

Introduction to the Book of Hebrews – Part 4

Compiled by Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1983 (Rev. 92,01,09)

Hebrews challenges individuals to study and know deeper doctrine

A study of the book of Hebrews answers the following:

1. Mosaic Covenant Versus New Covenant
2. Old Testament Versus New Testament
3. Israel Versus Church
4. Priesthood Versus Lordship of Christ
5. Tabernacle Versus “In-Christ”
6. Sabbath Versus “In-Christ”
7. Saturday Versus Sunday

The book of Hebrews challenges our level of understanding the Bible. There are definite distinctions between Old Testament and New Testament.

Hebrews challenges status quo and defection

Hebrews teaches us that:

1. Jesus Christ is the center of God's plan and program for today, (1:2-3; 2:3; 3:1; 12:2) and faith in Him is central to spiritual life, (4:2; 11:6).
2. There is a danger of defecting from the faith, drifting from the faith, and not entering fully into the faith, (2:1-4; 3:1-13; 4:1-11; 6:1-6; 10:19-25, 32-39; 12:15).
3. God expects those of the faith to grow (6:1-2), become teachers (5:11-14), do good works, (10:24; 13:15-16), and follow after peace and holiness, (12:14).
4. God will chastise those of the faith (i.e. His children) so they will grow and will not drift away from Him because He loves them, (6:32; 10:26-31; 12:3-13).
5. The Old Testament tabernacle was a picture of what actually exists in heaven (8:5; 9:24) and the earthly tabernacle was only a temporary teaching tool until Jesus Christ came, (8:6; 9:9).
6. The work of Jesus Christ made a "New Covenant (testament)" which is not only better than the "Old Covenant (Testament)" but replaced the Old Testament system altogether during the church dispensation, (7:16,22; 8:5-7,10-13; 9:1,9,15,18; 12:24).
7. Persecution and difficult times will come to those of the faith but God is faithful to those who suffer because they resist sin, (11:1-12:4; 13:3).
8. There are false teachers and false teaching that lead us astray from Christ, (4:11; 13:9).

Hebrews answers the cults

1. Prophets (Mormonism, many cults)
2. Purging of sin, purgatory (Roman Catholic Church)
3. Angels - was Christ an angel? (Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses)
4. Christ - did Christ fail His mission (Moonies-Unification Church)
5. Christ - was Christ a created god (Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses)
6. Sabbath day (Seventh-day Adventism)

The book of Hebrews is very “apologetical” in the fact that it addresses some of the very things that the cults have some major problems with today.

Hebrews answers the book of Leviticus

Hebrews Answers Leviticus By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1984 (Rev. 09)	
Leviticus	Hebrews
Moses 87xs	Moses 11xs
Aaron 63xs	Aaron 2xs
Sanctuary 12xs	Sanctuary 4xs
Holy Place 17xs	Holy Place 3xs
Tabernacle 47xs	Tabernacle 9xs
Priest(s) 189xs	Priest(s) 32xs
High Priest 1xs	High Priest 16xs
Sacrifice 40xs	Sacrifice 7xs
Sabbath 16xs	Sabbath/rest 10xs
Covenant 10xs	Covenant 19xs
Sins 17xs	Sins 15xs
Atonement 51xs	Propitiation/Purge 3xs

“Since the Book of Hebrews is grounded in the work of the Levitical priesthood, an understanding of the Book of Leviticus is essential for properly interpreting Hebrews.”

The MacArthur Bible Handbook, John MacArthur, Nashville: Nelson, 2003, p. 463