

Hebrews

The goal of this Bible Class is to give the students a working knowledge of the whole book of Hebrews. It is based on an expository approach to teaching the Bible, preparing the students for the worship of our Savior. The various lessons are to be viewed by the teacher as thematic suggestions to help with preparation. While the lessons are not intended to be read to the class word for word, the main ideas should be the substance of what is taught. The teacher, in preparation for the class, should consider reading through the whole curriculum before beginning the class, as well as the book of Hebrews several times. This will provide the instructor with a broad and comprehensive understanding of Hebrews as it is being taught. At the end of the course, the class will be concluded with a Bible Knowledge Evaluation. The instructor should be sure to review the material sufficiently that the students are able to correctly answer the questions on the evaluation at the end of the course.

It is important that the instructor be not only knowledgeable about the material, but also able to teach it with enthusiasm and conviction. Students best learn from teachers that are themselves excited about the scriptures. The use of maps, diagrams, white boards etc. is extremely helpful. Some of these have been provided in the curriculum. It is suggested that the class be conducted in an interactive manner. This can be accomplished by having them read short portions of the scripture texts, asking them questions, and wholeheartedly encouraging them to ask questions. All students should be encouraged to bring a Bible to class.

The inclusion of the Westminster Shorter Catechism as part of the curriculum is designed to help the students acquire a broad understanding of Christian doctrine along with the specific Bible teaching. The Elders of the church will coordinate the specific questions and answers to be used in the class.

It will become evident to the teacher that this course curriculum, while not dealing with every verse and concept in the book of Hebrews, is comprehensive and deeply theological. It is designed to help the students understand the book of Hebrews in its wider biblical context, with emphasis on its place in the redemptive history of God's covenant people. The students will be confronted with and asked to understand and remember fairly difficult concepts. It should be remembered that children are able to comprehend much more than we often give them credit for. While this class will be a challenge for both the teacher and the students, the rewards for the efforts of those in the class will be surprising and exciting.

In preparation for these lessons, it would be helpful to consult the following:

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistle to the Hebrews: The English Text with Introduction, Exposition and Notes*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1964.

Lane, William L., *Hebrews, Word Biblical Commentary, Volume 47*, Dallas, Word Books, 1991.

VanHoye, Albert, *Structure and Message of the Epistle to the Hebrews*, Translated from the French by J. Swetnam, Subsidia Biblica 12, Rome, Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1989.

Wright, Tom, *Hebrews for Everyone*, Louisville, Westminster John Knox Press, 2004

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 32

Hebrews - Introduction

Objectives: To introduce your students to the Book of Hebrews, noting its authorship, date, subject matter and our outline of it.

❖ Greeting

❖ Attendance and Accountability

❖ Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

D and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

❖ Review - Return and Review Graded Test on Leviticus

Pass back the corrected tests from last week, and be sure to give the students a minute or two to look over their test, and ask any questions. Please report the final scores to Elder Tuuri.

Do you have any questions on your test?

❖ Lesson - Introduction to Hebrews – A Mystery!

Lane, in his Commentary on Hebrews found in the Word Biblical Commentary Series, writes the following. The teacher may wish to quote Lane, and/or simply put the same thoughts in his own words:

“Hebrews is a delight for the person who enjoys puzzles. Its form is unusual, its setting in life is uncertain, and its argument is unfamiliar. It invites engagement in the task of defining the undefined. Undefined are the identity of the writer, his conceptual background, the character and location of the community addressed, the circumstances and date of composition, the setting in life, the nature of the crisis to which the document is a response, the literary genre, and the purpose and plan of the work. Although these undefined issues continue to be addressed and debated vigorously, no real consensus has been reached.^{1”}

¹Lane, W. L. (2002). *Vol. 47A: Word Biblical Commentary : Hebrews 1-8*. Word Biblical Commentary (Page xlvii). Dallas: Word, Incorporated.

