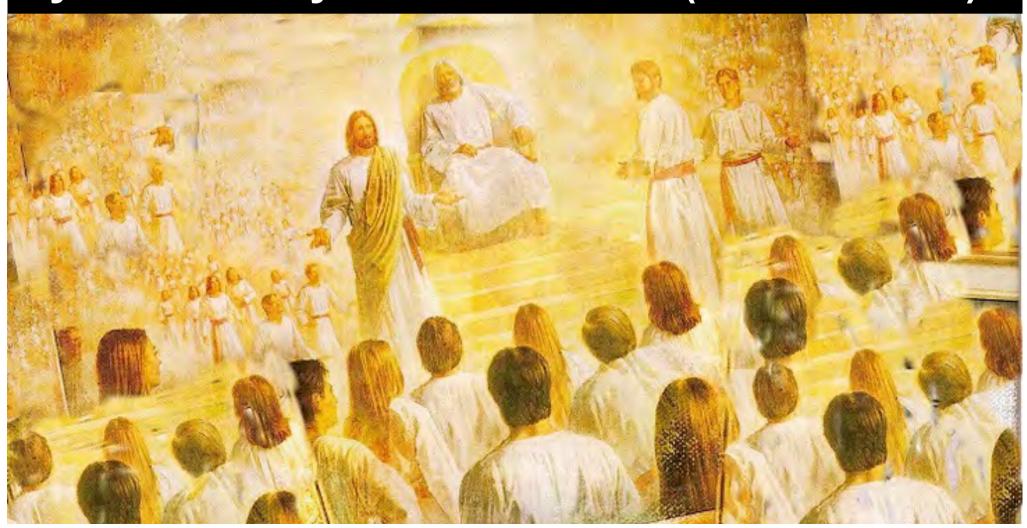


"saved as through fire..." (3:15)

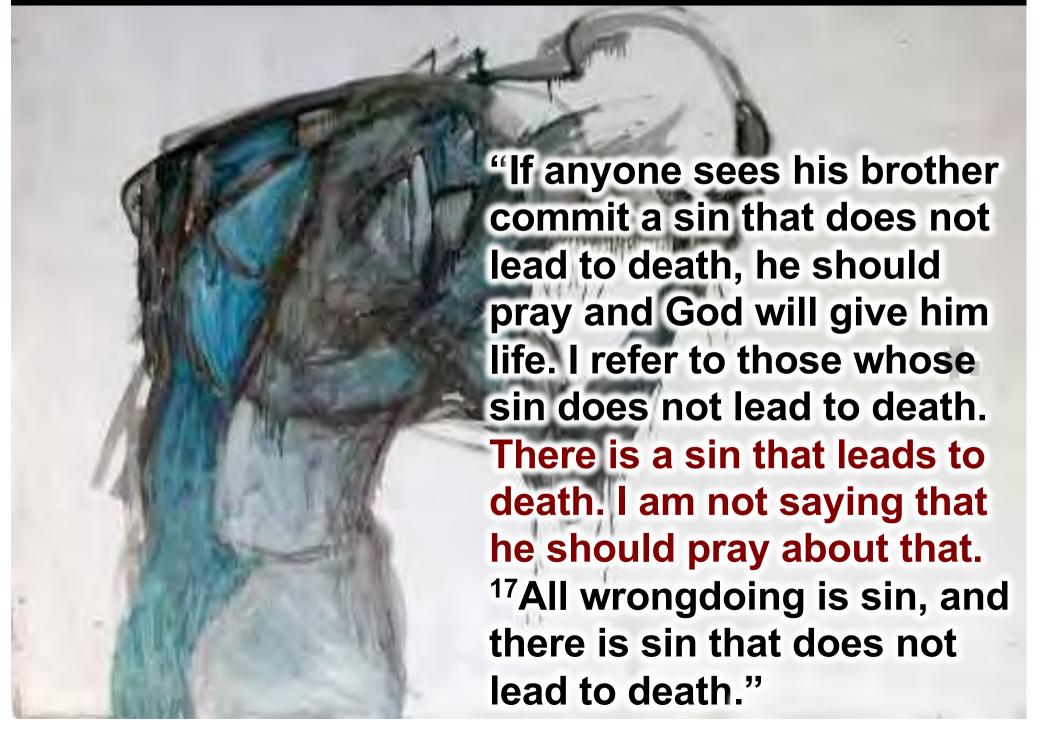


Rewards can be lost!

"Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you receive your full reward" (2 John 8 NLT)



Some sin leads to premature death (1 John 5:16-17 NIV)



"For we know the one who said,
'I will take revenge.
I will pay them back.'

He also said,
'The LORD will judge his own people.'

³¹It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:30-31 NLT).

What group of Jews is being addressed?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
People who are not really believers	Christians who sin by not seeing Christ's superiority	Christians who sin by not seeing Christ's superiority

What is the nature of their punishment?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Never had Salvation	Loss of Salvation	Loss of Reward

What is the result?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Hell	Hell	Divine Discipline

Which theological perspective holds to this view?



False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Reformed	Arminian	Partakers

Strengths



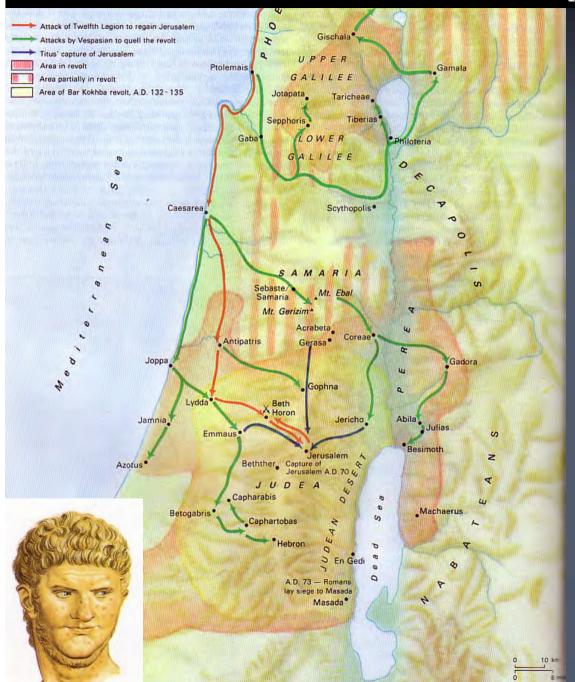
False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Signifying Hell (sees the judgment as serious)	Signifying Hell (sees the judgment as serious)	Loss of rewards judgment is better than loss of salvation

Weaknesses



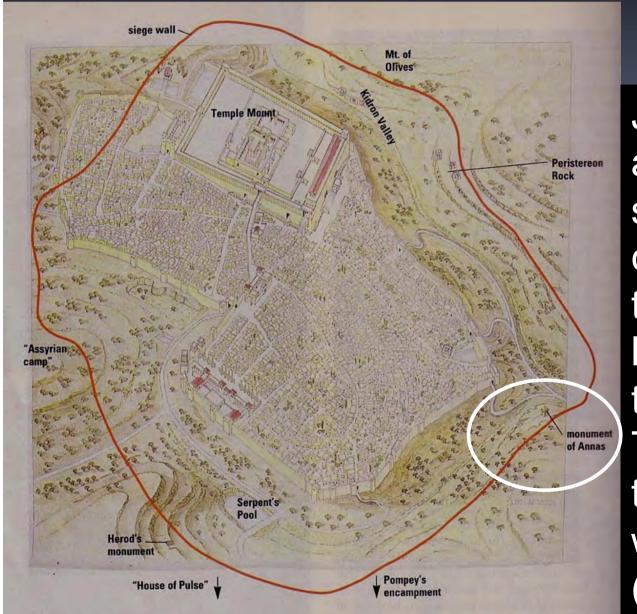
False Believer	Former Believer	Carnal Believer
Consistently speaks of the readers as genuine Christians	Temporal security goes against NT doctrine of justification by grace	10:27 refers to judging persons, not deeds

The Jewish War (AD 66-73)



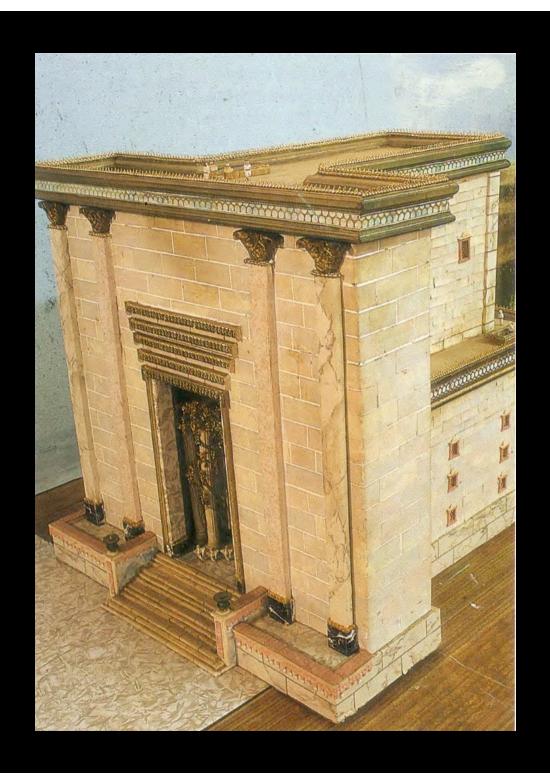
- Caesarea desecration
- Jerusalem revolt
- Temple sacrifice for Nero stopped
- Rome sentVespasian
- Nero died
- Siege of Jerusalem by Titus (April-Sept. 70)

Jerusalem Siege Wall (AD 70)

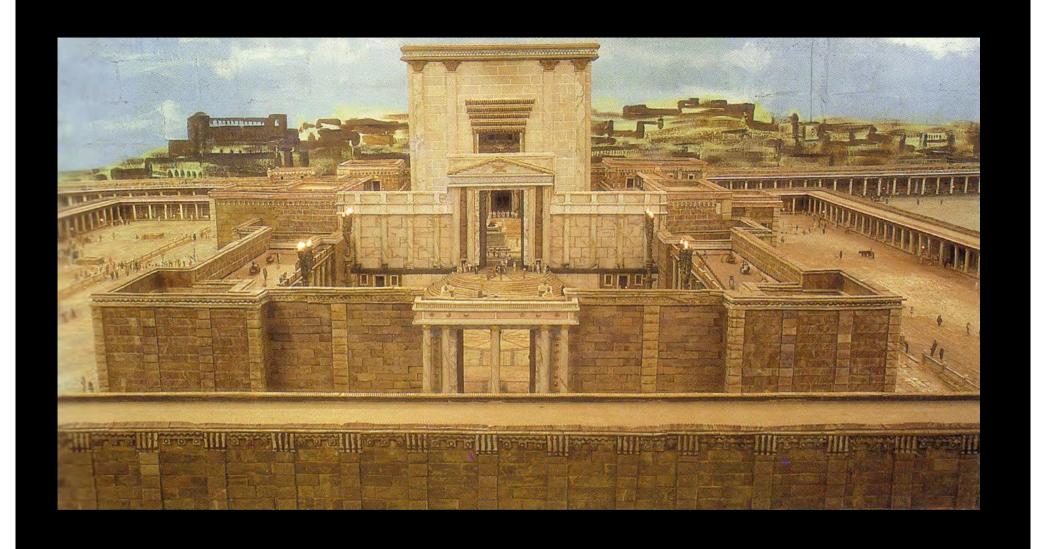


Josephus notes that a siege wall surrounded the entire city, including the tomb of Annas, located among the tombs of Akeldama. This lends support to these being a wealthy burial place (not Potter's Field).

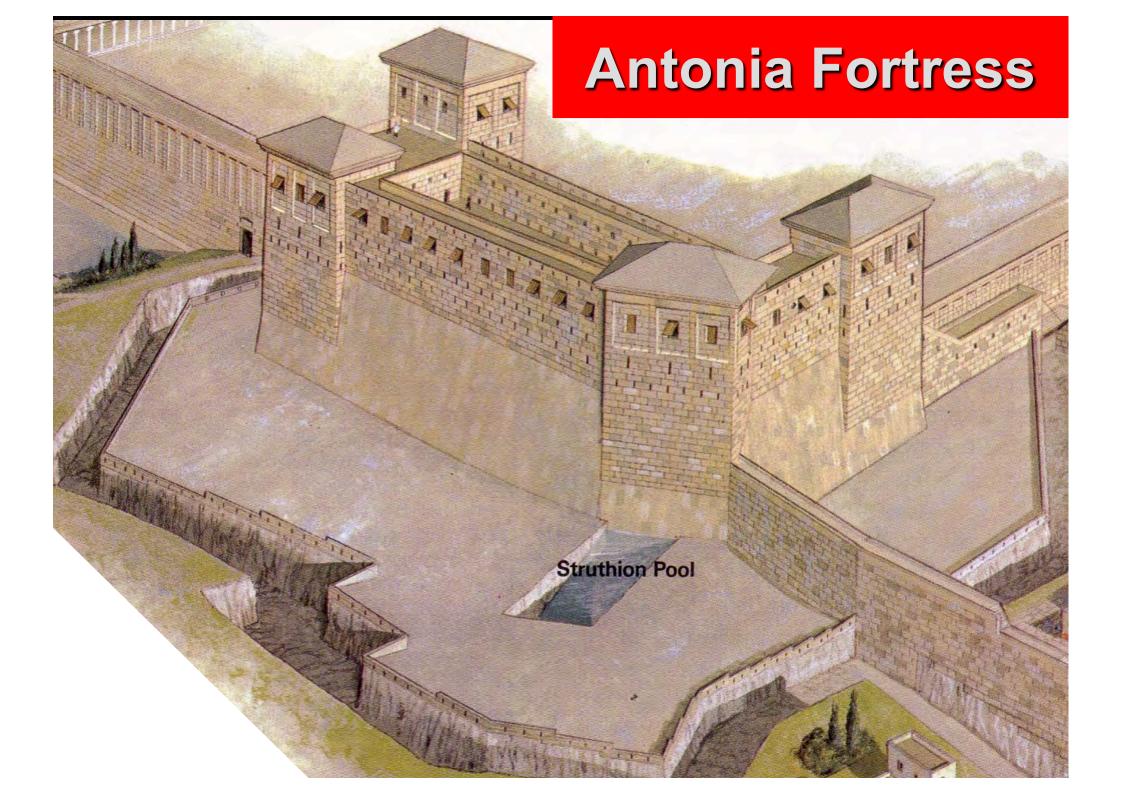
Leen & Kathleen Ritmeyer, "Akeldama: Potter's Field or High Priest's Tomb?" BAR 20 (Nov/Dec 94): 34



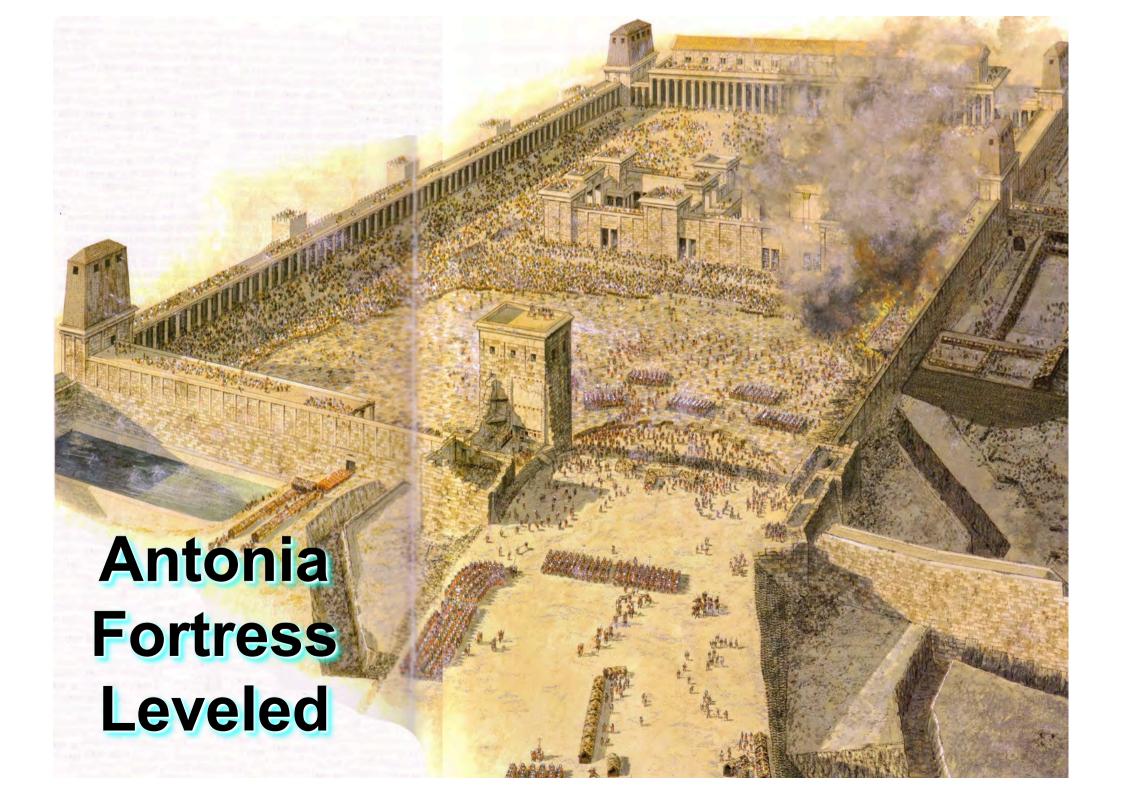
The Temple Sanctuary

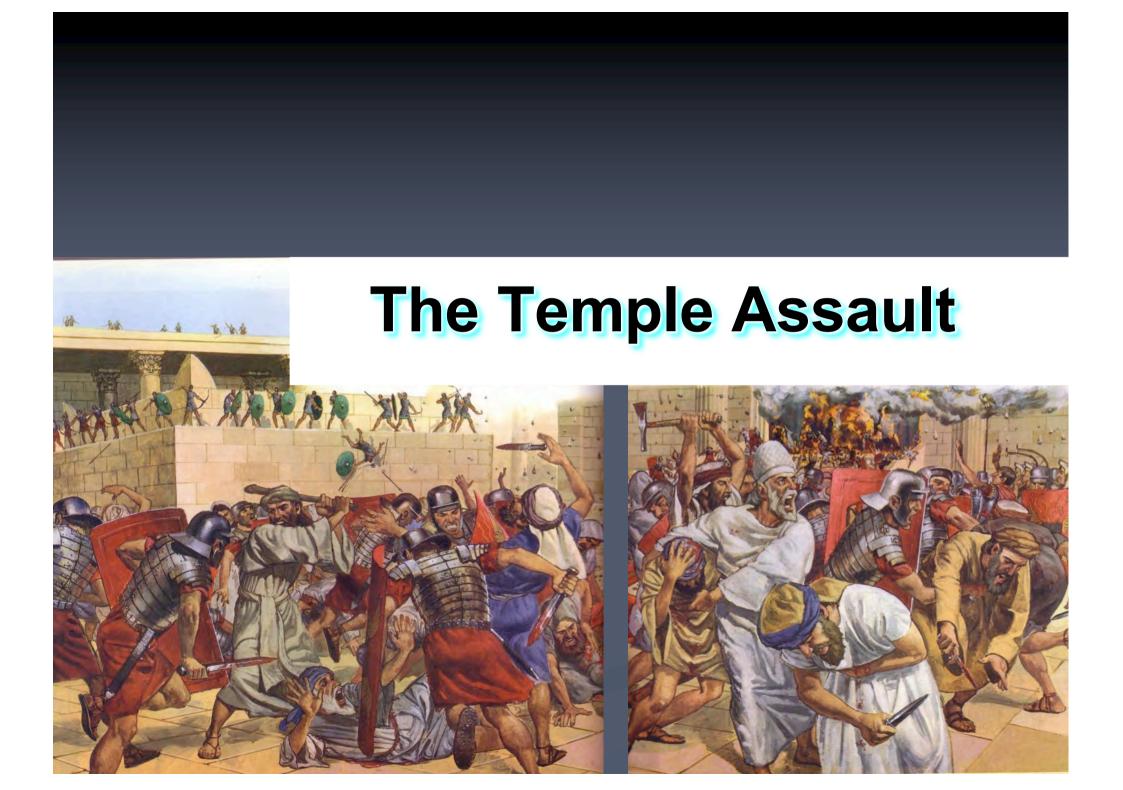


The Temple from the east









The Fire

"Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. ²⁷ There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (Hebrews 10:26-27 NLT).

