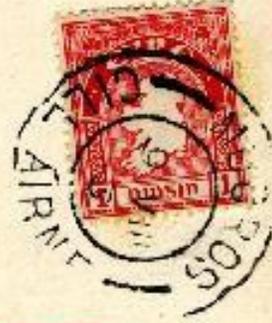




*The Letter to the*  
**Hebrews**



**Wednesday Series**  
June – August 2020



# The Book of Hebrews: Introduction

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- Contents are deep & challenging ...  
Readers are:
  - **Reminded** of how blessed they are to have trusted in Christ
  - **Impressed** with the superiority of Christ
  - **Warned** of the dangers of apostasy



# The Book of Hebrews:

## Introduction

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### ■ *“Better”* in the Epistle:

- 1) Christ **BETTER** than angels **1:4**
- 2) Confident of **BETTER** things concerning you **6:9**
- 3) The lesser is blessed by the **BETTER** **7:7**
- 4) A **BETTER** hope **7:19**
- 5) Surety of a **BETTER** covenant **7:22**
- 6) Mediator of a **BETTER** covenant **8:6**
- 7) Established on **BETTER** promises **8:6**
- 8) **BETTER** sacrifices **9:23**
- 9) A **BETTER** and enduring possession ... in heaven **10:34**
- 10) A **BETTER**, that is, a heavenly country **11:16**
- 11) A **BETTER** resurrection **11:35**
- 12) Something **BETTER** for us **11:40**



## Jesus is Better (3:1-3)

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1 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,

2 who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house.

3 For Jesus has been counted **worthy of more glory than Moses**—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.

## Jesus is Better than Moses (3: 1-3)

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- **“Therefore”** - because Jesus is better than prophets and angels, and is a faithful, merciful High Priest...
  - **“heavenly calling”** - origin and destination
  - **“consider”** - to perceive clearly, to understand fully
- **Jesus is THE “one sent”** as ultimate High Priest
  - **“Jesus came from God (as an apostle) to bring us to God (as a high priest).”** – David McClister
- **Jesus – faithful** like Moses...
  - **Moses as a faithful servant (5) in God’s house**
  - **Jesus as builder (4) son (6) over God’s house**

## **Jesus is Better (3:4-6)**

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**4 (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)**

**5 Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later,**

**6 but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.**

## Jesus is Better (3:4-6)

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- Jesus is God, can't say the same about Moses...
- Moses was faithful as a servant with a purpose – *“for a testimony”* of things to be spoken later:
  - Type - one sent, deliverer, law giver, intercessor
  - Prophet - (Deut. 18:15)
- The **Son** is the **heir**, inherits the house
- We are the “house of God” **IF** we...
  - *“hold fast”* - hold a ship, keep its head
  - Our *“confidence”* and *“boasting”* (not in us, but)
  - in our “better” **hope (7:19)**

## **Jesus is Better (3:7-11)**

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**7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,**

**“Today, if you hear his voice,**

**8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,  
on the day of testing in the wilderness,**

**9 where your fathers put me to the test  
and saw my works for forty years.**

**10 Therefore I was provoked with that generation,  
and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart;  
they have not known my ways.’**

**11 As I swore in my wrath,  
‘They shall not enter my rest.’”**

## Jesus is Better (3:7-11)

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- Learn from their example!
  - Murmured about lack of water (Ex. 17:1-7)
  - Believed the 10 faithless spies (Num. 13:25-14:4,28-30)
- If it was bad to disobey Moses, the faithful servant, **how much worse** to disobey Jesus, the Son of God
- Your fathers followed then turned on Moses/God, now you risk following then turning on Jesus/God
  - *“go astray in their heart”*
  - *“did not know my ways”*
- *“rest”* – *lit.* Canaan rest; *fig.* spiritual rest (Ch.4)

## Jesus is Better (3:12-13)

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**WARNING**

## Jesus is Better (3:12-15)

**THEME**

12 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

15 As it is said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,  
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

## Jesus is Better (3:12-15)

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- **BE CAREFUL!!**
  - *“evil, unbelieving”* - lack of trust and confidence
  - *“fall away”* – a clear and present danger
- **Responsibility one to another. Today! Every day!**
- **Sin is deceitful!**
  - Fools us
  - Lulls us into a state of complacency
- **We continue to share in Christ **IF**...**
  - *“we hold our original confidence firm to the end.”*
  - Don't harden your hearts. Be transformed.

## **Jesus is Better (3:16-19)**

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**16 For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses?**

**17 And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?**

**18 And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient?**

**19 So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.**

## **Jesus is Better (3:16-19)**

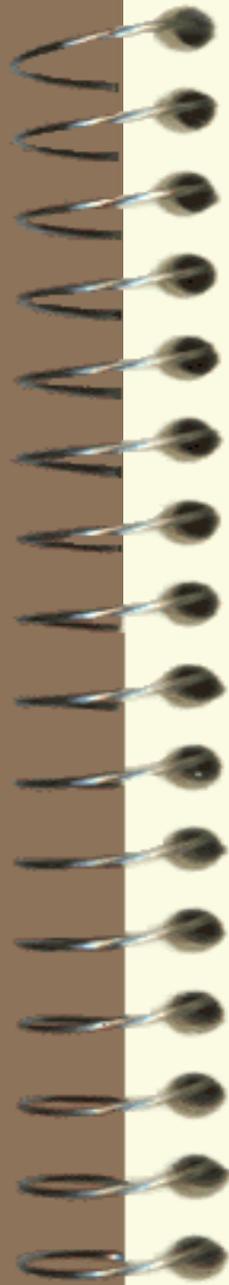
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- **Remember those that rebelled had been delivered**
  - They had seen God's work in Egypt
  - They had crossed the Red Sea
  - They had been sustained in the Wilderness
  - Yet, they did not enter into God's rest
    - What a tragedy that so many once faithful were lost
- **"So we see..." - there's a lesson for us!!**
  - A relationship between "belief"/"obedience" and "entering rest"
  - Disobedience is a manifestation of unbelief
- **Do we see?**

# Jesus is Better (3:1-19)

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So we better learn  
from their example of  
faithlessness!



# **The Book of Hebrews**

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**Next Week:  
Chapter 4**