It is said that the Holy Roman Empire was neither Holy, nor Roman, nor an empire. Also, you'll recall that we said the whole burnt sacrifice was neither whole (the skin wasn't burned) nor burnt (rather, it is transformed) and was not a sacrifice so much as an offering (a drawing near). In the same way, while some bibles have included a title page or paragraph for this book that declares it to be the epistle to the Hebrews, written by Paul, it is not really an epistle, it probably wasn't written by Paul, nor were its original recipients necessarily called Hebrews.

Now, this title is there in some bibles because the early church put it there. We don't want to ignore the testimony of the early church. But if we look at the rest of the Pauline epistles or letters, they ALL start with an identification of who is writing it, that is, Paul, and they then note the recipients of the letter. This text does neither.

So, it's a bit of a mystery!

A. Authorship

NOTE: The teacher is to merely summarize the following statements taken from Various commentaries, stressing the underlined portions.

Authorship – Several quotations are listed below to introduce you to the opinions surrounding the authorship of the book of Hebrews:

Brown, Fitzmyer and Murphy say, “The identity of the author of Hebrews is unknown. With the exception of 1 John, it is the only ^{NT} epistle that begins without a greeting mentioning the writer's name.”²

Barclay says, “Many names have been conjectured for the authorship of Hebrews, but the question remains unsolved. The tradition of Pauline authorship is very old and has never been decisively disproved. From the time of Pantaenus (died ^ca. A.D. 190) it was held in Alexandria that the epistle was in some sense Pauline. Clement of Alexandria thought Paul had written it originally in the Hebrew language and that Luke had translated it into Greek.

Hebrews won its way into the New Testament on the grounds of its own greatness, but to get in it had to be included with the letters of Paul and come under his name. People knew quite well that it was not Paul's but they included it among his letters because no man knew who wrote it and yet it must go in.”³

Walvoord and Zuck say, “On the basis of style, Origen doubted the Pauline authorship but was not willing to set the tradition aside. In a famous statement he admitted that only God knew who had written the book.

NT New Testament

²Brown, R. E., Fitzmyer, J. A., & Murphy, R. E. (1996, c1968). *The Jerome Biblical commentary*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

ca. *circa*, about

³*The letter to the Hebrews*. 2000, c1975 (W. Barclay, lecturer in the University of Glasgow, Ed.). The Daily study Bible series, Rev. ed. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press.

The belief in the Pauline authorship of Hebrews belonged chiefly to the East until a later time. Jerome and Augustine seem to have been responsible for popularizing it in the West. In modern times it has usually been felt that the style and internal characteristics of Hebrews rule out Paul as the author. But arguments built on such considerations are notoriously subjective and have also been used to prove highly untenable propositions. Still it must be admitted that when Hebrews is read in Greek and compared with the known letters of Paul, the total impression is that here one meets a spiritual mind clearly attuned to Paul but in subtle ways quite different. This subjective impression, however, would not have prevailed if the early church's tradition had only mentioned Paul."⁴

Brown says, "The principal arguments against Pauline authorship are the differences of vocabulary [Note— many words are unique to Hebrews, and not found in other Pauline writings] and style from those of Paul, the different structure of the epistle (the interweaving of doctrine and exhortation), the different manner of introducing Old Testament citations, and the author's usually observed rule of citing Scripture according to the LXX (with preference for the form of the text represented by the Codex Alexandrinus). Although there are important theological differences from Paul, not all of these are such decisive arguments against Pauline authorship as is sometimes thought, e.g., the author's emphasis on Jesus' entrance into heaven rather than on the resurrection is evidently dictated by his concern with the heavenly priesthood of Christ. However, most of the reasons given for denying Pauline authorship are of such weight as to be compelling."⁵