Hell fire?

No, Jerusalem fire!

Hebrews 8:13

"By calling this covenant 'new,' he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear."

Obsolete
AD 33

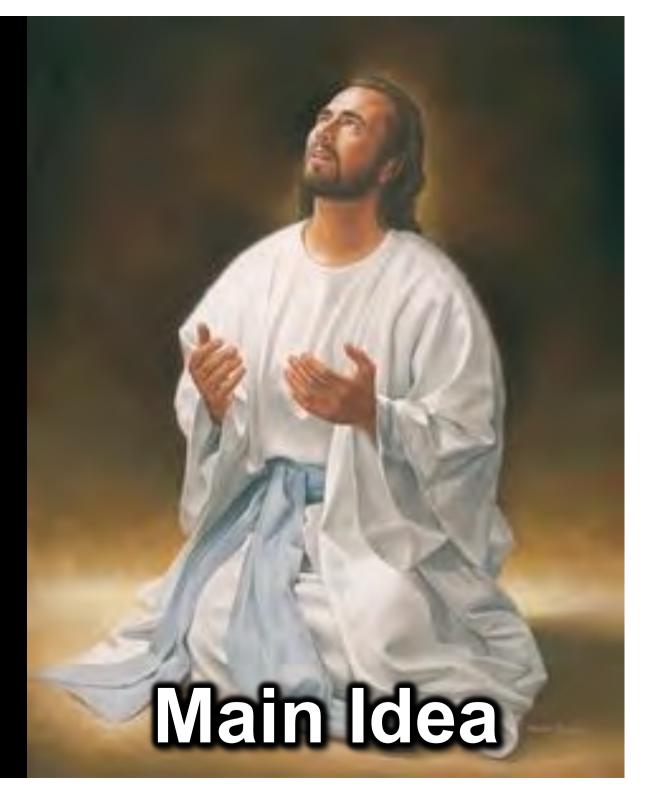
Hebrews Written

AD 67-68

Disappeared

AD 70

Don't convince God to bring you to heaven early!



It's happened. Ananias & Sapphira died (Acts 5:1-11) Lord's Supper abuses (1 Cor. 11:30) Some sin leads to death (1 John 5:16-17) Some escape "as through fire" (1 Cor. 3:15)

The Problem with Labels

Must we be one or the other ...?

Reformed?

...or...

Arminian?

Many do Fall Away

Weaknesses

Loss of Salvation

Eternal Security

Strengths

Reality of Apostasy

Partakers View Has Both Strengths & Neither Weakness

Jody Dillow is the key author of the Partakers View



Final Destiny

The Future Reign of the Servant Kings

Joseph Dillow



Commit yourself to him.



Endurance Through Faith

> #4 Willful Sin (warning) 10:19-39

Models of Faithful Endurance 11:1–12:3

Endure as Sons
12:4-13

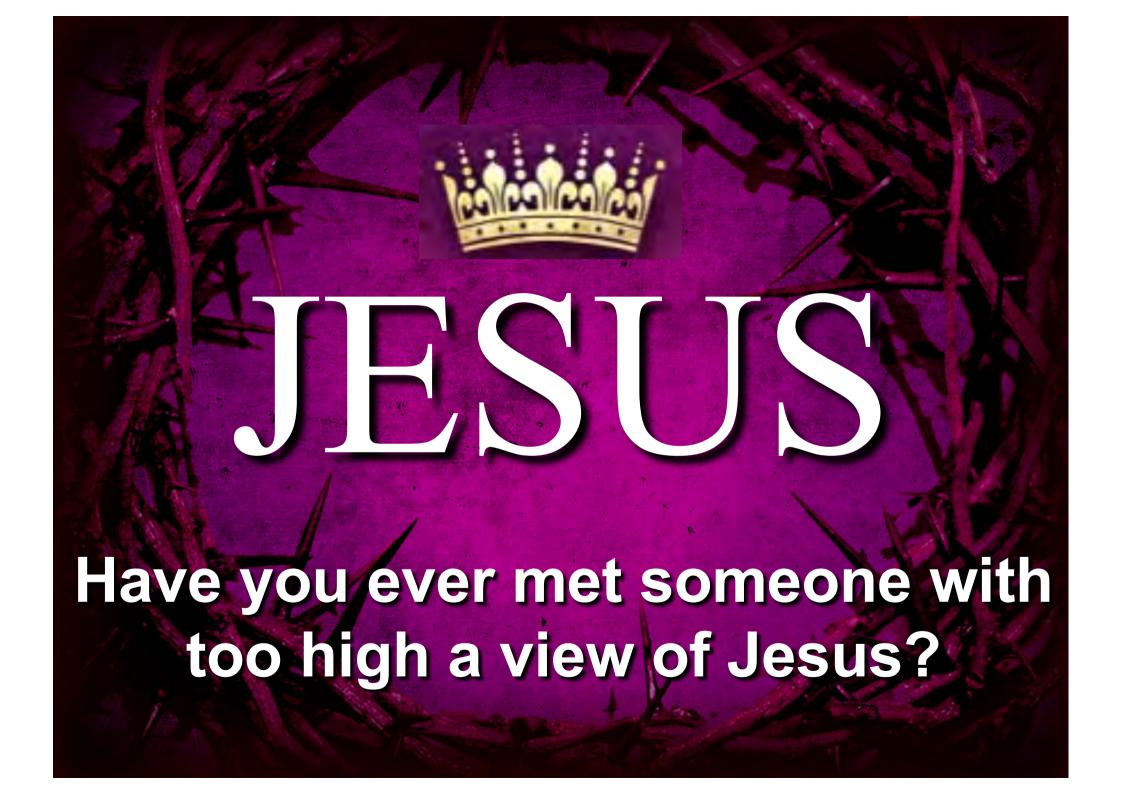
Ethics of Endurance 12:14-17

> #5 Ignoring God's Voice 12:18-29

Exhortations to Love 13:1-25



Hebrews 11



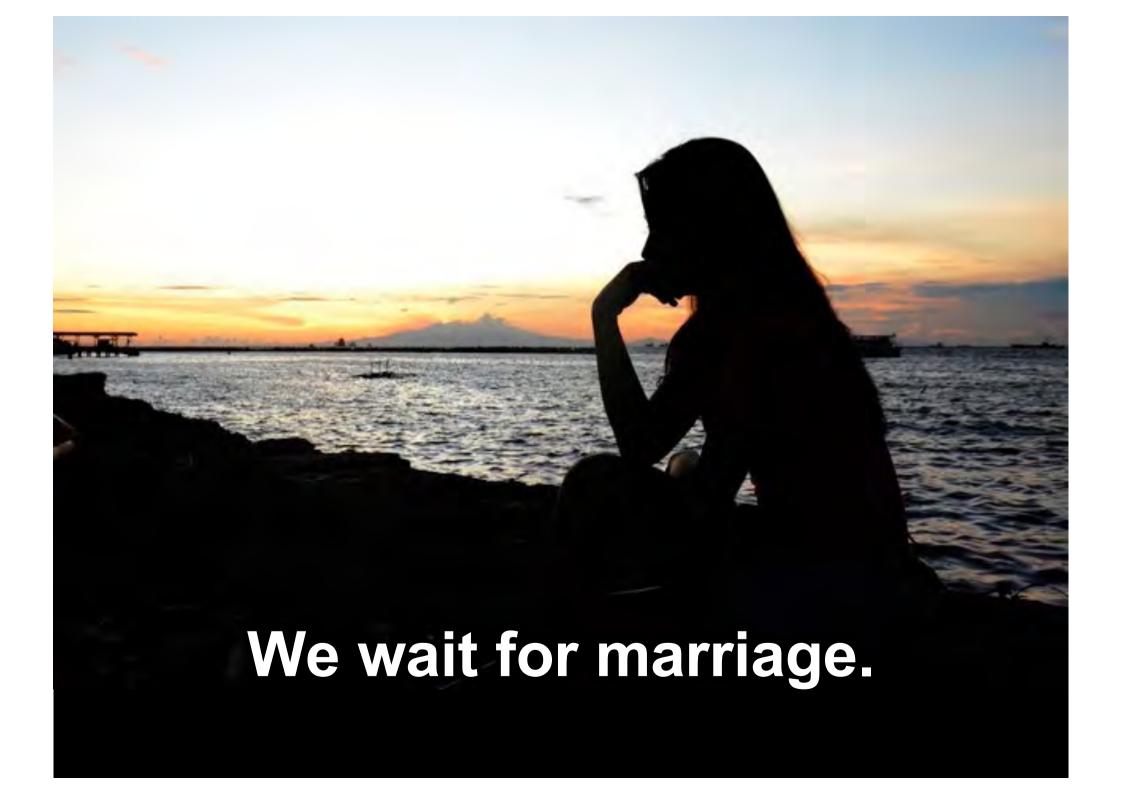
Why press on with Christ?





Others faithfully endured before you to give you examples—so press on (11:1–12:3).



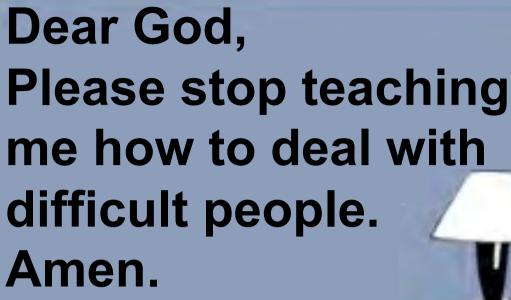




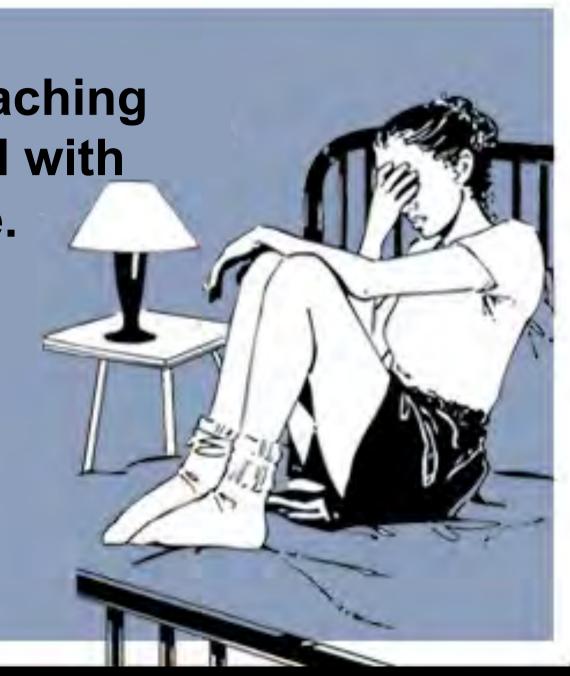


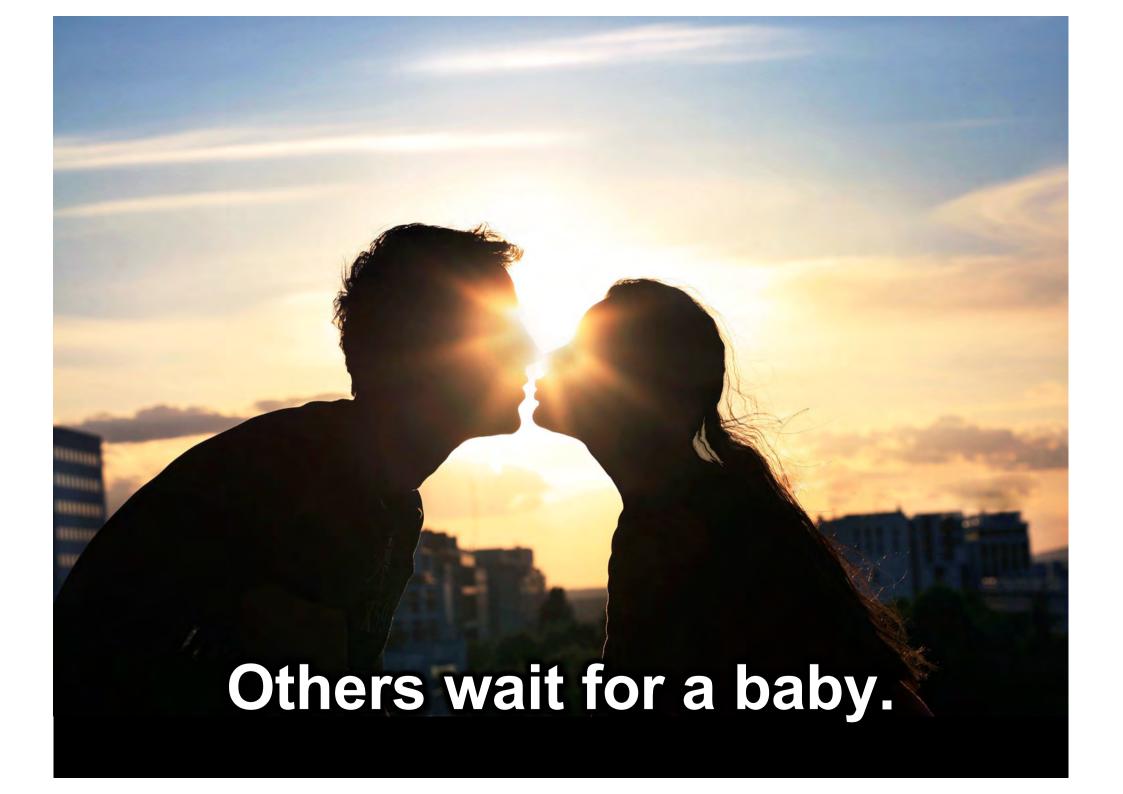
We wait upon God to overcome difficulties at work from being a Christian.











What are you waiting for?

(Tell the person next to you.)





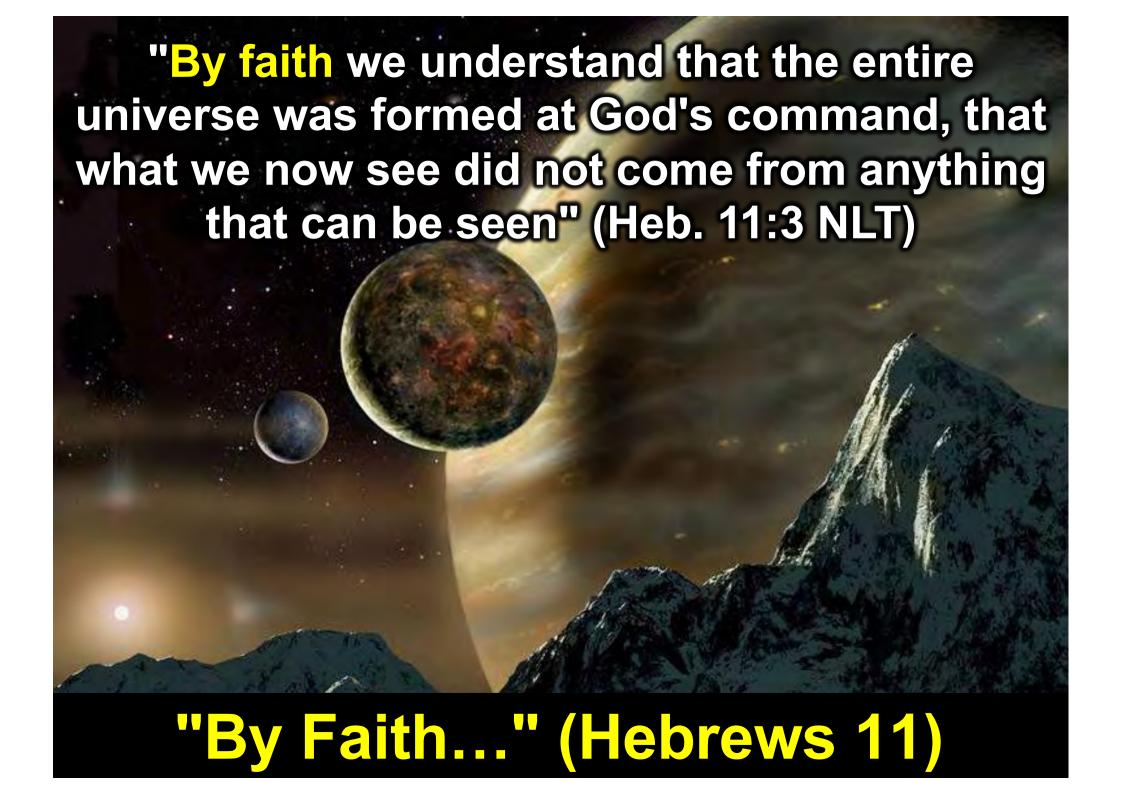
KEY PRINCIPLE





"Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation" (Heb. 11:2 NLT)





