

# Seven Bible Studies 2017

## Epistles

### September 24: Hebrews 1-4 (Ryan Ingle)

Sunday, Sept 24 ~ Hebrews 1 - 4

#### CH 1

As Hebrews begins, the Jews are being addressed regarding how God communicated with them in the past. Now, God speaks through His Son who was appointed heir of all things... And through whom also He made the worlds. This verse helps prove Christ was there from the beginning of time when God formed the world and shows the distinction between God and Christ.

After Christ's death for our sins, he sat down at God's right hand and has been placed above the angels.

My question would be are the angels the lowest level in the hierarchy of beings in heaven.?

The latter half of the chapter finishes out glorifying the Lord and praising Him by showing His great power in creating the universe. God will never change and will always remain even when this world is no longer.

"You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." Hebrews 1:12

Oh how insignificant we are and the world we live on while in this earthly body!

#### CH 2

It's all the more important that we don't drift away from this new message, not delivered by angels, but through Christ himself! If those who received the message from angels did not get away from being held responsible then, even more now is the level of importance coming directly from Christ. Not only did Christ validate the new law, but so did God in verse 4. "God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will." Hebrews 2:4 NIV

Why should God even care for such a lowly being as man and woman? Christ was made to be human while on this earth. While here on this earth, He was lower than the angels as he was human while here. Now that Christ has died, we are made his footstool and everything is subject under a Him.

Christ died for man. To allow all God's people the same opportunity to be saved through Him. Christ had to become like us in order to free us from eternal death. It wasn't for the angels he died but for each and every one of Abraham's descendants. Christ knows how to help us in our temptations as when he was made human, he also was tempted.

### CH 3

Brothers and sisters in Christ! Keep your focus on that which is good!! Christ was faithful as Moses was faithful to God. Christ, being the son of God, is of greater being than Moses was. Let us prove faithful, just as Moses and Christ were, as we are Christ's house if we hold fast the Christian and rejoicing of the hope from to the end.

“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,”  
Hebrews 3:12-14 NKJV

We have the example of the Israelites who did not have the belief in their heart as their hearts were hardened, who were wandering in the wilderness for forty years until they were no longer. God stated they would never enter His rest. Let us not be like them by letting our hearts be hardened and fall away from God. Let's help one another on this journey to stay faithful and true to God so that all of us will be able to enter God's rest in heaven!!

### CH 4

God's promise of entering His rest still remains. Let's not fall short of what's expected of us! Those who hardened their hearts didn't enter into God's rest. Their disobedience was their downfall. Let it not be ours.

“Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”  
Hebrews 4:11-13 NKJV

Does the word of God convict you? Does it make you realize you are unworthy of the grace God is showing to you? Do you meditate on it day and night? Good if it does! If it doesn't make you get determined, keep in mind what happened to those who hardened their hearts and refused to follow God. Upon the completion of our life here on earth, we are done! There is no turning back and saying sorry to God when we are dead!! Get your act together and follow Him, not the world who cannot save you.

“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”  
Hebrews 4:15-16 NKJV

Sounds like a great invitation to the end of a sermon doesn't it? Christ knows our weaknesses! He knows our strengths as well! He wants us to follow Him and know the peace He knows! He doesn't want anyone to perish as he died for each of us! He knows His father doesn't renege on His promises either. If you prove faithful, you will enter His eternal rest. If not, you will enter into everlasting destruction where you will never rest in peace!

The choice is yours! His promise is true and everlasting!! May you choose wisely!

Have a blessed week serving the Lord your God!!

## Comment:

Butch O'Neal:  
Thank you, Ryan!

## Comment:

Charles Fry:

In heaven's hierarchy the word "angels" (i.e. messengers) seems to be the generic term for the hosts of heaven. God's representatives are often called the "angel of the Lord." Some mighty angels, like Michael and perhaps Gabriel are "prince" (arch) angels, but still angels. Perhaps somewhat like the fact a general, a captain, a sergeant, or a private, can each be called a soldier. The word angel speaks of the nature of God's heavenly host and doesn't necessarily say anything about the rank of a particular angel.