Lane says, "Although the writer is presumably within the Pauline circle and expects to travel with Timothy "our brother" (13:23), it is certain that he is not Paul, but one who numbered himself among those to whom the immediate hearers of the Lord had delivered the gospel (2:3–4). The language of Hebrews constitutes the finest Greek in the NT, far superior to the Pauline standard both in vocabulary and sentence-building (cf. N. Turner, "The Style of the Epistle to the Hebrews," in *Grammar*, 4:106–13; Wikgren, "Some Greek Idioms," 145–53). The writer's use of imagery is also distinctive: a ship missing the harbor (2:1), an anchor gripping the seabed (6:19), a double-edged sword that penetrates and divides the inmost faculties of the soul (4:12), a wrestler hopelessly exposed in a headlock (4:13), fields richly watered by rain and producing useful crops or worthless weeds (6:7–8). All of these images are foreign to Pauline usage. The writer moves confidently within the conceptual world of cultic concerns centering in priesthood and sacrifice. Many of the emphases of Hebrews are alien to those of Paul."⁶

4Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

OT Old Testament

LXX Septuagint (Greek translation of the OT)

5Brown, R. E., Fitzmyer, J. A., & Murphy, R. E. (1996, c1968). *The Jerome Biblical commentary*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

NT New Testament

cf. *confer*, compare

6Lane, W. L. (2002). *Vol. 47A: Word Biblical Commentary : Hebrews 1-8*. Word Biblical Commentary (Page xlix). Dallas: Word, Incorporated.

Luther was sure that Apollos was the author. Apollos, according to the New Testament mention of him, was a Jew, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the scriptures (Acts 18:24ff.; 1 Corinthians 1:12; 3:4). The man who wrote this letter knew the scriptures; he was eloquent; and he thought and argued in the way that a cultured Alexandrian would. The man who wrote *Hebrews* was certainly a man like Apollos in thought and in background.⁷

[Note - - Others thought Barnabas might have been the author.]

The most romantic of all conjectures is that of Harnack the great German scholar. He thought that maybe Aquila and Priscilla wrote it between them. Aquila was a teacher (Acts 18:26). Their house in Rome was a Church in itself (Romans 16:5). Harnack thought that that is why the letter begins with no greetings and why the writer's name has vanished—because the main author of *Hebrews* was a woman and a woman was not allowed to teach.

But when we come to the end of conjecture, we are compelled to say as Origen said seventeen hundred years ago, that only God knows who wrote Hebrews.⁸

Note – As we shall see, there is something quite grand about the beginning of *Hebrews*, and the absence of a notation of the human author makes wonderful imagery, since the introduction focuses on God speaking, and revealing Himself.

B. Recipients

Again, there is no firm consensus as to who this book was written to. It appears likely that it was written to a small church, perhaps even a house church, which met in the context of a large urban area, perhaps Rome, since there is a reference to Italy in the text. Clearly, the body of the book indicates the audience were “Hebrews,” or Jews, who were being tempted to return to temple worship.

C. Date

The book was clearly written before the destruction of Jerusalem, perhaps just a few years before. While speculation used to run to a very late date, most conservative scholars now assign a date in the 60s, in the ten years leading up to the judgment on Jerusalem in AD 70. As we shall see, this is quite important to properly understand the warnings the book contains. Return to Judaism, and you return to what is about to be destroyed!

D. Purpose

The purpose of the book can be deduced from its content. It is written to bolster Christians who were undergoing persecution (not yet martyrdom, it seems) and thus were tempted to conceal their faith in, and witness to, Jesus Christ. They were being

⁷*The letter to the Hebrews.* 2000, c1975 (W. Barclay, lecturer in the University of Glasgow, Ed.). The Daily study Bible series, Rev. ed. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press.

⁸*The letter to the Hebrews.* 2000, c1975 (W. Barclay, lecturer in the University of Glasgow, Ed.). The Daily study Bible series, Rev. ed. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press.

tempted to return to Judaism and temple worship. Their secular and Jewish surroundings and resultant fear of overtly talking about Jesus, make this sermon very applicable to us today. (It should be noted that Elder Tuuri, who has preached through this book, believes Hebrews to be a sermon, not an epistle or letter.)

Another note of interest to RCC: Calvin dedicated his commentary on Hebrews to the King of Poland, perhaps because of the gross idolatry of the Roman Catholic Church in that country, and its re-crucifixion of Jesus during the daily Mass.