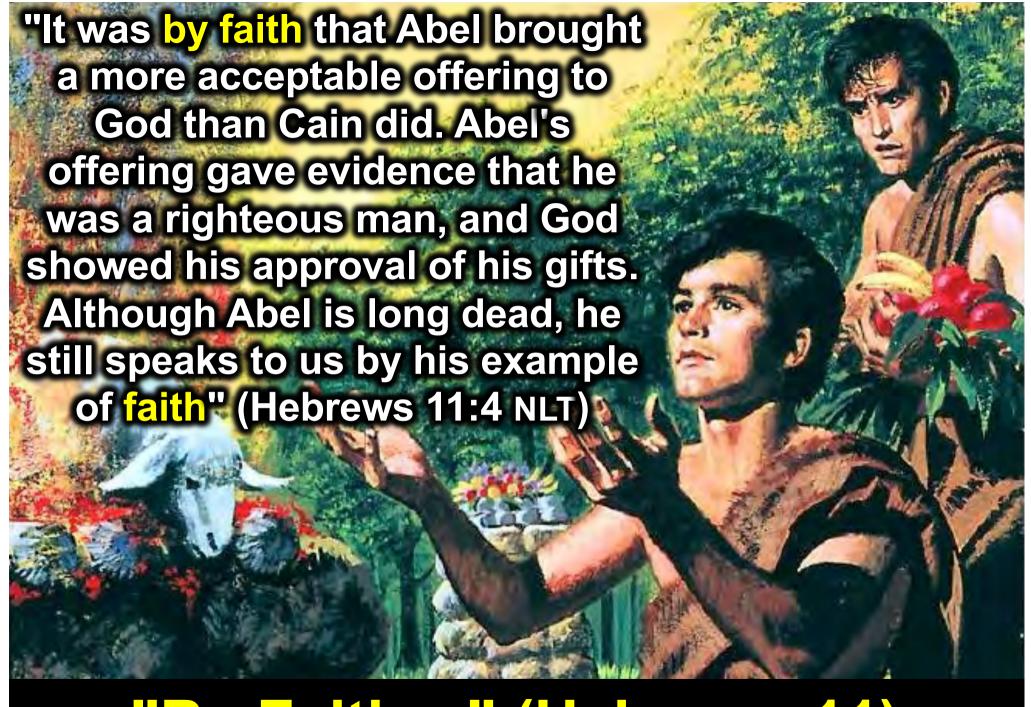


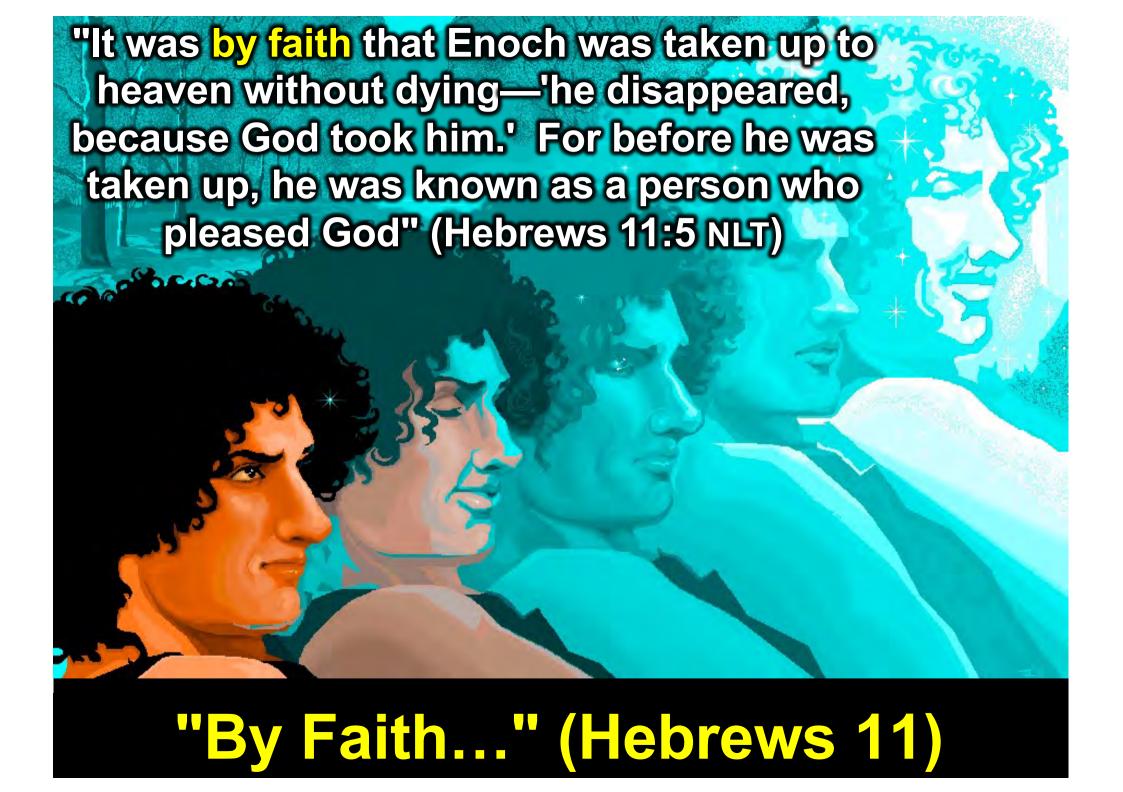


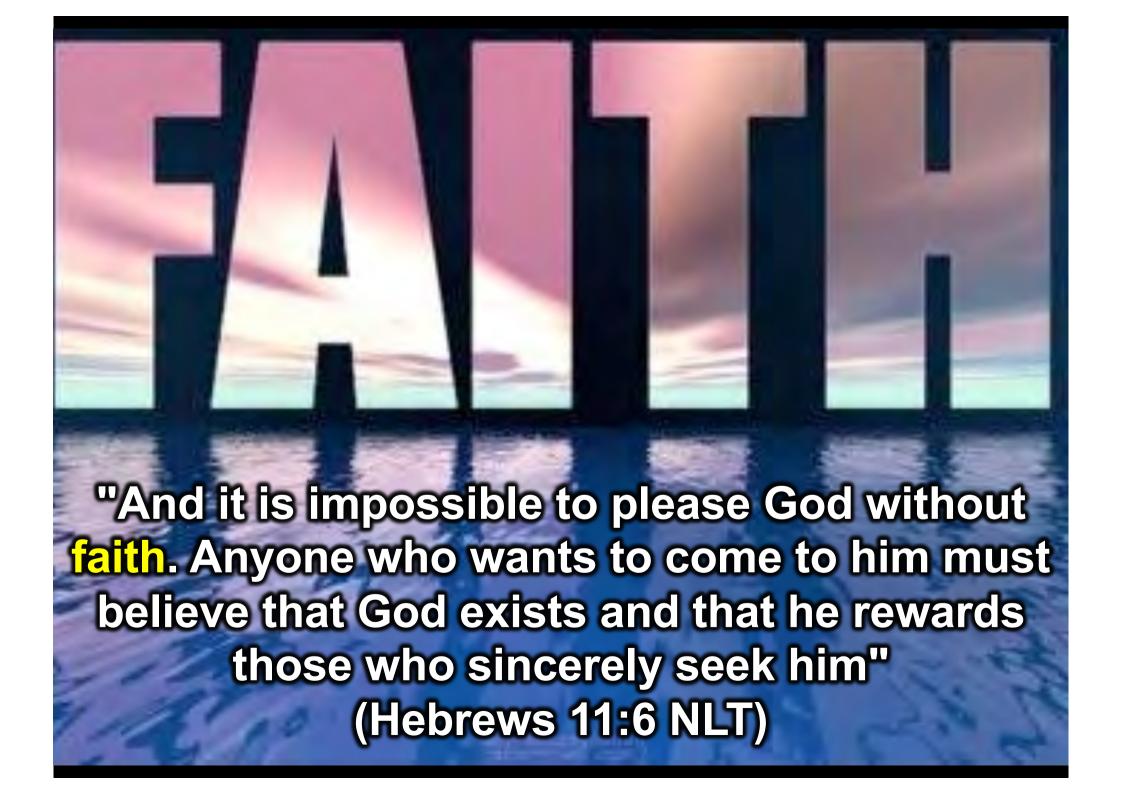
II. Imitate OT saints that persevered (Hebrews 11:4-40).

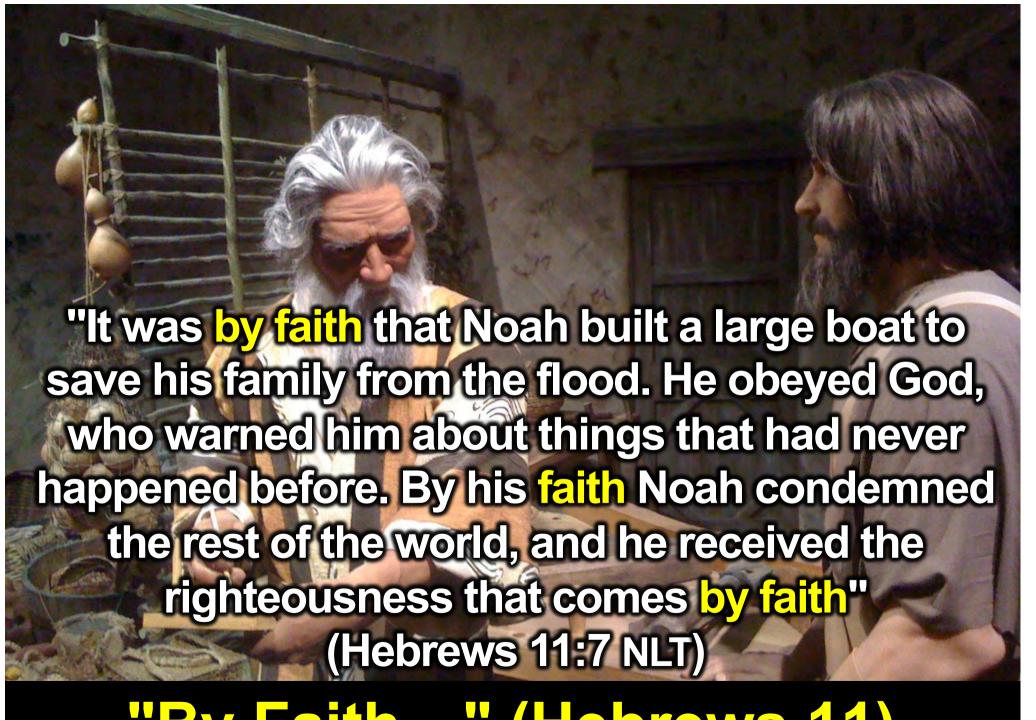


Pre-patriarchal people acted with certainty on an unseen hope (Hebrews 11:4-7).



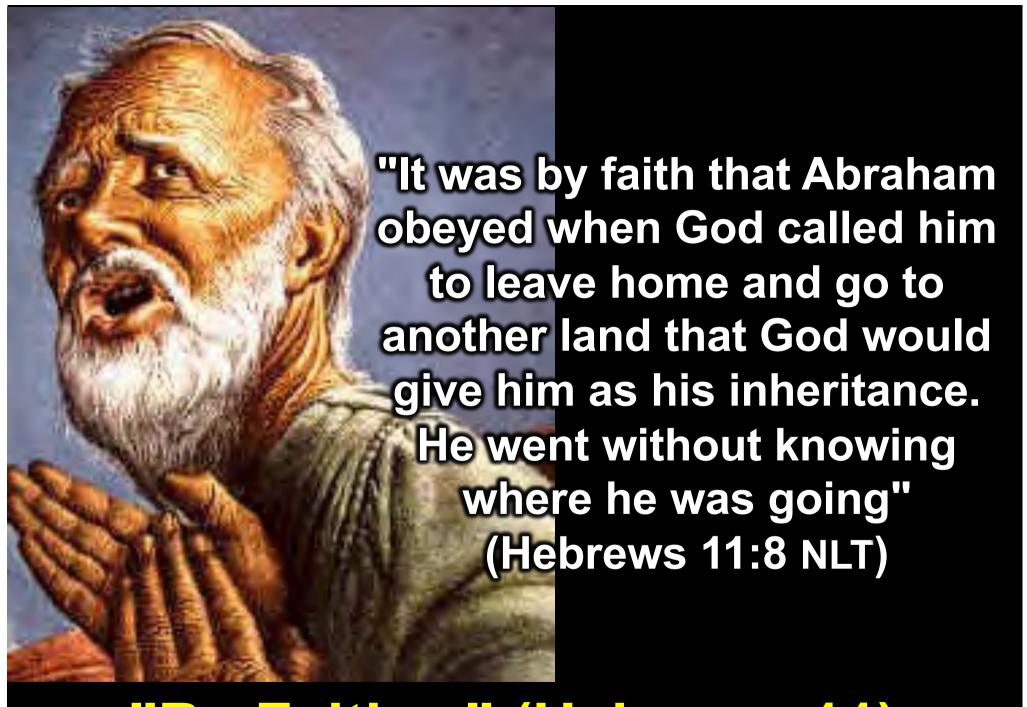


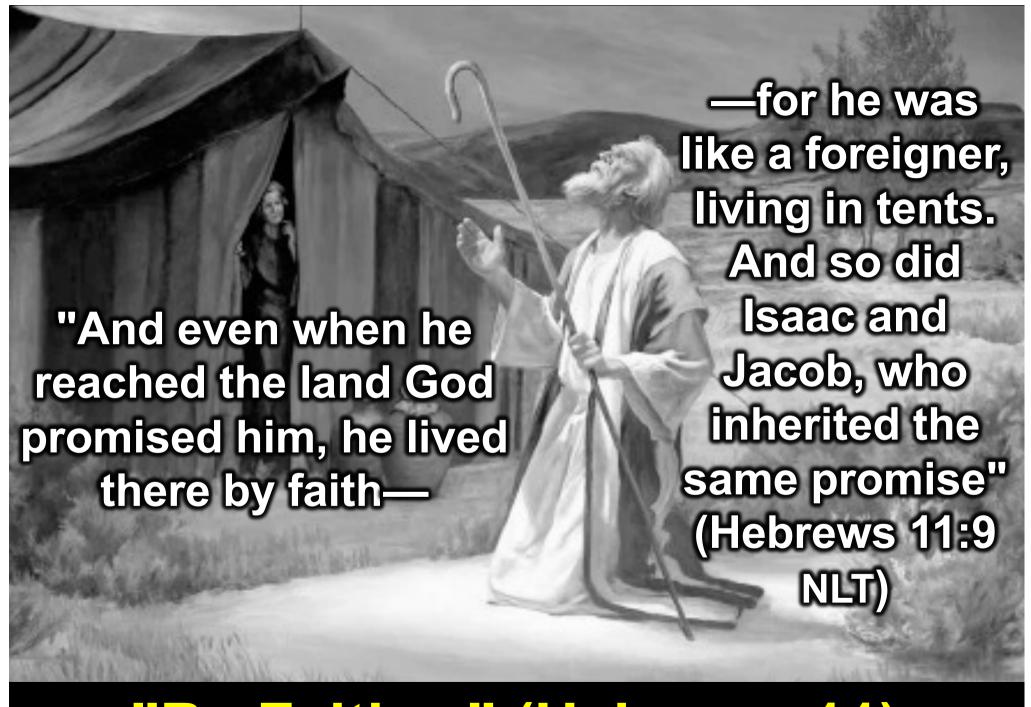






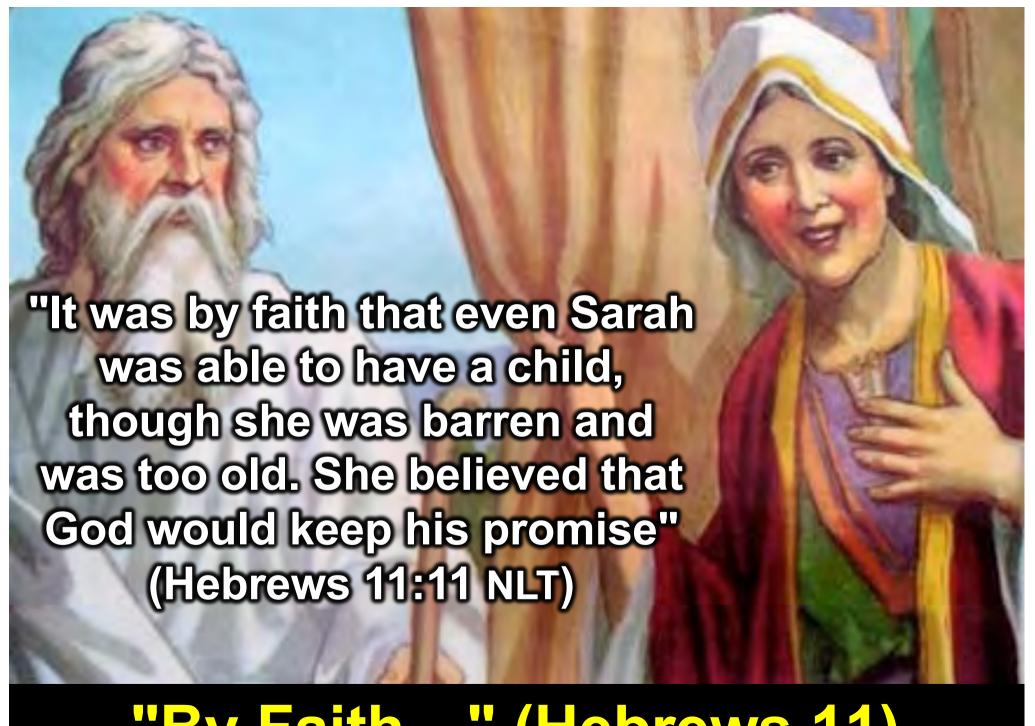
The patriarchs acted with certainty on an unseen hope (Hebrews 11:8-22).

