
Week 2 (2/7) - Hebrews 1

1. What do verses 1-2 tell us about how God communicates with his people? What does the transition from verse 1 to 2a tell us?
2. List the characteristics given about Jesus in verses 2-4. Meditate on each one and reflect on what this tells us about Jesus.
3. We are given 7 old testament quotations in this chapter. Look at each one and pull out the “proof” the author is giving to show why Jesus is superior to angels.
 - a. Why is each role important in our understanding of who Jesus is?
4. How does verse 14 help us to think rightly about angels?

Week 3 (2/21) - Hebrews 2

1. The first verse tells us to "pay much closer attention to what we have heard." What is that referring to? What is the warning given if the message isn't heeded?
2. The writer goes on to state that disobeying the law came with punishment, and telling the audience that we must not neglect the salvation provided by Jesus. What proof does he offer for why this new covenant is greater?
3. What is the argument being put forward in verses 5-9? If man is "lower than the angels," when/why will we be lifted higher than them?
4. Verse 10 tells us that "it was fitting" that Jesus should be made to suffer in order to bring "the brothers" to salvation. What was fitting about it?
5. Verse 17 tells us that Jesus had to become human to "become a merciful and faithful high priest." What do you think this means? Why does it matter?

Week 4 (2/28) - Hebrews 3

1. What does it mean to harden one's heart? Where else in the Bible do we see this phrase?
2. Why were the Israelites not able to enter the land?
3. What leads to "falling away from the living God"?
4. Why did the good news not benefit the Israelites (beginning of ch4)?
5. What is the logic of verse 14? What does it mean that we have (Greek perfect tense) come to share in Christ if we (future) hold fast to the end?

Week 5 (3/7) - Hebrews 4

1. Verse 1 sets up the premise for the chapter as a whole. What is the writer's concern for his audience? Should we have the same concern for ourselves or those in our congregation?
2. Verse 2 makes a parallel between the current generation and those who took part in the Exodus. What is similar about both groups? What is different? What is the underlying caution?
3. The word "rest" shows up ten times in this chapter. What is the meaning of the term? Is it the same each time it's used?
4. Verse 12 talks of the word of God being "living and active." Why do you think the author pivots to this seemingly new topic? How can we allow God to be effective in our lives through his word?
5. The word of God is also said to be able to discern the intentions of the heart. How is verse 13 a fitting culmination to the warning that began in 3:7?
6. The warnings have aimed to unsettle those in the congregation who don't have saving faith. How does the exhortation in 14-16 comfort those of us who do belong to Jesus?

Week 6 (3/14) - Hebrews 5

1. What was the role of the high priest in the nation of Israel, as shown in Hebrews 5:1? Do you think we still need priests to do this today?
2. The high priest was to be selected from among the people (v 1). What do we see are the advantages and disadvantages of this in verses 2-3? How does Jesus' humanity make him the perfect high priest (see Hebrews 4:15-16)?
3. Verse 5 is a quotation from Psalm 2, which is a psalm about the coronation of the Son. Paul, when preaching in Acts 13:33-39, quotes the same Psalm and compares King Jesus to King David. Why do you think the writer cites this kingly psalm as evidence for Jesus' role as high priest?
4. What do you think it means that Jesus was declared by God to be a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek?
5. Verses 11-14 seem to be an admonishment for laziness and immaturity. Do you think this admonishment is directed toward believers or unbelievers? In what ways can we make sure we heed this exhortation?

Week 7 (3/21) - Hebrews 6

1. What is the place and purpose of “elementary doctrines”? Verse 1 mentions leaving them behind - what does that mean? Does that mean we should move on from these topics and not revisit them? (hint: look at the preceding verses for context)
2. How do the six doctrines listed in verses 1-3 help a believer to “go on to maturity”? What are ways Christians and families in our church can help each other grow in maturity?
3. What group is being talked about in verses 4-8 as having fallen away (v 6)? What does it mean that it is impossible to restore them again to repentance (vs. 4, 6)?
4. How does the explanation given in verses 7-8 relate to Jesus’ teaching on the relationship between belief and deeds (Matthew 7:21-27; Matthew 13:1-23; Matthew 25:31-46)?
5. As is his pattern, the author follows up a warning with an exhortation. How does he explain in 9-12 that his hearers can have a full assurance of salvation?
6. Genesis 22:15-18 outlines the promise that God made to Abraham, which the author is referencing in verses 13-18. Why do you think God felt it was necessary to “swear by himself”?