E. Link to Leviticus

We have decided to study this book during the same year we study Leviticus. This is because this book, far more than any other New Testament book, talks in much detail about the Levitical system of worship. The work of Jesus is both compared with and contrasted to the Aaronic priesthood and the worship found in Leviticus. *Hebrews is about how we draw near to God*. This phrase is used repeatedly through out the book. And you will recall that the whole purpose of the offerings of Leviticus was to draw near – that is what the Hebrew term translated “offerings” literally means – “draw near.” You will recall that there was only a partial drawing near in the tabernacle and Temple. But now that Jesus has come, all that Leviticus pointed to – fully drawing near to our Creator without being burned to a crisp! - comes to pass. We will take special notice of the various allusions to the Book of Leviticus as we study through Hebrews.

F. Outline of the Sermon to the Hebrews (see attached)

Notice easily made correlation to the seven days of creation.

The students should be reminded that this outline will form a large part of their final exam for Hebrews.

The teacher should point out the seven fold outline, and how each of the five major sections in the middle are introduced by a verse or two at the end of the previous section. In this way, the outline is stitched together into one composite whole. This book shows an amazing amount of detailed construction and intricate inter-linking sub-structures.

❖ Homework

A. Read Hebrews 1:1-4

B. Study memory work including the outline of Hebrews

❖ Prayer (Prep for Worship)

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 32

Hebrews – Introduction

Objectives: To introduce you to the book of Hebrews, noting its authorship, date, subject matter and our outline of it.

❖ **Greeting and Attendance**

❖ **Homework** – Did you bring your Bibles and writing utensils? Did you get a good night's sleep?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D' and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review - Return and Review Graded Test on Leviticus** -Do you have any questions on your test?

❖ **Lesson - Introduction to Hebrews – A Mystery!**

A. Authorship - Who wrote the book of Hebrews? _____

B. Recipients – Who was the book of Hebrews written to? _____

C. Date – When was the book of Hebrews written? _____

D. Purpose – Hebrews was written to _____ Christians who were undergoing _____ and were tempted to go back to _____

E. Link to Leviticus – Hebrews, like Leviticus, is about how we can _____ to God, through _____.

F. Outline – Hebrews – See attached

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews 1:1-4 several times

B. Study the memory material including the outline of Hebrews

❖ **Prayer (Prep for worship)**

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 33

Hebrews 1:1-4 -The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Objective: To cause your students to rejoice in the revelation of God through Jesus Christ

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 1:1-4?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

D and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A'⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Spend a large portion of class time reviewing this**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all

who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to

Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

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VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review – Introduction to Hebrews**

- A. Authorship - Who wrote the book of Hebrews? (Unknown – Paul? Barnabas?)
- B. Recipients – Who was the book of Hebrews written to? (Possibly Jewish Christians living in Rome)
- C. Date – When was the book of Hebrews written? (Probably in the 60’s A.D.)
- D. Purpose – Hebrews was written to (Jewish) Christians who were undergoing (persecution) and were tempted to go back to (Judaism/temple worship)
- E. Link to Leviticus – Hebrews, like Leviticus, is about how we can (draw near) to God, through (Jesus).

❖ **Lesson - Hebrews 1:1-4 – The Father’s Final Word – The Bright and Shining Son**
How many verbs are there in Hebrews 1:1-4?

Ten (underlined in this section of the handout). For younger classes or to save time, just point out that there are 10 verbs in these verses that are underlined in their Student Handout.

What are the tenses of the verbs? Past, Past, Past, Past, Present, Present, Past, Past, Past Past.

(For younger classes, just talk them through the shift of these verses from past tense {spoke, spoken, appointed, made} to present tense {being, upholding} to past tense {purged, sat, become, obtained} to emphasize the center that shows a **focus** on the present ongoing work of Jesus, the final word from God as to Who He is.

What is the subject doing the action of each of these verbs?

God, in the first four; Jesus, in the last six. The middle of the chiasm thus shows a **shift**, from God to Jesus, which is the whole point of the introduction – God has spoken definitively to us through Jesus.