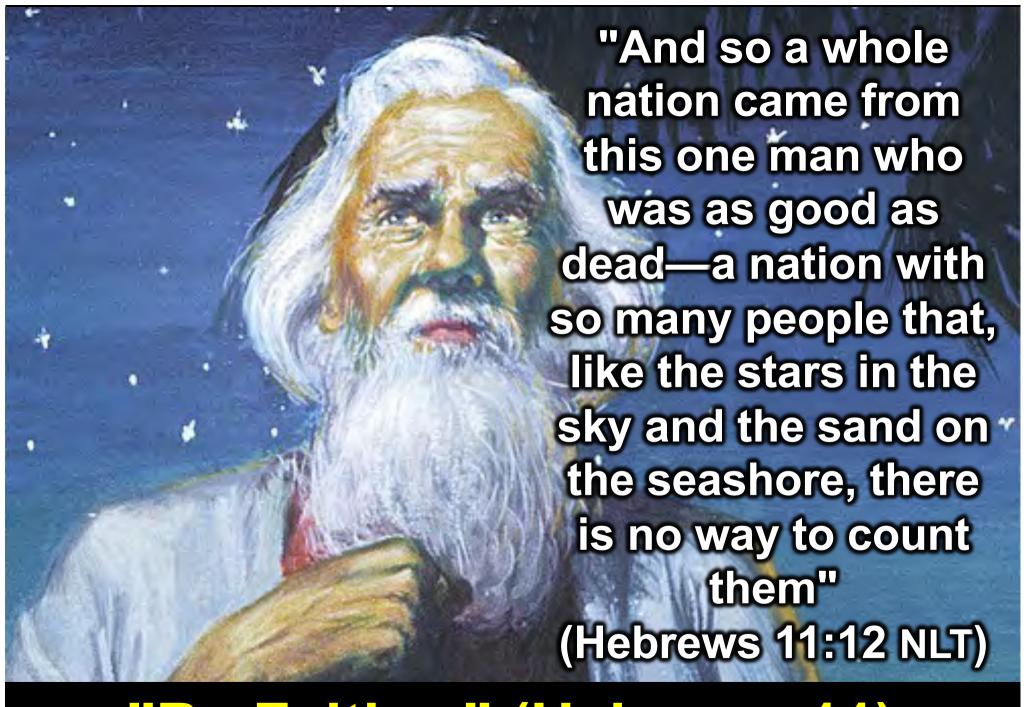


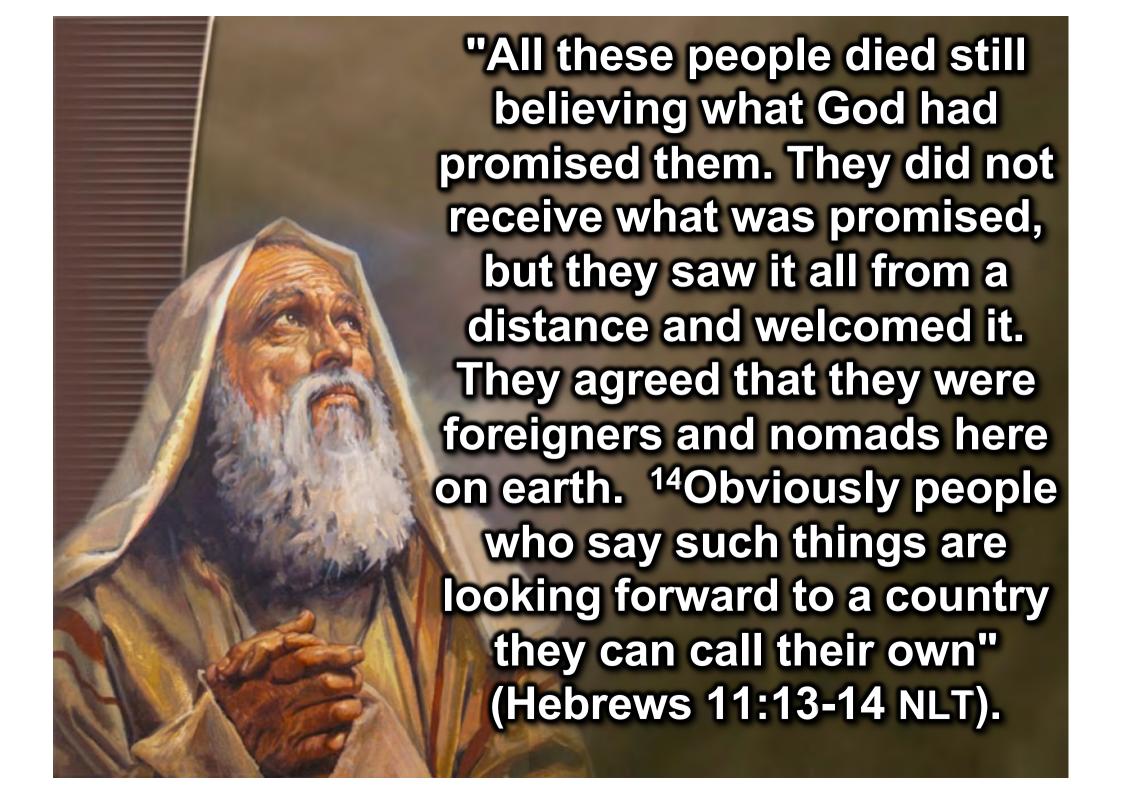


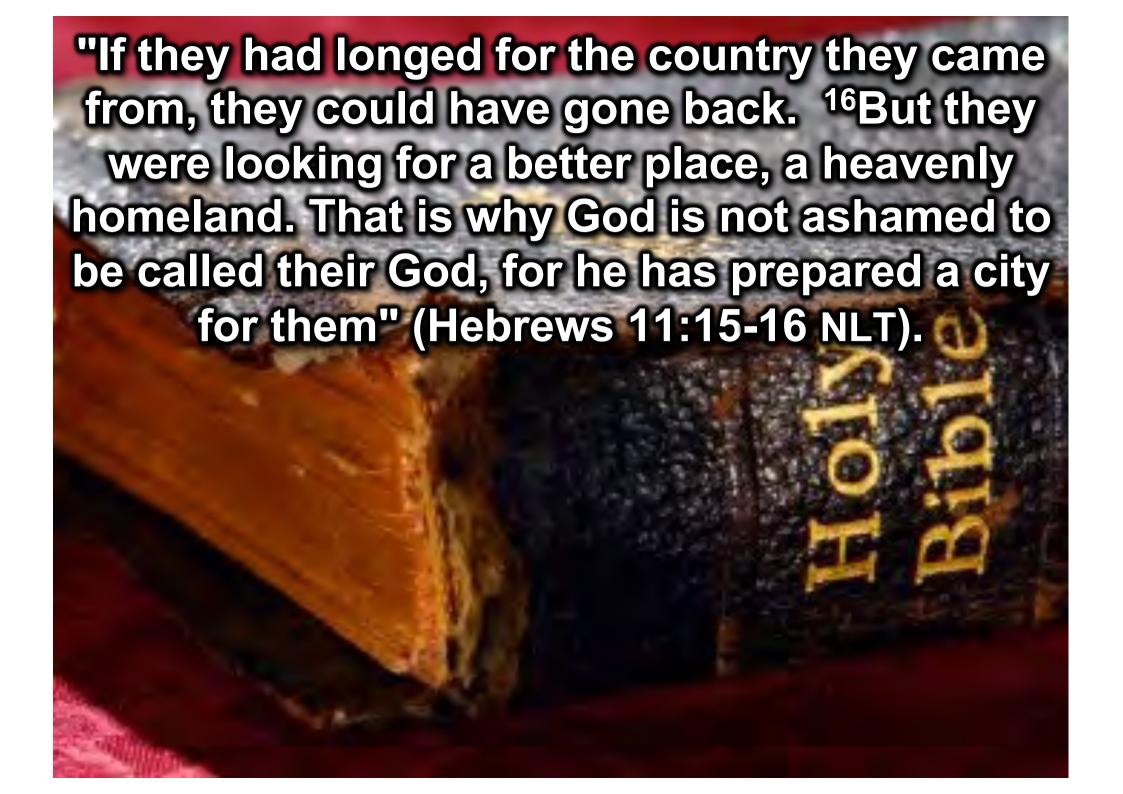
"Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God" (Hebrews 11:10 NLT)

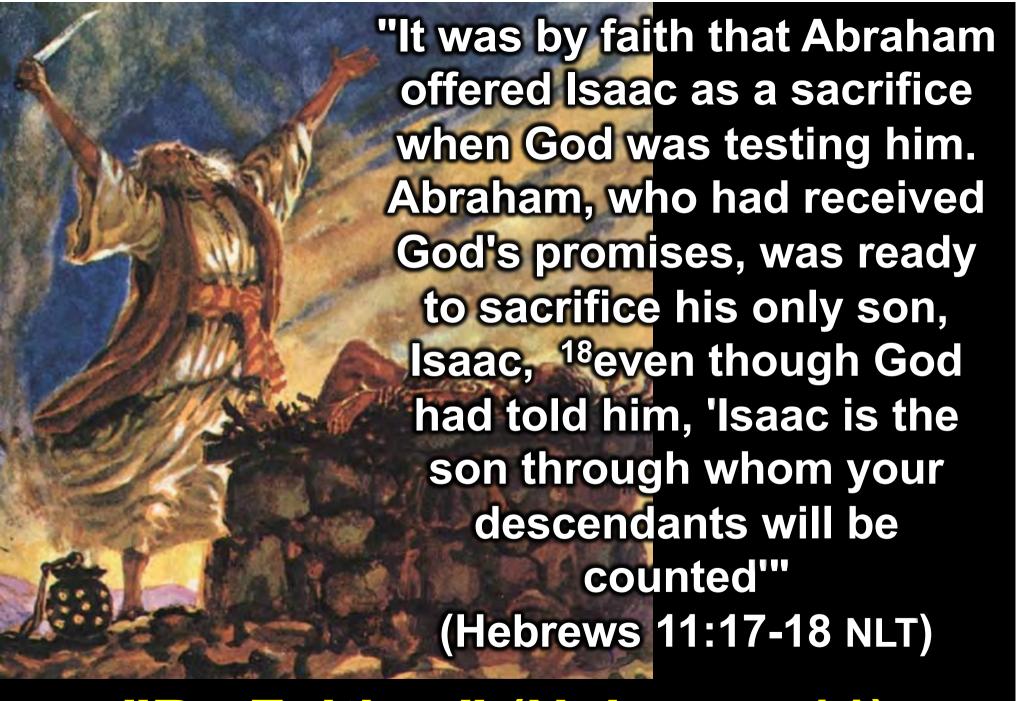


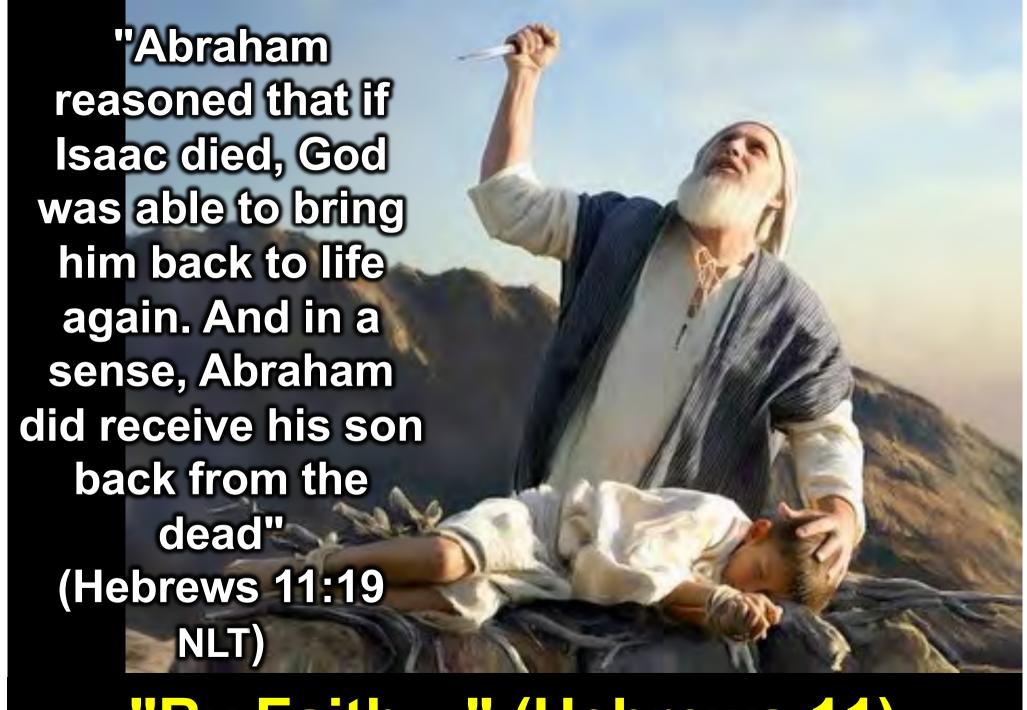


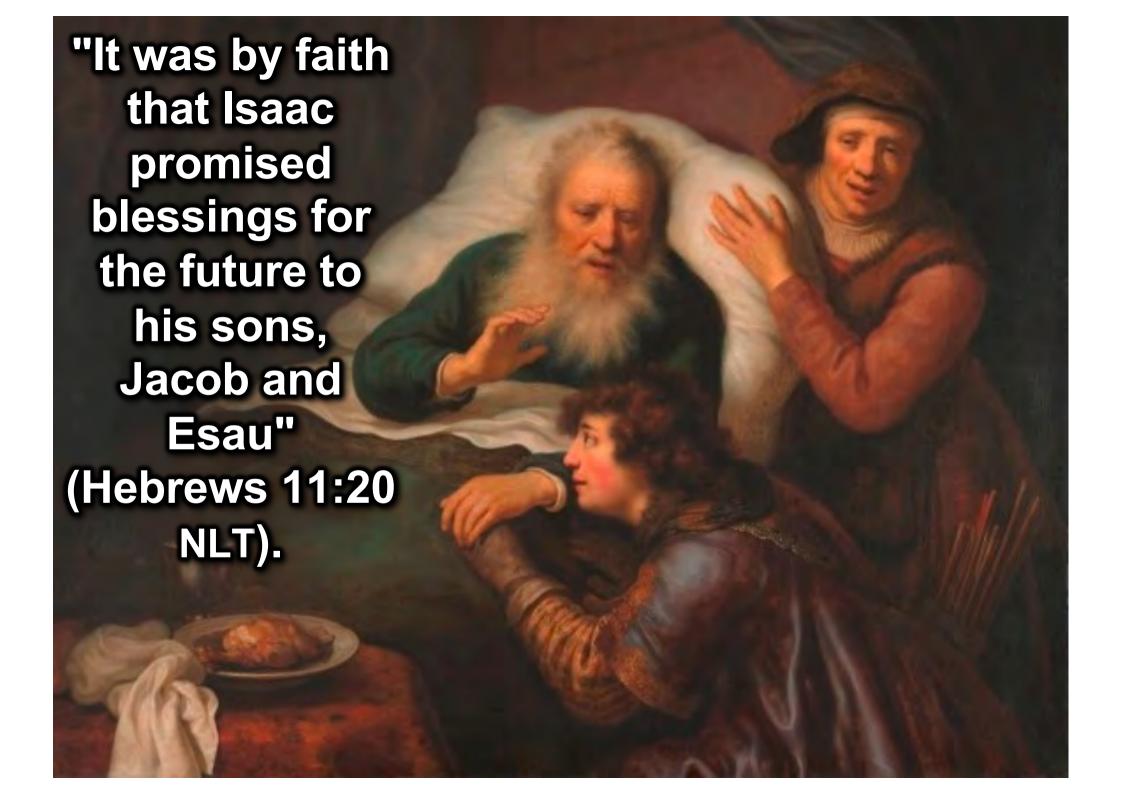


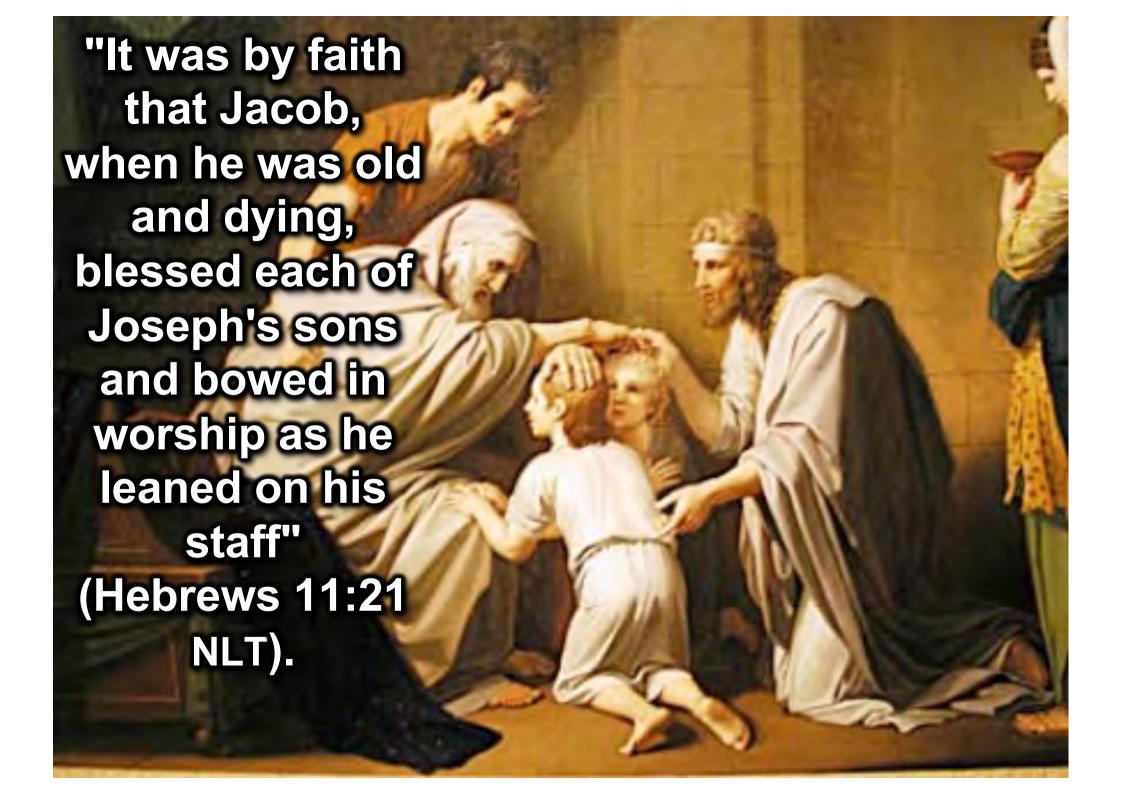












"It was by faith that Joseph, when he was about to die, said confidently that the people of Israel would leave Egypt. He even commanded them to take his bones with them when they left" (Hebrews 11:22 NLT).