Psalms 148:2

2 Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

## October 1: Hebrews 5-7 (Randy Ingle)

Monday, Oct 1 ~ Hebrews 5 -7

Chapter 5: High priests were chosen in order to sacrifice for the sins of people. They would also need to do it for themselves as well. They are given that authority by God, not by man. Christ did not make himself high priest, but was appointed to it by God.

Psalms 110 David speaks of this 6th verse of his Lord in the order of Melchizedek.

God designated Christ, as a sacrifice for our sins. Through his suffering and obedience he learned and became the perfect sacrifice.

He then warns about the need to ready and discern the truth. They should have been able to be teachers by now. Instead they still needed to be taught. They weren't ready for "solid food" Solid food is for those who are studied and ready to know good from evil.

Chapter 6: he continued to encourage growth in knowledge of Christ. Some are falling away that have once known the truth. If we are studied in the truth and grounded then they will be less likely to be led astray.

They need to be surrounded by good things rather than thrones and thistles. He then reaffirmed the need to stay strong in the faith and not become sluggish. God will not forget those who remember him. They are to be imitators of those who exemplify faithfulness.

We all share a promise that is as strong as God's oath to Abraham. Christ is the forerunner on our behalf that if we trust in him we have a hope that will endure.

Chapter 7: Chapter 7 goes into the history of the priests. Christ is the replacement of an order of priests, of which there were many. Those who hope in him, hope on one who is eternal. There was a need for a change in law along with this change. Christ lives to make intercession for all who seek it through him.

Thankful for the opportunity to give a review of this as I'm on vacation this week. Sunday's are too hard for my schedule, but glad for the opportunity.

## Comment:

Ginger Hermon:

Thanks, Randy! We sincerely appreciate you using some of your time off by edifying us! 😊 The priestly office was a sacred and highly esteemed institution for the Jews. The excellence of Christ's priesthood above the Levitical priesthood is shown in these chapters. By receiving the Lord Jesus they would have a much better high priest, a priesthood of a higher order, and consequently a better covenant, law and testament. Our High Priest holds power of endless life; not only to keep himself alive, but to give spiritual and eternal life to all who rely upon his sacrifice and intercession. God promised to appoint another priest, a permanent priest — which implies someone who is perfect in himself and perfect in his work. Psalm 110:4. Once again, wonderful to have your guidance this week. Enjoy your well-earned time off.

## Comment:

Butch O'Neal:

Thank you, Randy! Enjoy your vacation!

## October 8: Hebrews 8-10 (Ryan Ingle)

Sunday, October 8, 2017, Hebrews 8 - 10

CH 8

Christ is the high priest who sits at God's right hand. Priest would bring their offerings for a sacrifice but Christ's offering was the most perfect offering to ever be made. Moses was instructed in very specific detail regarding the tabernacle. If there had not been any issue with the first covenant, then there would not have been any need for Christ to bring the new covenant.

The Jews did not remain faithful to God's covenant in the old law which in turn caused God to bring in the new covenant.

Vs 11 states, "No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

Hallelujah!!

CH 9

The tabernacle is briefly described again with emphasis showing the ritual taking place yearly by the high priest entering the most holy place. God was separated from man in this type of setup as only the high priest was allowed in and that only with blood to cover his sins and the sins of the people. This was only a temporary means for worship and forgiveness until the new law would be in place through the perfect sacrifice as animal sacrifices went sufficient for God. As Christ came to this earth as high priest, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made of human hands. He did not enter through the use of goat or bulls blood. While the box and ashes of the goats and build was sprinkled on the ceremonially unclean in the first covenant; Christ blood cleanses us of our sins. Christ is the mediator of this new covenant as he was the unblemished sacrifice who was offered for all sins.

The first covenant was put into place by the death of an animal. Death and the sprinkling of the blood was required for the cleansing to complete.

"In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." 9:21-22

Christ was the complete and perfect sacrifice that purified all. With man, it was required on a yearly basis for the high priest to enter the most holy place. With Christ, it was required of His death only once...Showing to power of this new covenant God put into place. Christ's death was truly magnificent in this way!!