Based on these observations, here is a possible outline of these four verses:

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the **prophets**, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His **Son**,

B whom He has appointed **heir** of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D³ who being the brightness of **His glory**
E and the express image of **His person**,
D' and upholding all things by the word of **His power**,
C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,
B' sat down at the **right hand** of the Majesty on high,
A'⁴ having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a
more excellent **name** than they.

Comments on 1:1-4

Sections D, D' and E - Starting at the center, where the focus and shift are, we have the present work of Jesus who is the definitive revelation of the Father.

At the very center (E) is the one-for-one correlation between Jesus and the Father.

The language is deeply poetic, beautiful and brings us to an awe-filled state of contemplation at the beauty and brightness of Jesus who is the Shekina glory, the omnipotent upholder of everything, the express image of the Father.

This book immediately shines the spotlight on Jesus. The rest of the book will do the same thing. Jesus will be seen to be superior to everything, the prophets, the angels, Moses, Abraham, Levi, the Aaronic priesthood, even Melchizedek.

Sections C, C' - Around this core of the present work of Jesus, we see the creation and recreation. Jesus was the active agent of the first creation, and his work of purging our sins is placed in parallel with this. Have the students note the reason attached to the 4th commandment in Exodus 20:8ff and Deut. 5:12ff. The Bible frequently links the first creation with God's wondrous acts of redemption. The point is, Jesus came and brought in a whole new creation through His work on the cross. His **priestly** work of paying the price for our sins effected our new creation.

Sections B, B' - The next two parallel phrases refer to Jesus as **King**. These are citations from Psalm 2 and Psalm 110, which are important Psalms in this sermon. We will see them paired again.

Sections A, A' - The final bracketed phrase refers to Jesus as the true **Prophet**. While the Father spoke through prophets in the Old Testament (to the fathers), He now speaks (to us) through the Son. Angels here are linked with prophets. The bible teaches that angels were mediators of the giving of the law. In this way, the angels were prophet-like, being used by God in times past to reveal Himself through His law and Word. But Jesus is the superior Prophet and revelation of God the Father.

One of the great themes of this book is to HEAR THE SON. This theme is sounded forth loud and clear right in the first verse. This is where we can hear God speaking – not at the temple, but through Christ. In this book this has primary emphasis on going to church.

They were being tempted to not go to church, but this is where Christ's voice in the preaching of the Word sounds forth most clearly and distinctly.

Central Theme of Hebrews: Lane, in the Word Bible Commentary we cited earlier, wrote this:

“The central theme of Hebrews is the importance of listening to the voice of God in Scripture and in the act of Christian preaching. The opening lines of the homily focus attention upon the God who speaks. The characterization of God as the one who intervened in Israel's history through the spoken word serves to introduce the characterization of the Son as the one through whom God has spoken the ultimate word (1:1–2a). That theme is sustained with variations throughout the homily (2:1–4; 3:7b–4:13; 5:11; 10:23, 35–39; 11:11). It is recapitulated in a climactic warning, “Be careful that you do not disregard the one who is speaking” (12:25a).”⁹

As noted previously, verse 4 ends this section, but also introduces the next – the name of Jesus which is better than angels.

❖ Homework

A. Read Hebrews 1:5-2:18. Be prepared to discuss the following:

1. 1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of excerpted writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls” (Some Bibles have these in the footnotes. You may ask for your parent's help with this assignment)
2. Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big-band song “A String of Pearls.” This is just for fun.
3. Try to make a 3 part outline of Hebrews 1:5-2:18.
4. What's the significance of this text for you?

B. Work on the memorizing outline and Hebrews 1:1-4.

❖ Prayer (Prep for worship)

⁹Lane, W. L. (2002). *Vol. 47A: Word Biblical Commentary : Hebrews 1-8*. Word Biblical Commentary (Page cxxvii). Dallas: Word, Incorporated.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 33

Hebrews 1:1-4 -The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Objective: To cause you to joy in the revelation of God through Jesus Christ

- ❖ **Greeting**
- ❖ **Attendance and Accountability**
- ❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days **spoken** to us by His Son,

B whom He has **appointed** heir of all things,

C through whom also He **made** the worlds;

D ³ who **being** the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D' and **upholding** all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself **purged** our sins,

B' **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having **become** so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance **obtained** a more excellent name than they.

- ❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 51 What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Q. 52 What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God' s sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

- ❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review – Introduction to Hebrews**

- A. Authorship - Who wrote the book of Hebrews? _____
- B. Recipients – Who was the book of Hebrews written to? _____
- C. Date – When was the book of Hebrews written? _____
- D. Purpose – Hebrews was written to _____ Christians who were undergoing _____ and were tempted to go back to _____.
- E. Link to Leviticus – Hebrews, like Leviticus, is about how we can _____ to God, through _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 1:1-4 – The Father’s Final Word- The Bright and Shining Son**

There are _____ verbs in this section of Hebrews

The center section of Hebrews 1:1-4 focuses on the _____ work of _____.

The subject of these verses shifts from God the _____ to _____ the Son.

Sections C and C’ focus on Jesus as the great _____.

Sections B and B’ focus on Jesus as the great _____.

Sections A and A’ focus on Jesus as the great _____.

One of the central themes of the book of Hebrews is that we should _____ the voice of _____ in reading our _____ and in hearing the Word _____ every

Sunday in _____.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews 1:5-2:18. Be prepared to discuss the following:

- 1. 1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of...writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls”? (Some Bibles have these verses listed in the footnotes or you may ask for help from your parents)
- 2. Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big band song “A String of Pearls.” (This is just for fun)
- 3. Try to construct a 3 part outline of this text.
- 4. What’s the significance of this text for you?

B. Work on memorization material

❖ **Prayer (Prep for worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 33

Hebrews 1:1-4 -The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Objective: To cause you to joy in the revelation of God through Jesus Christ

- ❖ **Greeting**
- ❖ **Attendance and Accountability**
- ❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days **spoken** to us by His Son,

B whom He has **appointed** heir of all things,

C through whom also He **made** the worlds;

D ³ who **being** the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D' and **upholding** all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself **purged** our sins,

B' **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having **become** so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance **obtained** a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 51 What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Q. 52 What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God' s sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ Review – Introduction to Hebrews

- A. Authorship - Who wrote the book of Hebrews? Unknown
- B. Recipients – Who was the book of Hebrews written to? Possibly to Jewish Christians in Rome.
- C. Date – When was the book of Hebrews written? 60's A.D.
- D. Purpose – Hebrews was written to Jewish Christians who were undergoing Persecution and were tempted to go back to Judaism / temple worshi.
- E. Link to Leviticus – Hebrews, like Leviticus, is about how we can draw near to God, through Jesus.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 1:1-4 – The Father’s Final Word- The Bright and Shining Son

There are 10 verbs in this section of Hebrews

The center section of Hebrews 1:1-4 focuses on the present work of Jesus.

The subject of these verses shifts from God the Father to Jesus the Son.

Sections C and C' focus on Jesus as the great priest.

Sections B and B' focus on Jesus as the great king.

Sections A and A' focus on Jesus as the great prophet.

One of the central themes of the book of Hebrews is that we should hear the voice of God in reading our Bibles and in hearing the Word preached every

Sunday in church.

❖ Homework

A. Read Hebrews 1:5-2:18. Be prepared to discuss the following:

1. 1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of...writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls”? (Some Bibles have these verses listed in the footnotes or you may ask for help from your parents)
2. Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big band song “A String of Pearls.” (This is juyst for fun)
3. Try to construct a 3 part outline of this text.
4. What’s the significance of this text for you?

B. Work on memorization material

❖ Prayer (Prep for worship)

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 34

Hebrews 1:5-2:18 - Better Name Than Angels: Son of God, Son of Man

- Objectives:** 1. To cause your students to delight in the person, work and Name of Jesus!
2. To cause your students to joy in the removal of the fear of death, and the resulting freedom from sin.
3. To bring your students to a renewed commitment to hear the voice of Jesus.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 1:5-2:18?