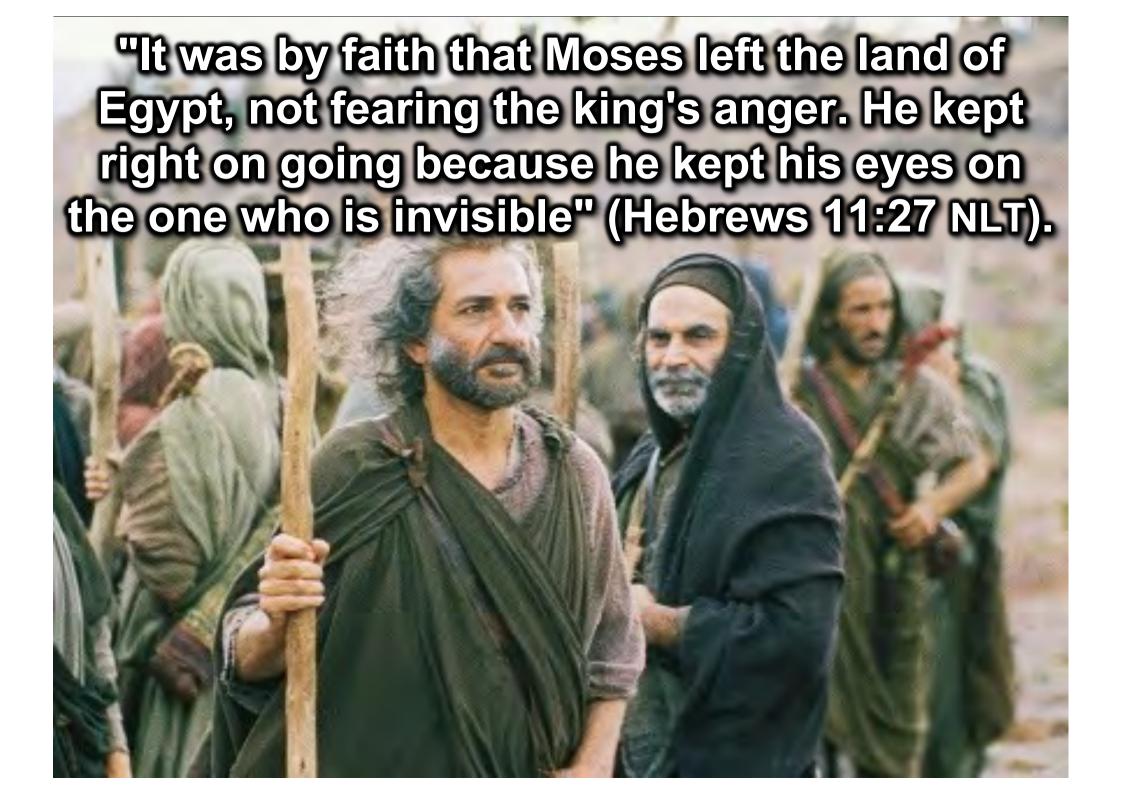


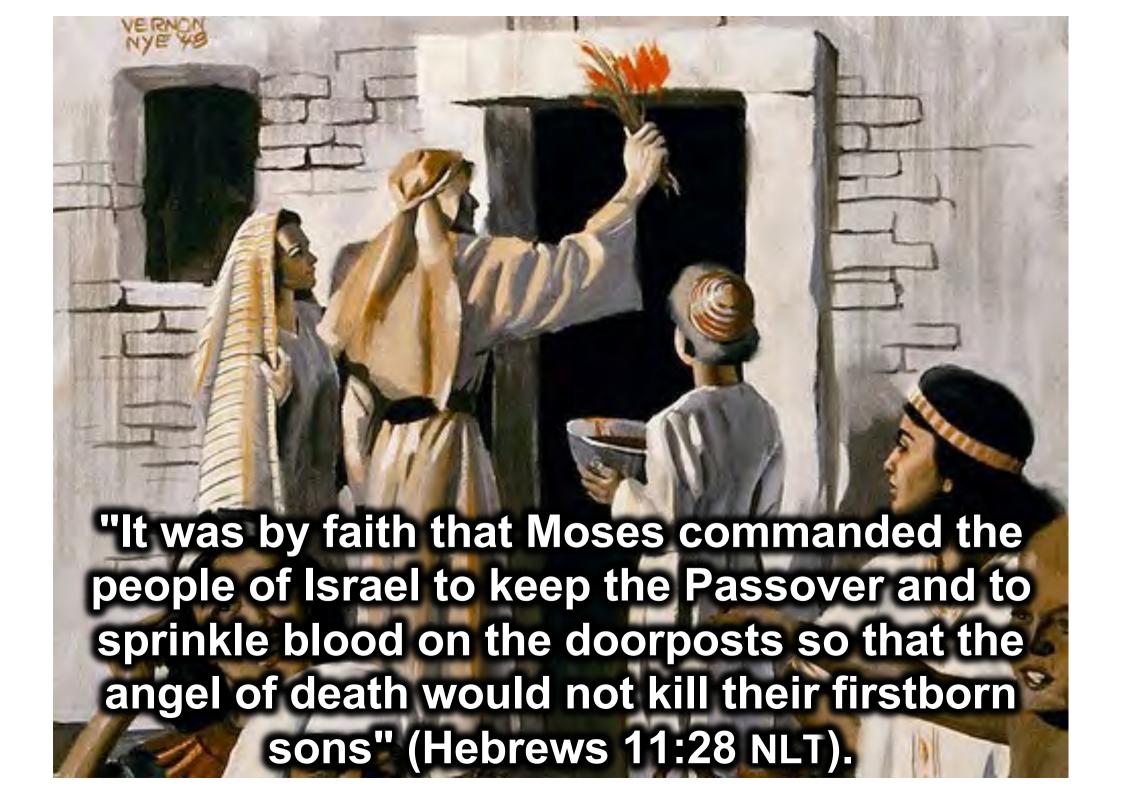


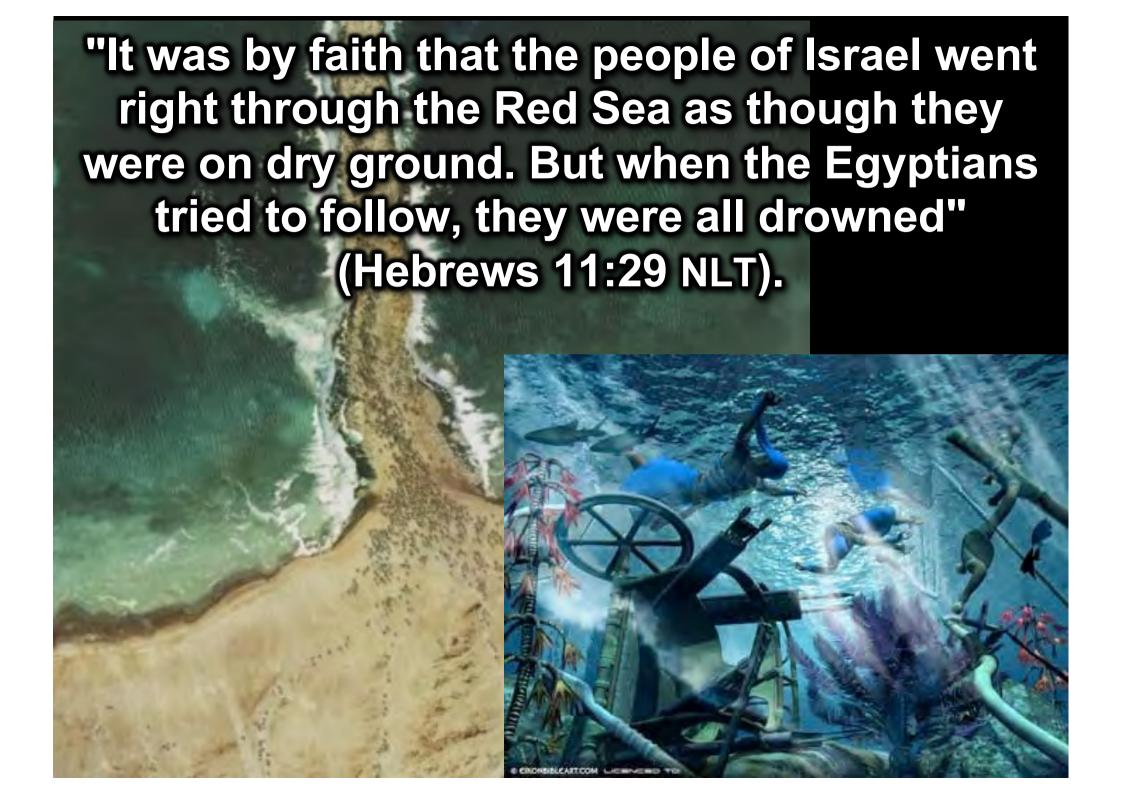
Moses and the conquest generation acted with certainty on an unseen hope (Hebrews 11:23-31).



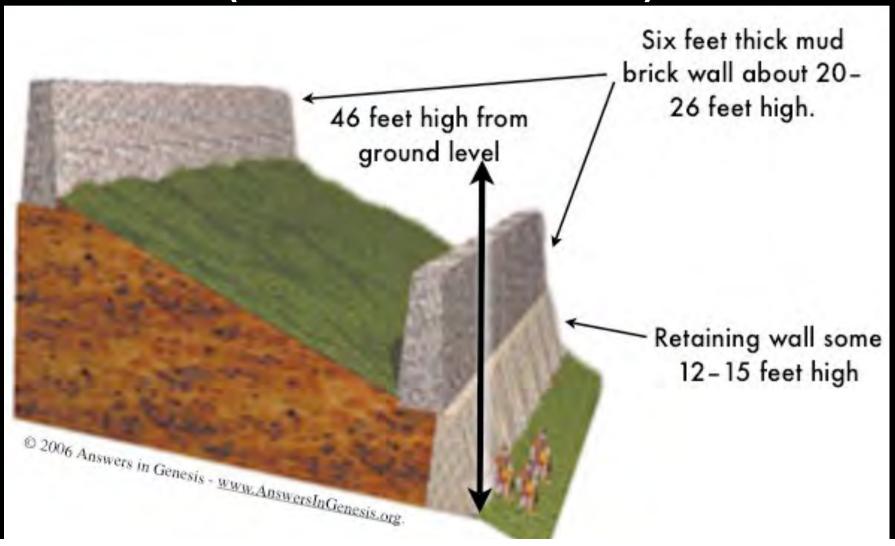
"It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward" (Hebrews 11:24-26 NLT).







"It was by faith that the people of Israel marched around Jericho for seven days, and the walls came crashing down" (Hebrews 11:30 NLT).



"It was by faith that Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the people in her city who refused to obey God. For she had given a friendly welcome to the spies" (Hebrews 11:31 NLT).

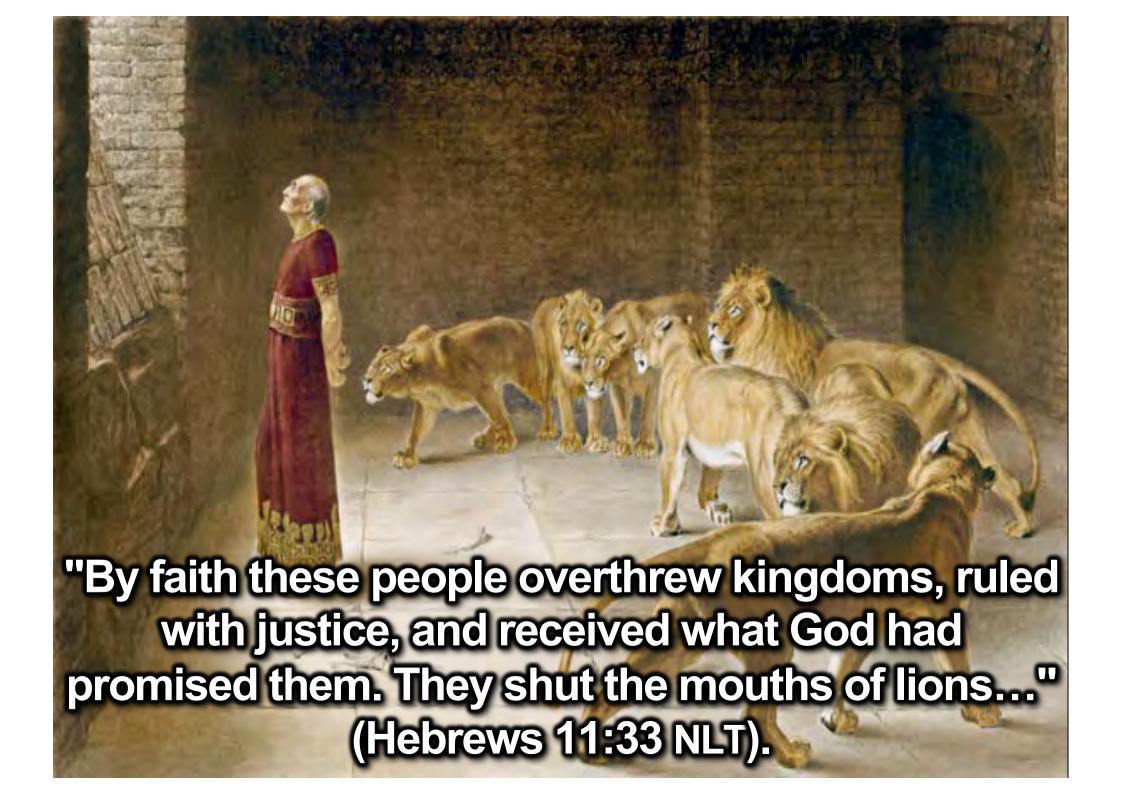


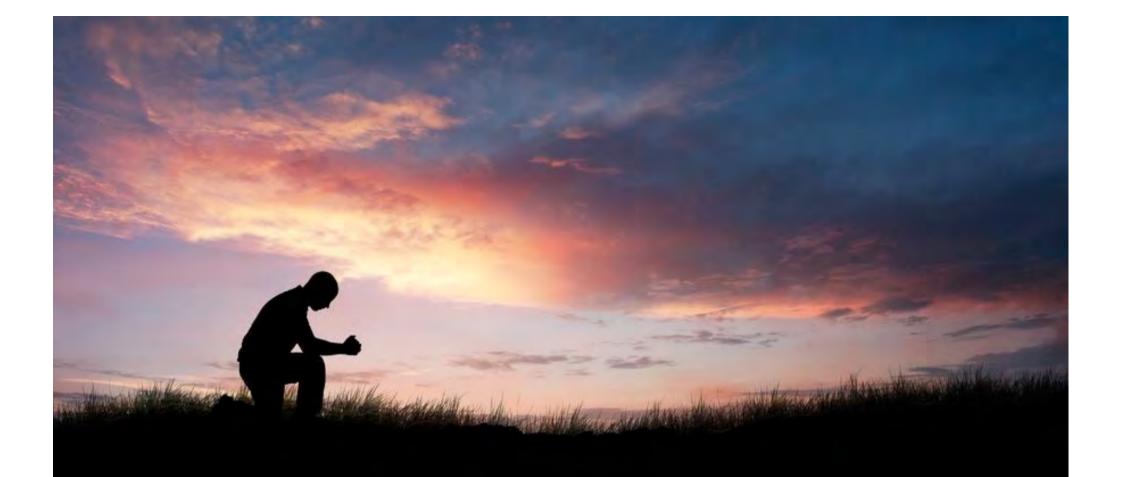


People of many generations acted with certainty on an unseen hope (Hebrews 11:32-38).

"How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets" (Hebrews 11:32 NLT).







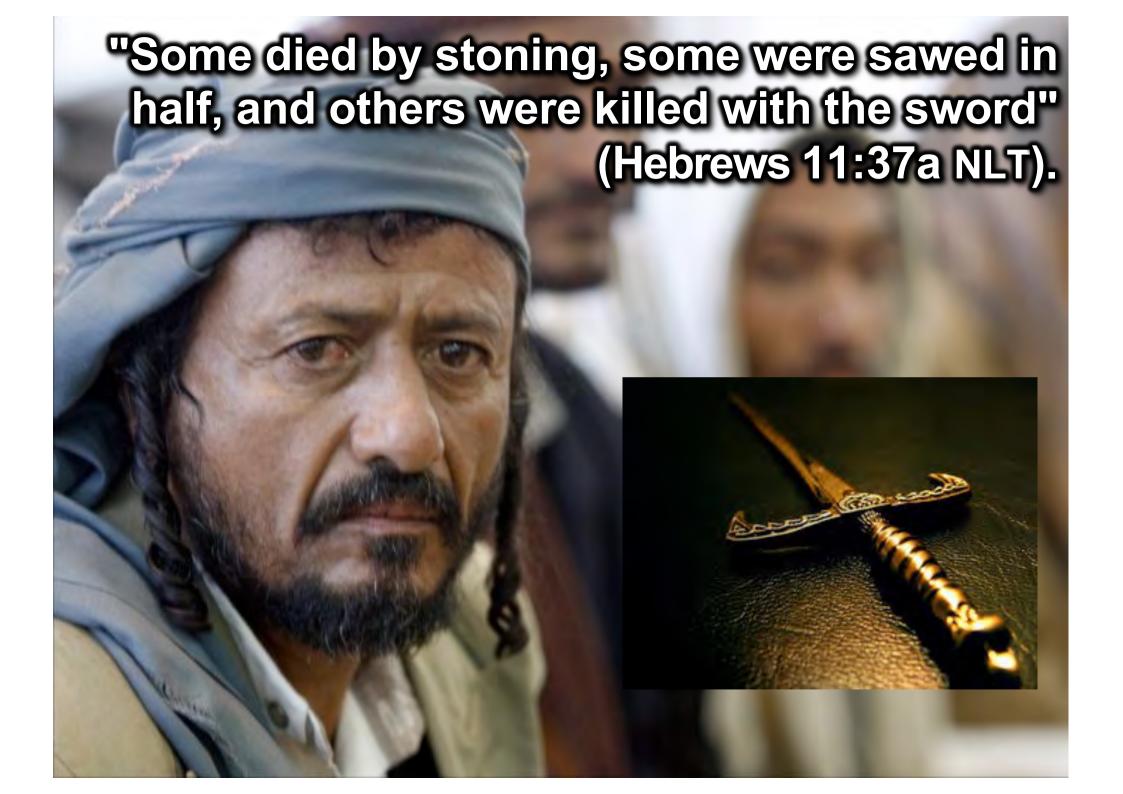
"...quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight" (Hebrews 11:34 NLT).