“so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.” 9:28

CH 10

God was not truly satisfied with the sacrifice of animals. No matter how many sacrifices were offered, they could not completely take away the sins of the people. Christ was the plan to completely take away sin as he was completely pure and free of sin. He was of heaven, not of this earth.

“First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” 8-10

Priest would offer sacrifices daily but those sacrifices went enough to cover the sins of the people. Christ was only needed to be sacrificed once to complete all sacrifices. This was affirmed by the Holy Spirit as this new law was not written in stone or written on paper but carved on the lining of the people's hearts.

Because of this great everlasting sacrifice, which ended the need for sacrifices, let us draw near to God with sincere hearts. “Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” 24-25

Don't take for granted this gift, this sacrifice and continue to deliberately sin. Don't be in risk of hell fire that will consume you for your sins!!! Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the account of two or three witnesses. So you think you will get away from the punishment coming to you for trampling the Son of Good underfoot?

“For we know him who said, “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” and again, “The Lord will judge his people.” It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” 30-31

Persevere!! Keep the faith!! Don't shrink back from evil but expose it in love.

“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.” 10:36

### **Comment:**

Butch O'Neal:  
Thank you, Ryan!

### **Comment:**

Steven Wright:  
thank you brother Ryan!

## Comment:

Ginger Hermon:

Thanks, Ryan! Hebrews is such a good book. I've heard several lessons from brothers in Hebrews 10. 5 "lettuce" lessons 🥬 & 4 conditions needed to draw near to God.

## October 15: Hebrews 11-13 (Ryan Ingle)

Sunday, October 15 ~ Hebrews 11 - 13

CH 11

Good Lord's Day Morning to all!! We begin our study today with the chapter considered the faith chapter.

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” 11:1

We understand, that through faith, the worlds were made by God even though we can't see God Himself. It's important we understand the significance faith has played in Bible times as well as today.

Without faith in the belief that God created the world and all its inhabitants, and in knowing the Bible to be true based in that faith.

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” 11:6

This chapter helps recap several examples in the old testament where faith was displayed and how strong their faith was like Moses and Abraham. Very good reminder for us when we perhaps feel our faith wavering.

CH 12

Put away sin and all the things that hinder you in your Christian walk!! Kerri your eyes focused on Christ as you endure this race for the eternal prize. Keep in mind what Christ endured and don't lose heart and become discouraged.

Those hardships you are enduring, rejoice that the father is discipling you and showing His love for you. He is teaching you lessons in life like your earthly father did. No discipline is enjoyable at the time is administered but keep in mind this discipline will produce a harvest of righteousness!!

"Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees." 12:12

It's hard when being corrected to see the big picture. We are worried about ourselves at that time. Keep in mind this discipline is meant to make you stronger for the Lord's work and reason you to think less of yourself?

“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;” 12:14-15

We've got to look out for one another and help each other through tough times! We're all in this together so we all will hopefully win the prize!!

Remember! We serve a HOLY God! He is a just God. We won't get away from his wrath if we are unfaithful! All of earth will perish by an all-consuming fire! As the beginning of this chapter stated, keep your focus on the goal of eternal life.

## CH 13

“Let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.” 13:1-2

Remember those who taught you of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Vs 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever!! He never changes but man's ways do... Keep that in mind.

“Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.” 13:15-16

Let's remember this passage as we go to church! Sing praises that will praise and glorify God above.

“Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

### **Comment:**

Al Bown:

Very strong chapters.....

### **Replies:**

Ryan Ingle:

Yes indeed brother Al!

### **Comment:**

Ginger Hermon:

Thanks, Ryan! These chapters are an inspiration. I love the imagery displayed in Hebrews 12:1-3. Heroes of faith surrounding us; cheering us on, bearing testimony to the power of faith. And the supreme witness accomplishing our eternal redemption. Giving hope that our present suffering is far outweighed by the prospect of future glory! ❤️ Run with perseverance and fix our eyes on Jesus so we may joyfully assemble in that heavenly city!

### **Replies:**

Ryan Ingle:

Very edifying to say the least!

### **Comment:**

Butch O'Neal:

Thank you, Ryan!

### **Replies:**

Ryan Ingle:

Very edifying scripture! You're welcome!