

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS



1. Jesus: the One over God's House

(Leader's Notes)

Introduction

The Book of Hebrews is about Jesus! Although we are not certain who wrote this letter, we know that it was one of the early Church leaders, who was writing to believers in Rome. Many of these believers were becoming legalistic, so the author shows that we have freedom in Christ and that the entire Old Testament pointed towards his coming and what he would do for us. As we study this book we will learn much about the Christian life, but also gain a deeper insight into the Old Testament.

1. Jesus: Who is He? Hebrews 1:1-14

- ❖ How do verses 1-3 help us to answer the question above? What can we learn about Jesus from this?
(Jesus is heir of all things. He made the universe, he is the radiance of God's glory, he is the exact representation of God, he sustains all things by his word, he provided purification for sins and he is sitting at the right hand of God.)
- ❖ To prove that Jesus is superior to all others, including the angels, the author quotes seven Old Testament scriptures. What do these scriptures show us about Jesus? V5-13
(God calls Jesus his Son, the angels worship him, his throne is eternal, he loves righteousness, he is anointed with the oil of joy, he created the world, he will always be the same and he sits at the right hand of God.)
- ❖ Who is the source of all these statements about Jesus? V5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13
(God himself)
- ❖ Of all the things written about Jesus in these verses, which one encourages you the most? Why?
- ❖ What do these verses tell us about angels? V4, 6, 7, 13, 14. Why do you think the author compares Jesus to the angels? What important truth does this show us?
(The angels are like 'winds' or 'flames of fire' and are ministering spirits sent to serve those who inherit salvation. For the Jewish people, angels were of great significance. However the author wants them to know that Jesus is superior to angels.)

2. What must we do? Hebrews 2:1-4

The writer of this book shares many wonderful truths about Jesus, however following this he goes on to tell us the importance of holding onto those truths and not falling away. He does this again and again throughout the book. In chapter one he speaks about who Jesus is and then tells us what we must do in the light of this knowledge.

- ❖ What warning are we given in Hebrews 2:1, 3?
(To pay attention to what we have heard, so we will not fall away. Also we are reminded to be careful not to ignore the salvation we have received.)

- ❖ What are the results of ignoring this warning in verses 2 and 3?
(God is just. When we disobey him we receive the consequences of that disobedience.)
- ❖ Are there any things in your life that might cause you to drift away? How can these truths we have learnt help us not to drift? Discuss.

Conclusion

Jesus is the one God chose to be over his house. As we have studied Hebrews 1 we have seen who Jesus really is. He is certainly worthy! You are part of that house if you are a believer. We need to be careful not to drift away, but continue to follow him until the end.