"Women received their loved ones back again from death. But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection" (Hebrews 11:35 NLT).



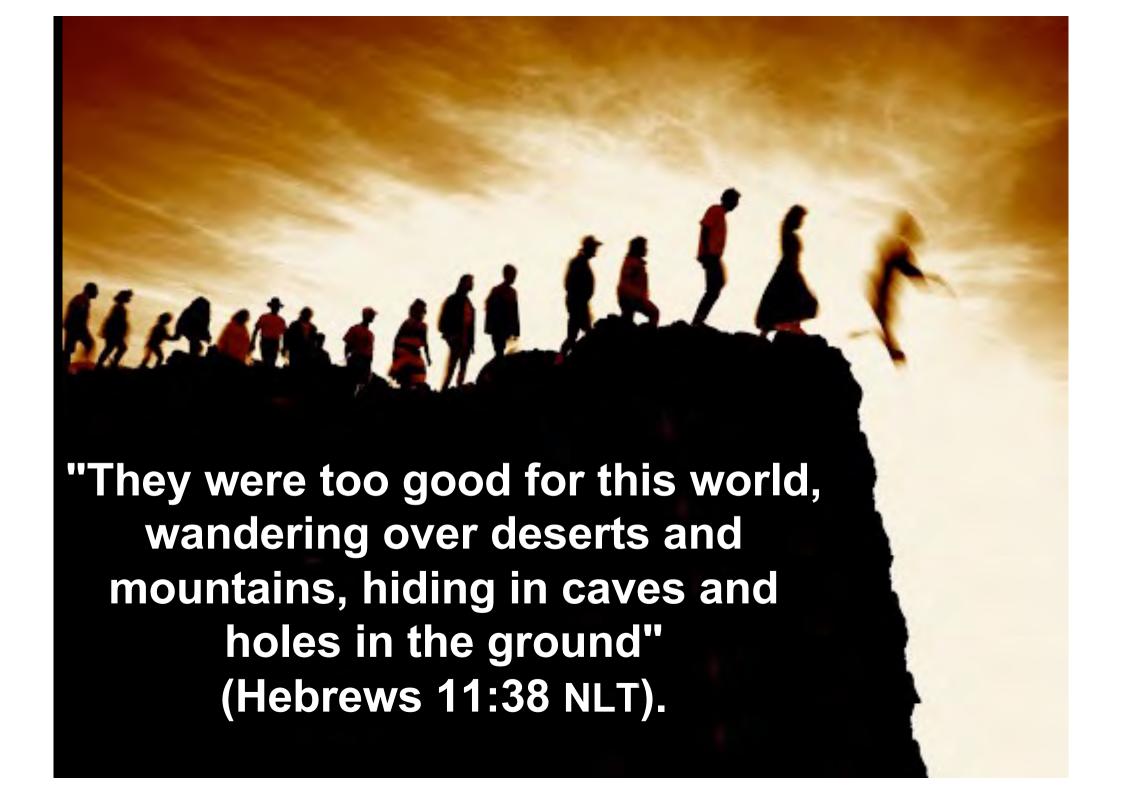


"Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. **Others** were chained in prisons" (Hebrews 11:36 NLT).





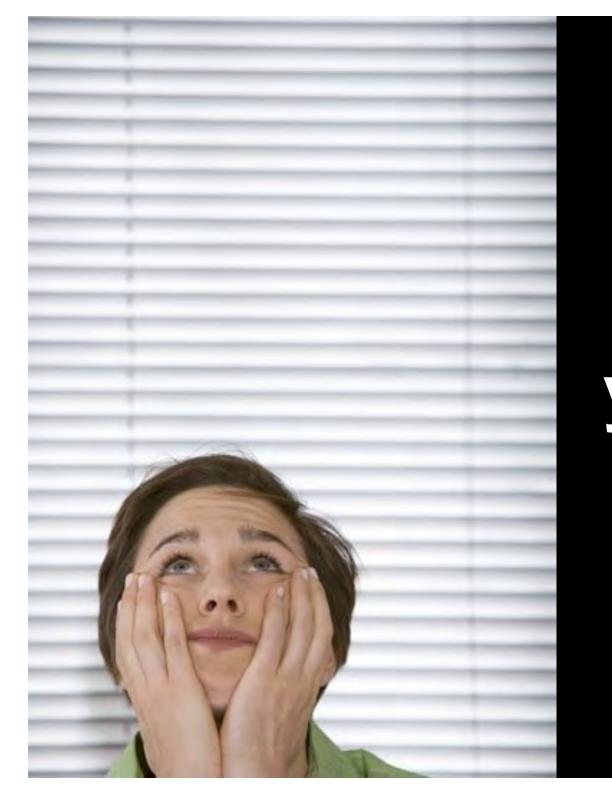




"All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised. ⁴⁰For God had something better in mind for us, so that they would not reach perfection without us" (Hebrews 11:39-40 NLT).



Hebrews 12



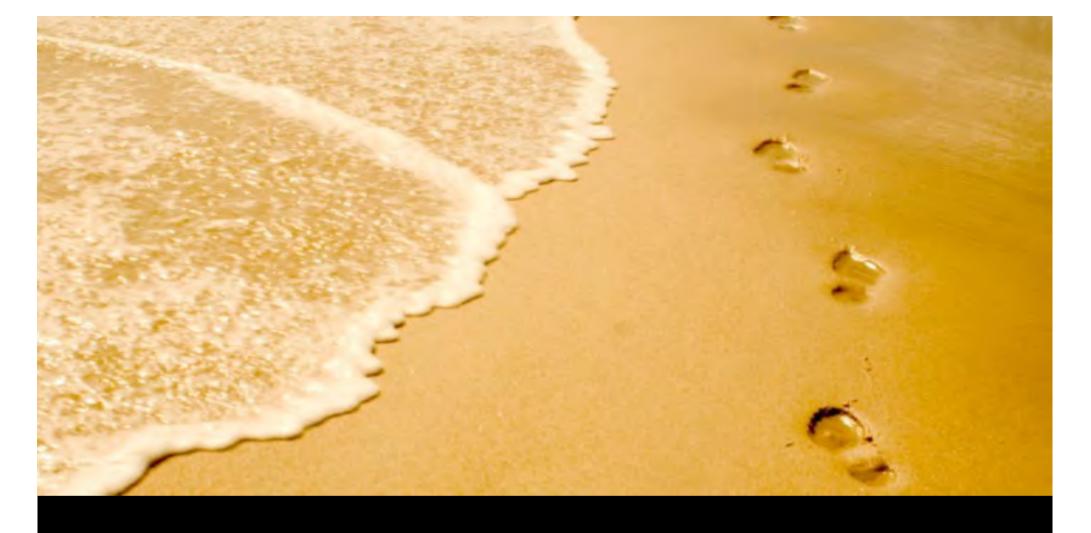
How can you wait in faith?







2. Imitate OT saints that persevered (Hebrews 11:4-40).



3. Run in the footsteps of Jesus who ran before you (Hebrews 12:1-3).



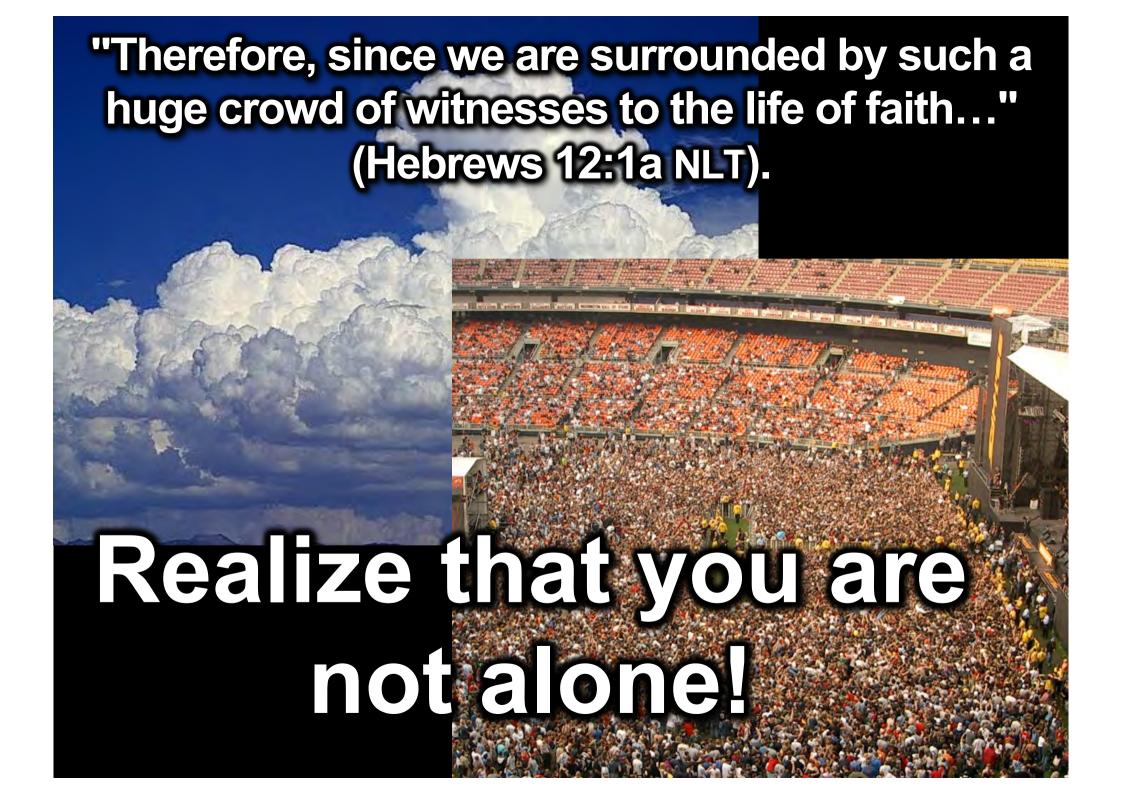
Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Endure your situation ("run") by focusing on Christ's example of endurance (Hebrews 12:1-2).







"...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up..."
(Hebrews 12:1b-c NLT).

Trim down your life

"And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us" (Hebrews 12:1d NLT).



"We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne" (Hebrews 12:2 NLT).

Focus on God rewarding Christ's endurance



"Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up" (Hebrews 12:3 NLT).



God's discipline grows righteousness, confidence and relationships—so press on (12:4-17).

Hebrews 12:3-4 & 28

³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

⁴ In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe



Loving Discipline (Hebrews 12:5-7 NLT)

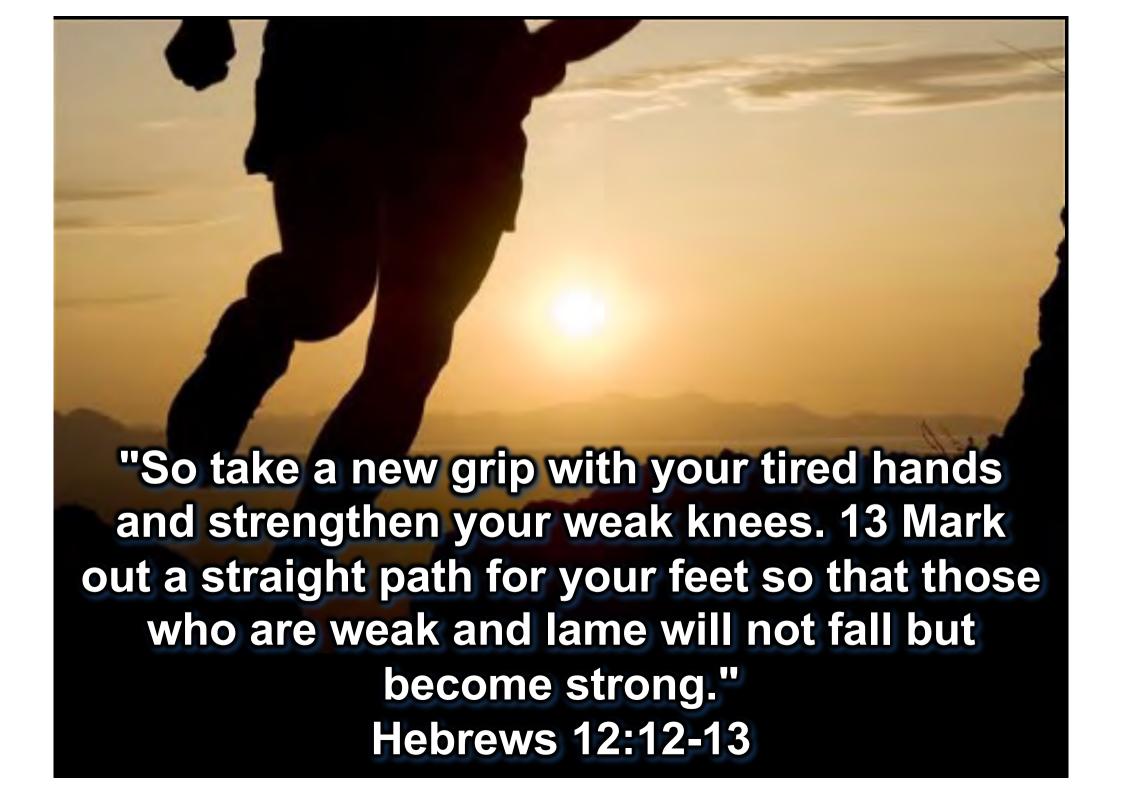
"My child, don't make light of the LORD's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you.

⁶For the LORD disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."



Loving Discipline (Hebrews 12:5-7 NLT)

⁷As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father?





5 Warnings in Hebrews

- 1. Warning of discipline (2:1-4)
- 2. Warning of disinheritance (3:7-19)
- 3. Warning of death (6:4-8)
- 4. Warning of death (10:26-31)
- 5. Warning of disinterest (12:14-29)

1 Warning 1

Abandoning Jesus brings discipline (Hebrews 2:1-4).

Marning 2

Abandoning Jesus forfeits our future rule (Hebrews 3:7-19).

Marning 3

Rejecting Christ can lead to physical death (Hebrews 6:4-8).

A Warning 4

Willful sin can lead to physical death (Hebrews 10:26-31).

Ignoring God invites his loving discipline of you—so press on (12:18-29).

A Warning 5

Refusing God has consequences (Hebrews 12:25-29).

Hebrews 12:22-23 (NAU)

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to

- myriads of angels,
- to the general assembly
- and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,
- and to God, the Judge of all,
- and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect"

New Jerusalem Citizens

Hebrews 13

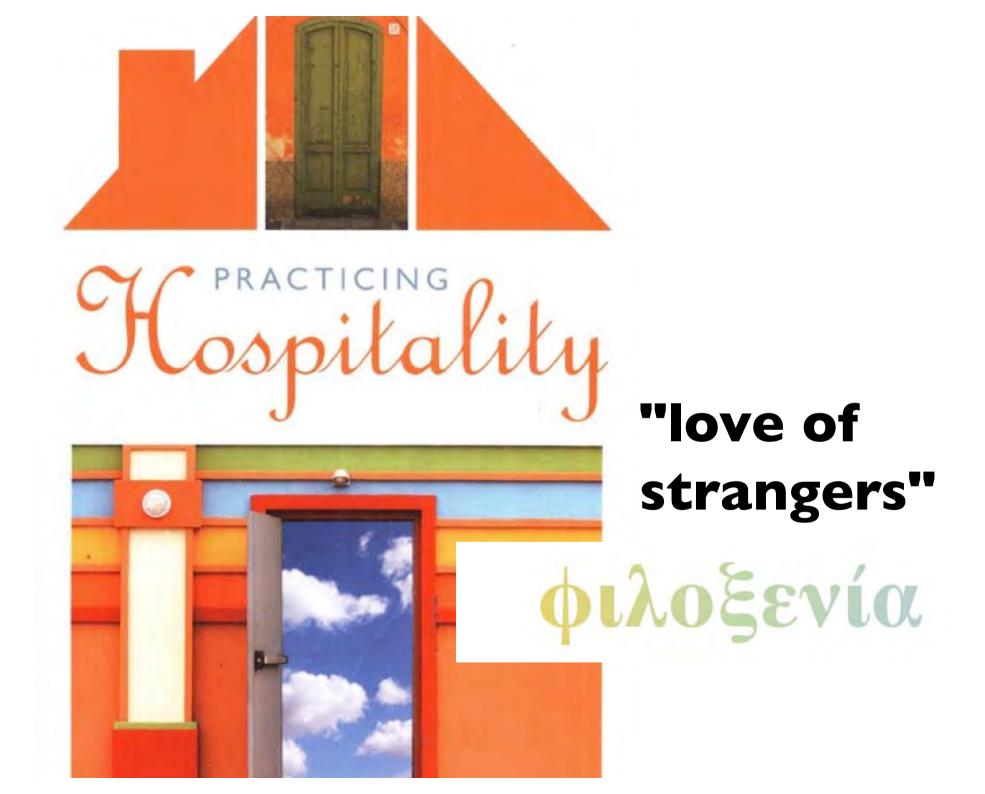
Many practical ways to serve God exist for you—so press on (Heb 13).

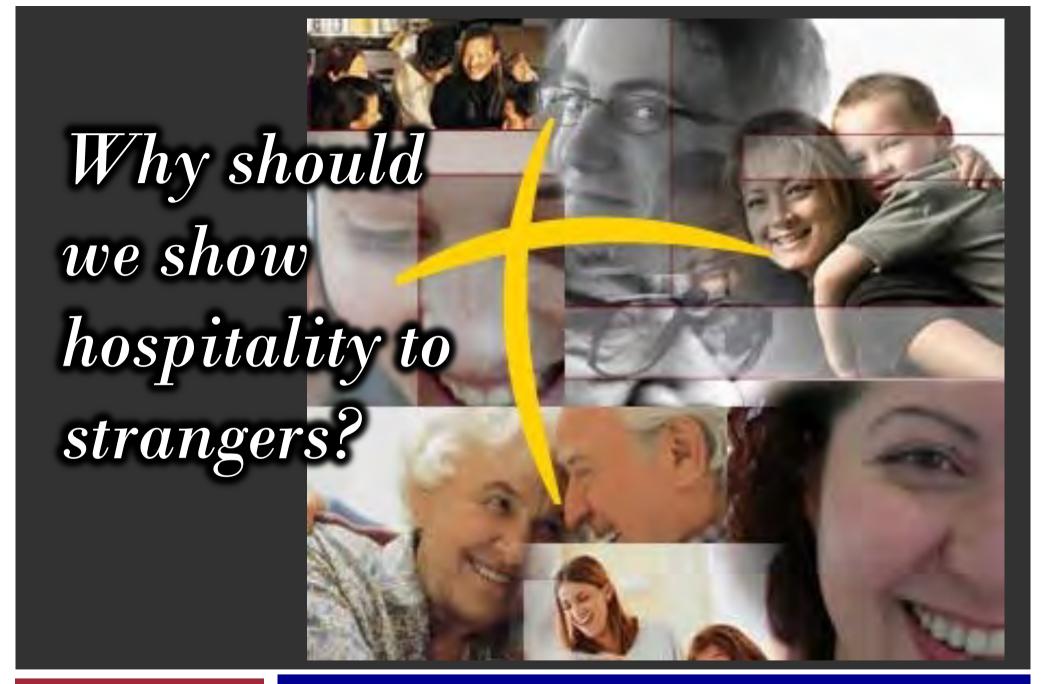












Heb. 13:2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it (NAU).



