

Through the Bible Course

March 26, 1950

Hebrews

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Key Word: “Better,” used approximately 12 times

Key Verse: 2:16-17

Author: Unknown

Date: Uncertain; except it seems to have been written before destruction of Jerusalem

To Whom Written: To Jewish Christians (perhaps in Jerusalem) who had never had a clear insight into the person and work of Christ and so were wavering in their faith.

Purpose: To show pre-eminence of Christ and supremacy of His work. Warning – exhortation to hold fast faith, etc.

I. Chapters 1 and 2 – Supreme Revelation

1. 1:1-3 – Better than prophets
2. 1:4-14 – Better than angels brought
 - a. verses 4, 5 – obtained more excellent name, i.e., Son; verse 6, angels worship Him; verses 8 and 9, rules on the throne
 - b. verses 10-14 – He is greater than creation
3. 2:1-18 – Because brought salvation
 - a. verses 1-4 – parenthetical warning
 - b. verses 5-18 – Christ made lower than angels that He might become Savior
4. 3:1-6 – Greater than Moses
 - a. verse 5 – Moses, a servant
 - b. verse 6 – Christ, Son over house

II. Chapter 3:7 – 4:16 – Supreme Rest

1. 3:7-19 – History shows Jews did not find this rest and warning lest they not find it through unbelief
2. 4:1-16 – They failed to find rest because of unbelief. Warning lest they fail through unbelief of Gospel (verse 2)
 - a. verses 14-16 – Hold fast to profession

III. Chapters 5 through 7 – Supreme High Priest

1. 5:1-10 – Qualifications of a priest
 - a. verse 1 – offer gifts and sacrifices; verse 2 – have compassion
 - b. verses 4-10 – Christ called to be High Priest
2. 5:11 – 6:12 – Parenthesis

- a. verses 11-14 – They should be teachers, but are having to be taught
 - b. verses 1-12 – impossibility of renewing one who has tasted mercy and goodness of God and turns away from it
- 3. 6:13-20 – Christ made High Priest with an oath
 - a. verses 19, 20 – here is our hope
- 4. 7:1-10 – Made after order of Melchizedek, who was greater than Abraham since Abraham payed tithes to him and received blessings from him.
- 5. 7:11-28 – Superior to Aaronic priesthood
 - a. verses 11-22 – the Law under which Aaronic priesthood worked could make nothing perfect; therefore, it was necessary to have a new priesthood for a new and better covenant
 - b. verses 23-28 – there were many Aaronic priests because they died, but Christ became an eternal Priest

IV. Chapters 8 through 10 – Supreme Sacrifice

- 1. 8:1-13 – Summary of why supreme sacrifice a better one
 - a. made in true tabernacle; offers a better sacrifice
 - b. verses 6-13 – God will make a new covenant
 - 1. contrasted with, if thou wilt
- 2. 9:1-24 – Offered in true temple of God
 - a. verses 1-10 – tabernacle was figure of true until time of reformation, i.e., setting things right
 - b. verses 11-15 – He offered not sacrifice of animals, but He offered Himself
 - c. verses 16-22 – tabernacle dedicated with blood
 - d. verses 23-24 – Christ entered true tabernacle and offered Himself as sacrifice before God
- 3. 9:25 – 10:18 – This one sacrifice is all sufficient
 - a. verses 25-28 – He appeared once to put away sin
 - b. verses 1-18 – finality of Christ's one sacrifice
 - 1. verses 1-4 – sacrifices under law not adequate as shown by constant repetition
 - 2. verses 5-10 – Christ's supreme sacrifice adequate because fulfills will of God
 - 3. verses 11-18 – that His one sacrifice was sufficient shown by His sitting down and (verse 18) no need for any more offerings for sin
- 4. 10:19-39 – Supreme sacrifice because offers access to God
 - a. verses 19-25 – let us draw near
 - b. verses 26-39 – dreadful results of turning away from Christ

V. Chapters 11 through 13 – Supreme Manner of Life, i.e., Life of Faith

- 1. Chapter 11 – Illustrated by Old Testament heroes
- 2. 12:1, 2 – Christ supreme example
- 3. 12:3-15 – Endure chastisement because will produce holiness
- 4. 12:16-29 – Not come to Sinai, but heavenly Jerusalem
- 5. 13:1-25 – Various exhortations for life of faith