I. Show hospitality to strangers (13:2a)

Hospitality was a big deal for the ancient world:

- Jews
- Greek (Zeus)
- Roman roads

I. Show hospitality to strangers (13:2a)

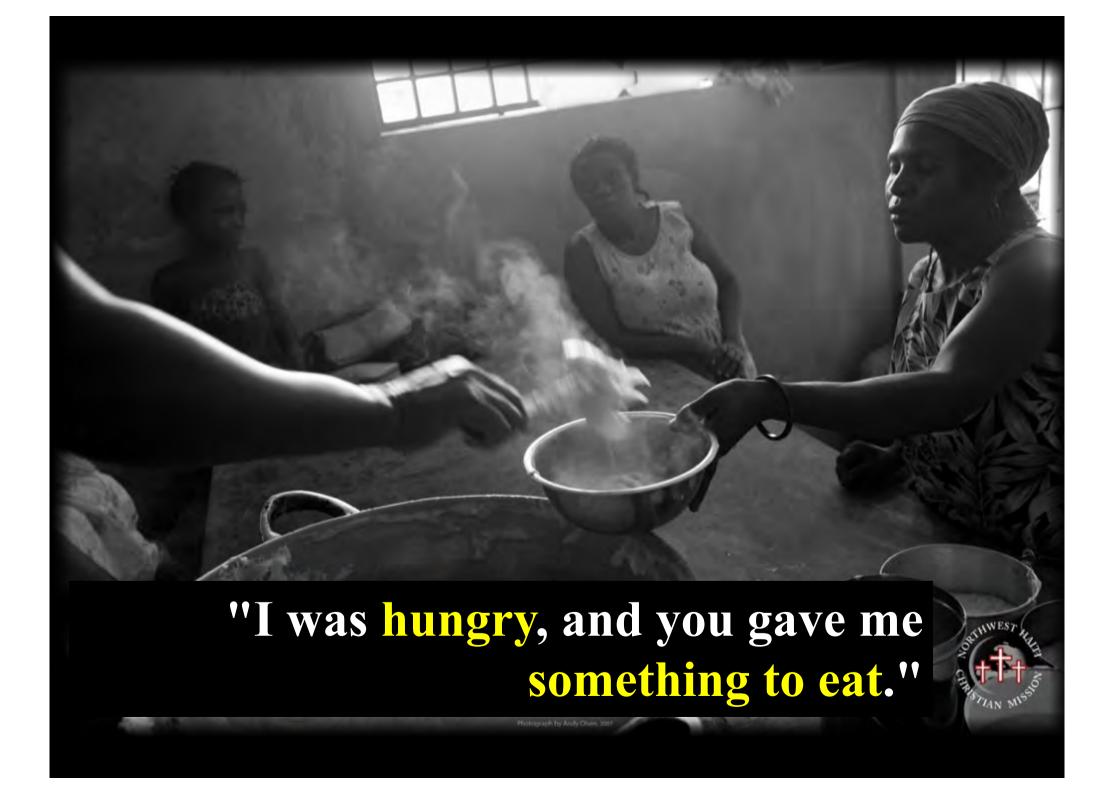
Hospitality is a big deal for Christians today

The NT often emphasizes it

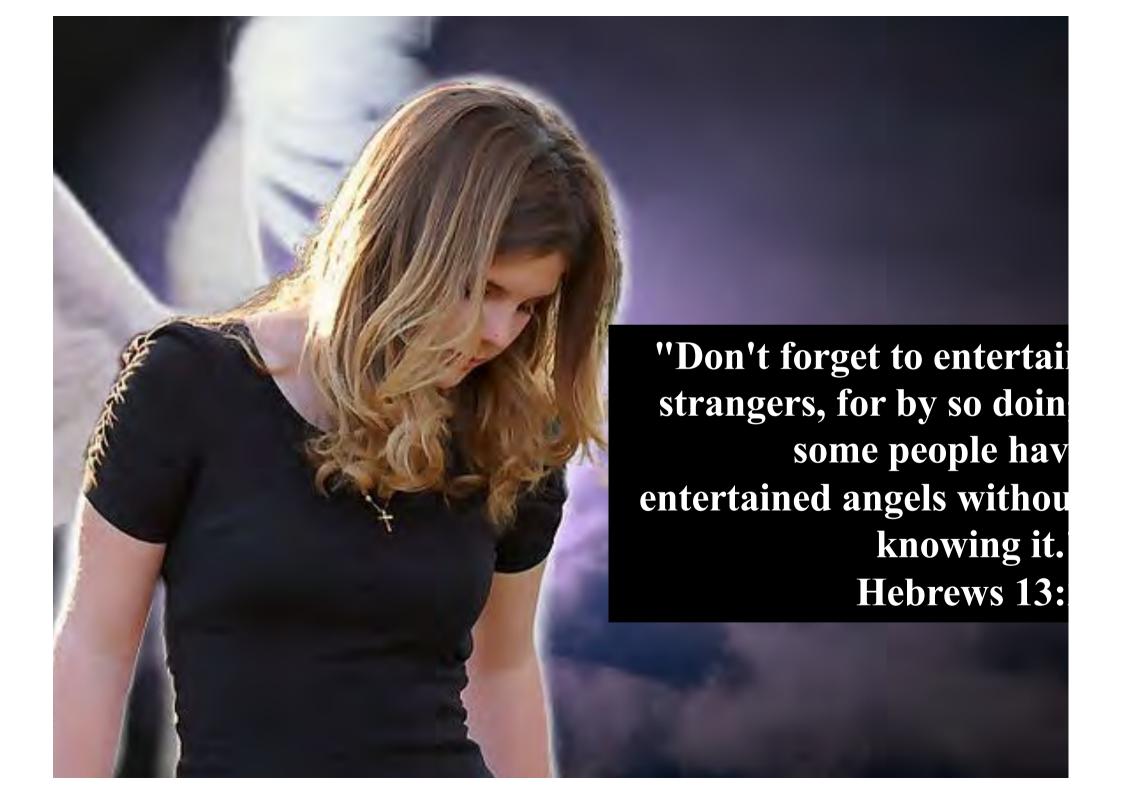
Texts encouraging hospitality

- □ Romans 12:13
- □ 1 Timothy 3:2
- □ Titus 1:8
- □ 1 Peter 4:9

Also Acts chapters 10, 21 & 28







II. Show hospitality as if you are doing it to angels (13:2b)

Some have entertained angels:

- Genesis 18–19
- Judges 6 & 13
- Matthew 25

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹ "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³² "And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; ³³ and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. 34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; 36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me. 37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You drink? 38 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 39 'And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.



What's your motive?

- Entertain others versus show hospitality
- People of your choice
- Do it just as you should do to Jesus





Heb. 13:2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it (NAU).



Opportunities in Singapore

37% of Singapore's total
 workforce of 3.36 million =
 1.24 million are foreigners

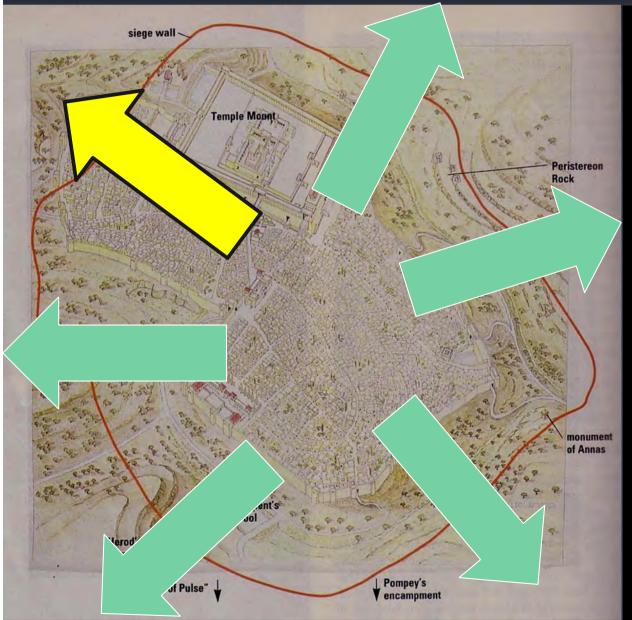
136,738 travelers per day

Hosting Ministries





Application: "Leave Jerusalem"



"So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood"

(Heb. 13:12 NLT)

13 So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore"

(Heb. 13:13 NLT)

Leen & Kathleen Ritmeyer, "Akeldama: Potter's Field or High Priest's Tomb?" BAR 20 (Nov/Dec 94): 34

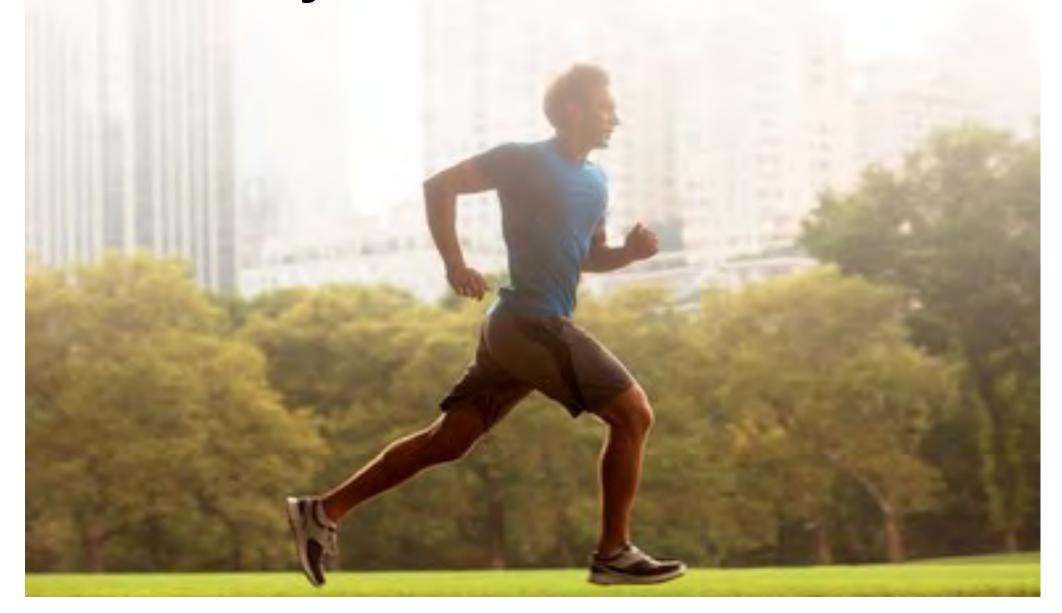
Obey Leaders

Hebrews 13:17

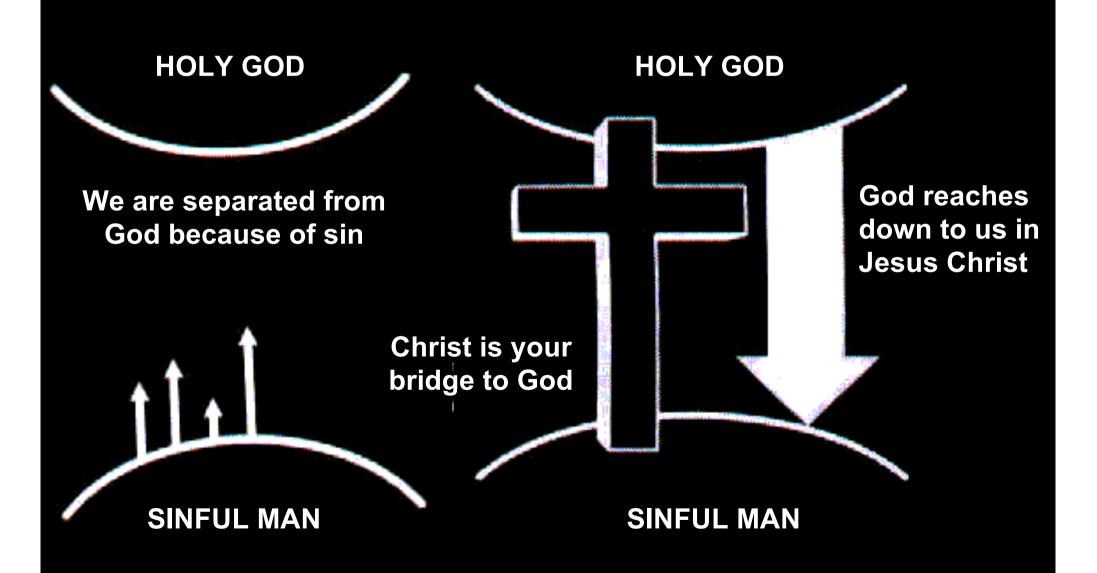
"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you."

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

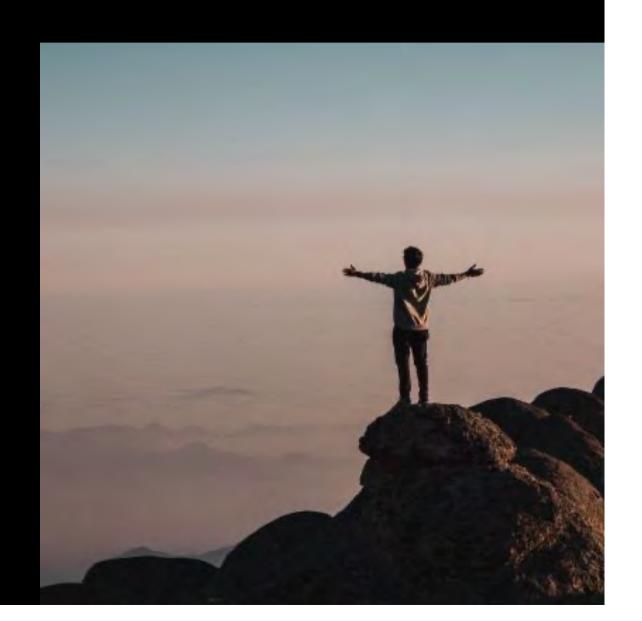
Why should you be uncompromising in your faith in Jesus?



I. Jesus is better than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



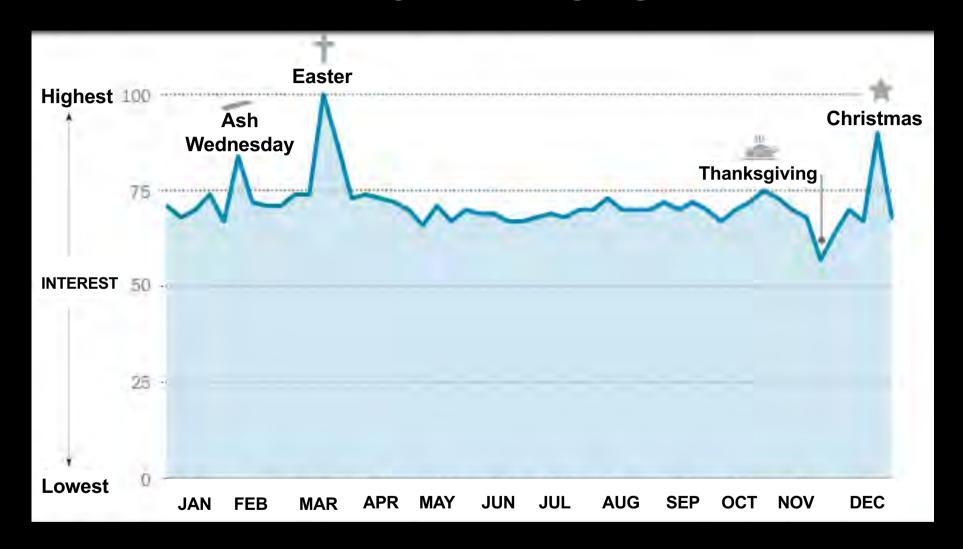
II. Don't compromise but persevere by faith (10:19–13:25).



Main Idea



"Two Timers!"



Google Searches for "Church" (2013)

The 5 "Better Nots"





- > Don't *Doubt* His Word 3:12-13; 4:11
- > Don't Depart from His Word 6:4-6
- Don't Despise His Word 10:26-29
- Don't Disagree with His Word 12:25





Run while you wait—just like those before you

(Main Idea of Hebrews)

How can you run while you wait?

- Realize that you are not alone.
- Trim down your life.
- Run the right race with endurance.
- Focus on Christ.





Hebrews



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Hom

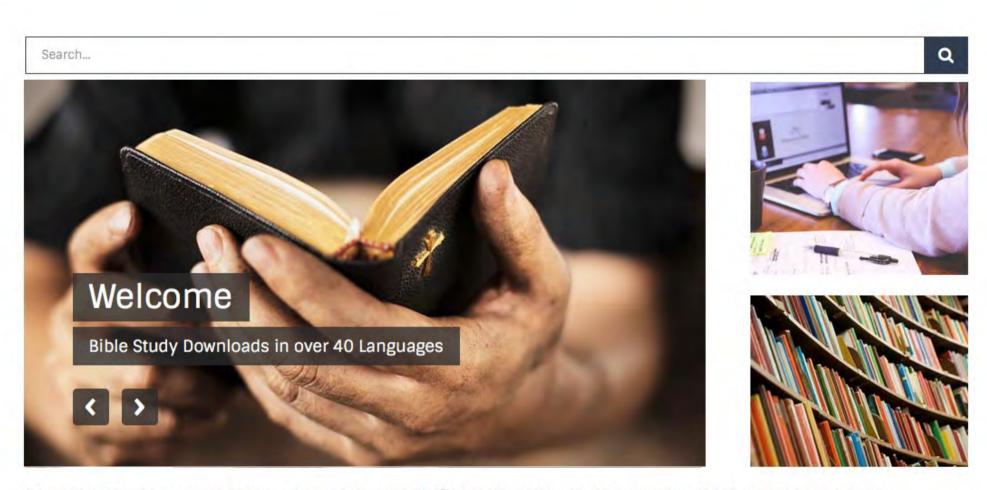
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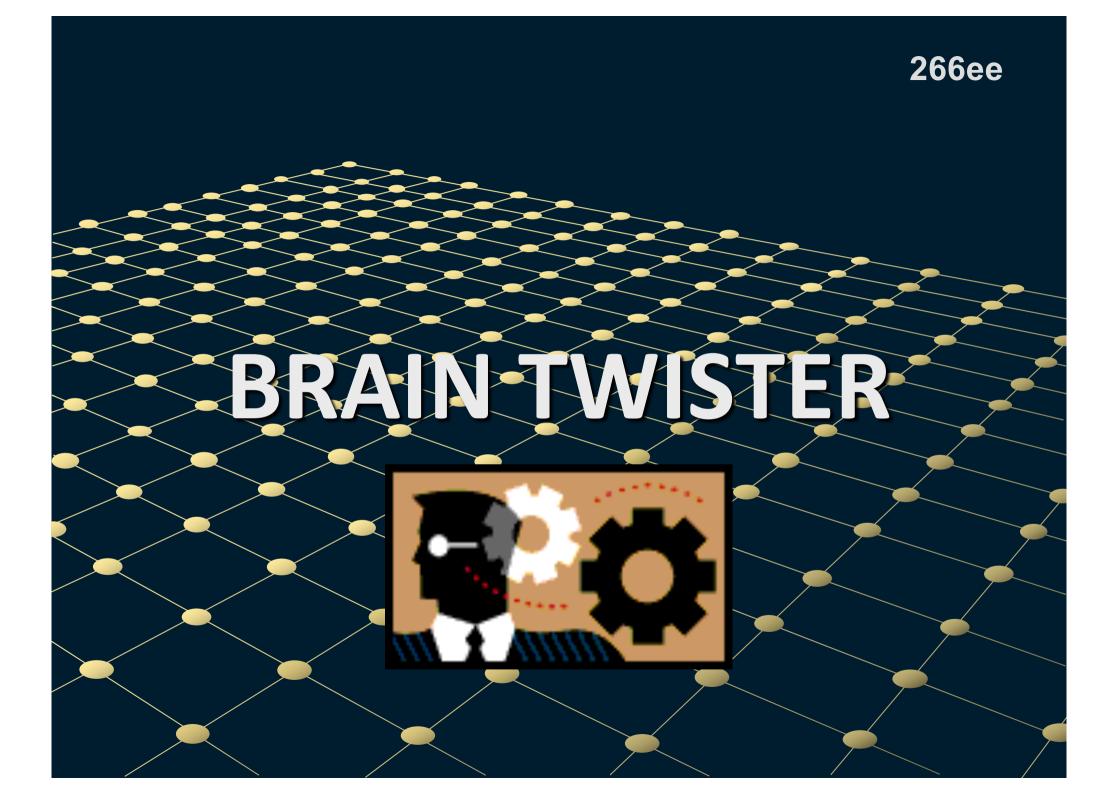
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Keyword for Hebrews

SUPERIORITY

S	U	Р	T	A	В	E	R	N	A	C	L
T	G	V	N	D	E	M	0	N	S	0	K
E	C	Н	R	I	S	T	Ι	0	V	E	L
н	S	W	Ε	R	В	E	Н	V	D	J	0
P	Y	T	I	R	0	I	R	E	Р	U	S
0	I	R	C	S	Y	F	Z	N	Q	D	A
R	N	I	S	F	A	I	Т	Н	T	A	F
P	R	I	E	N	н	Р	U	S	V	I	F
R	A	R	G	C	A	V	E	Т	F	S	I
Ι	W	E	L	G	I	S	N	Т	V	M	C
E	L	E	K	Z	0	X	Н	E	K	0	C
S	M	I	L	M	N	A	R	U	L	N	E

The author shows the superiority of ____ as high priest

CHRIST

S	U	Р	Т	A	В	E	R	N	A	C	L
T	G	V	N	D	E	M	0	N	S	0	K
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н	S	W	Ε	R	В	E	Н	V	D	J	0
P	Y	T	I	R	0	I	R	E	Р	U	S
0	I	R	C	S	Y	F	Z	N	Q	D	A
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P	R	I	E	N	н	P	U	S	V	I	F
R	A	R	G	C	A	V	Ε	Т	F	S	Ι
I	W	E	L	G	I	S	N	Т	V	M	C
E	L	E	K	Z	0	X	Н	E	K	0	C
S	M	I	L	M	N	A	R	U	L	N	E

The author shows the superiority of Christianity over

JUDAISM

S	U	Р	Т	A	В	E	R	N	A	C	L
T	G	V	N	D	E	M	0	N	S	0	K
E	C	Н	R	I	S	T	I	0	V	E	L
Н	S	W	E	R	В	E	н	V	D	J	0
P	Y	T	I	R	0	I	R	E	Р	U	S
0	I	R	C	S	Y	F	Z	N	Q		A
R	N	I	S	F	A	Ι	T	Н	Т	A	F
P	R	I	E	N	н	P	U	S	V	/I /	F
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I	W	E	L	G	I	S	N	T	V	M	C
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S	M	I	L	M	N	A	R	U	L	N	E

Hebrews has been called the ____ gospel

FIFTH

S	U	P	Т	A	В	E	R	N	A	C	L
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н	S	W	E	R	В	E	н	V	D	J	0
P	Y	T	I	R	0	I	R	E	Р	U	S
0	I	R	C	S	Y	F	Z	N	Q	D	A
R	N	I	S	F	A	I	Т	Н	Т	A	F
P	R	I	E	N	н	P	U	S	V	口	F
R	A	R	G	C	A	V	E	T	F	s	I
I	W	E	L	G	I	S	N	T/	V	M	C
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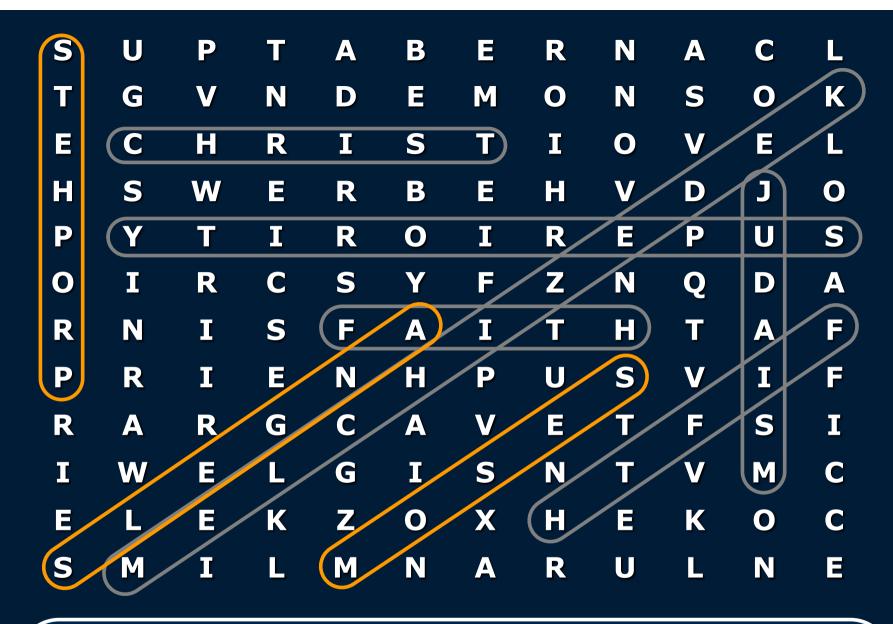
Hebrews was written to prevent readers from desertion of the

FAITH

S	U	P	T	A	В	E	R	N	A	C	L
T	G	V	N	D	E	M	0	N	S	0	K
E	C	Н	R	I	S	T	I	0	V	E	L
Н	S	W	E	R	В	E	Н	V	D	(1)	0
P	Y	T	I	R	0	I	R	E	P	U	S
0	I	R	C	S	Y	F	Z	N	Q	D	A
R	N	I	S	F	A	I	<u></u>	H	Т	A	F
P	R	I	Ε	N	H	P	U	S	V	小	F
R	A	R	G	C	A	V	E	T/	F	s	I
Ι	W	E	L	G	I	S	N	T /	V	M	C
Ε	L/	E	K	Z	0	X	H	E	K	0	C
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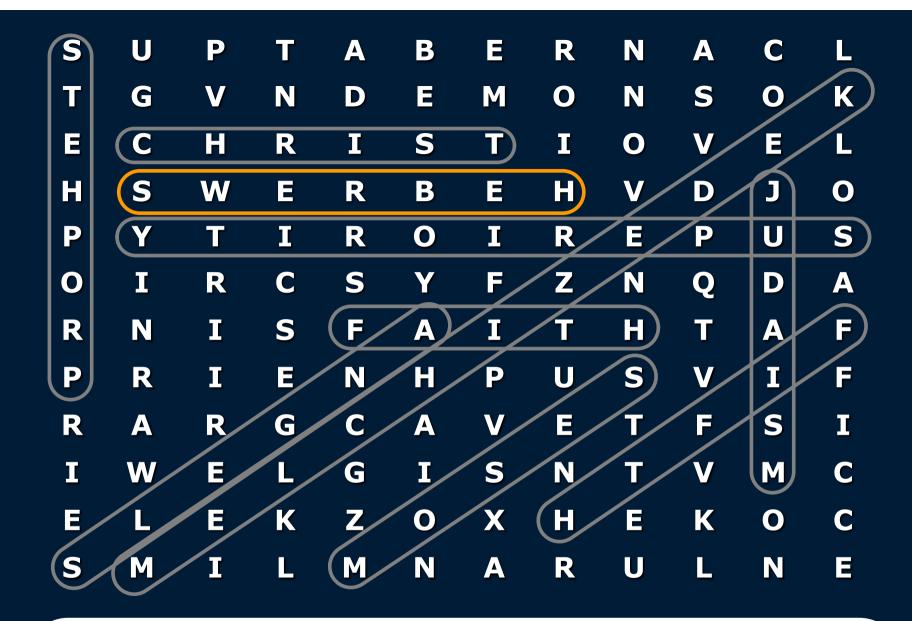
King of Salem & Priest of the Most High

MELCHIZEDEK



Christ is superior in his person to p____, a___ & M___

PROPHETS
ANGELS
MOSES



The "BETTER" book HEBREWS

Views on the Warning Passages

Issues What group of Jews is being addressed? What is the nature of their punishment? What is the result?

result?
Which
theology
perspective
holds this view?

False Believer Former Believer Carnal Believer

Unbelievers:
Professing
"Christians" in
the assembly who
are not really
believers after all

Believers:
Christians who sin
because they do
not see the
superiority of
Christ

Believers:
Christians who sin because they do not see the superiority of Christ

Never had salvation

Loss of salvation

Loss of reward

ne Hell

Hell

Divine discipline (even by death)

Reformed (Presbyterian, BP, etc.), some Arminians

Arminian (Methodist, AOG, Nazarene, etc.)

Partakers (Baptist, Bible church, etc.)

Issues	Reformed	Arminian	Partakers	
How does each system define election and perseverance?	God sovereignly elects to salvation and helps believers persevere in faith until death	God elects those whose free will accepts Christ and preserves them unless they lose faith	God <i>elects</i> to salvation; some do not persevere, but the faithful will partake of rewards	
What specific elements of salvation make up this system of belief?	Total depravity Unconditional election Limited atonement Irresistible grace Perseverance	Natural inability Conditional election Unlimited atonement Resistible grace Conditional perseverance	Total depravity Unconditional election Unlimited atonement Irresistible grace Conditional perseverance	

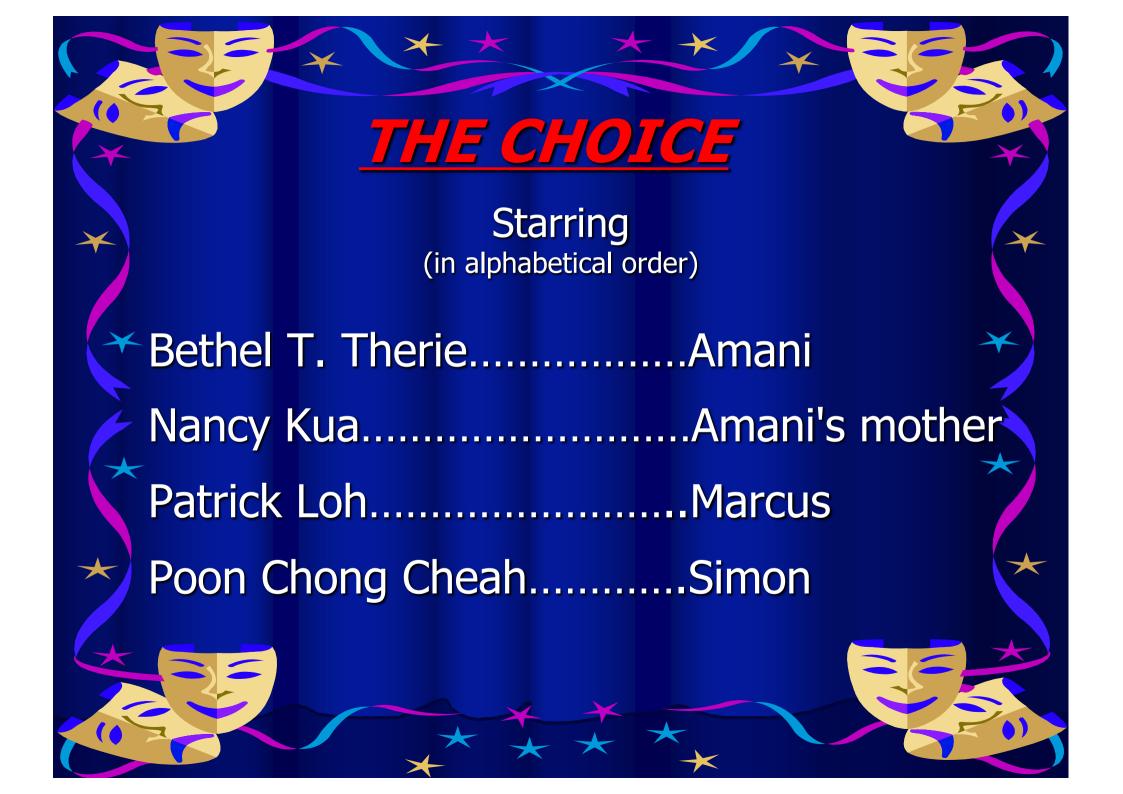
Issues	Reformed	Arminian	Partakers
How does this view see carnal Christians (e.g., 1 Cor. 3:1-5)?	They aren't Christians or are at a low level of spiritual commitment in a particular area	They spurn Christ to the point of almost losing their salvation	These believers lack blessings now and later (but are still saved)
Do all believers persevere until death?	Yes	No	No
	1 Cor. 15:2;	Rom. 8:13;	1 Cor. 3:15;
	Phil. 1:6	Gal. 5:21; 6:8	Rev. 3:26
Can a true	No,	Yes,	No,
Christian lose	it is eternally	it is not eternally	it is eternally
his salvation?	secure	secure	secure

Issues	Reformed	Arminian	Partakers		
Is 100% assurance of salvation possible?	No, since no one knows if he has genuine faith that will persevere	No, since no one knows if he will persevere	Yes, if one knows Christ as Saviour		
How does this system counsel believers in habitual sin?	"You better re- examine whether you genuinely trusted Christ"	"You either lost your salvation or never were really saved"	"You must turn from your sin to be fully rewarded (Heb. 3:14)"		
How do those struggling with sin gain spiritual motivation?	From fear that they may not actually be saved after all	From fear that they may not have sufficiently maintained their salvation	From fear that they will miss key rewards (their inheritance can be lost but not their salvation)		

Issues	Reformed	Arminian	Partakers
What actually results in the listeners from this teaching?	They may become carnal Christians by doubting their salvation	They believe God must always be appeased (low view of grace)	They will more likely appreciate God's faithfulness to them
Who holds this view?	John Calvin (d. 1564), Reformed churches, Presbyterians, Charles Hodge, Arthur Pink	Jacob Arminius (d. 1609), John Wesley, Methodists, Wesleyans, Nazarenes, Holiness churches, Pentecostals/ Charismatics	Baptists, Bible churches, Joseph Dillow, Zane Hodges, Earl Radmacher, Charles Ryrie

Our Response

- Hold on with courage & hope in God's promises (3:6; 4:14)
- Endure with *faith* to suffer for Jesus Christ (6:10-12)
- Be fully devoted to study of God's Word (2:1-4; 5:12-14)
- Remember to faithfully obey every instruction of God (4:8-11)
- Embrace God's discipline to produce maturity (12:4-11)
- Willingly obey & submit to church leadership (13:7,17)
- Seek to model life after Christ discarding any attitude or practice hindering you (12:1-3)





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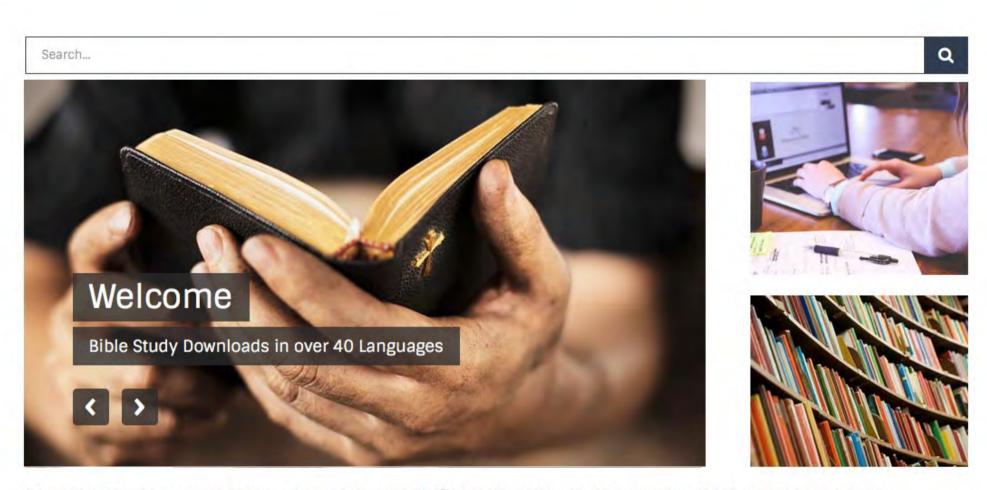
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