❖ Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A'⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews

- I) 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son
- II) 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man
- III) 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion
- IV) 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
- V) 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.
- VI) 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth
- VII) 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

❖ Review – Hebrews 1:1-4

- 1) What are the two evidences for a chiasm in 1:1-14?
 - a) Focus at middle - Past verbs – present verbs – past verbs
 - b) Shift at middle – From the Father to the Son

- 2) How does this chiasm focus on the three fold office of Jesus Christ?
 - C and C' – Priest (purged sins, new creation)
 - B and B' – King (Ps. 2, 110)
 - A and A' - Prophet

3) What is the primary significance of angels in the book of Hebrews?

Mediators of God's Word – Their prophetic work is stressed. The problem in Hebrews was not the worship of angels, but rather a rejection of Christ and a return to the Old Testament revelation as a means of perfection or salvation.

Heb 2:2 - For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,

Ac 7:53 - ...who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it.”

Ga 3:19 - What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.

4) What will be the topic of the 2nd section, based on the end of this 1st section? (See Hebrews 1:4)

Jesus' better name than angels.

5) What two Psalms are quoted in the first section?

Psalm 2 (kingly) and Psalm 110 (kingly and priestly). This pairing emphasizes that Jesus will be king by virtue of his priestly work. This is one of the major themes of the sermon to the Hebrews.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 1:5-2:18

1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of excerpted writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls?”

A 5 *For to which of the angels* did He ever say:

B “You are My **Son**,

B Today I have **begotten** You”? (Ps. 2:7)

B And again: “I will be to Him a **Father**,

B And He shall be to Me a **Son**”? (2 Sam. 7:14)

B’ 6 But when He again brings the **firstborn** into the world, He says:

A” “Let all the **angels** of God worship Him.” (Ps. 97:7)

A 7 And of the **angels** He says:

“Who makes His angels **spirits** And His **ministers** a flame of fire.” (Ps. 104:4)

B 8 *But to the Son He says:*

“Your **throne**, O God, is forever and ever;

A **scepter** of *righteousness* is the **scepter** of Your **Kingdom**.

9 You have loved *righteousness* and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has **anointed** You

With the **oil** of gladness more than Your companions.” (Ps. 45:6,7)

C 10 And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning **laid the foundation** of the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your **hands**.

11 They will perish, but You **remain**;
And they will all grow old like a garment;
12 Like a cloak **You** will fold them up,
And they will be changed.

But You are the **same**,
And Your years will not fail.” (Ps. 102:25-27)

B’ 13 But *to which of the angels has He ever said:*

“**Sit** at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your **footstool**”? (Ps. 110:1)

A’ 14 Are **they** not all **ministering spirits** sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Notice that like the intro, this catena, or string of verses, begins at Psalm 2 and ends with Psalm 110, again linking the priestly work of Jesus and His kingly office.

Note Connections between 1:1-4 and 1:5-13

1:1–4	1:5–13
A Appointment as royal heir (v 2b)	A’ Appointment as royal Son and heir (vv 5–9)
B Mediator of the creation (v 2c)	B’ Mediator of the creation (v 10)
C Eternal nature and pre-existent glory (v 2a, b)	C’ Unchanging, eternal nature (vv 11–12)
D Exaltation to God’s right hand (v 3c)	D’ Exaltation to god’s right hand (v 13)

Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big band song “String of Pearls.”
Glenn Miller

Try to construct a 3 part outline of this text.

TEACHERS NOTE: Ask the students to share some of their outlines, then launch into instruction on the three part outline that follows:

1:5-14 - Better Name - Son of God

2:1-4 - Hear Him

2:5-18 - Better Name - Son of Man

This second section links to the second day of creation – firmament between heaven and earth – Jesus is both son of God and son of Man, linking heaven and earth – he is the firmament.

This should help the students to remember this second section of our outline -
II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

A. Hebrews 1:5-14 A Better Name: Son of God

A 5 *For to which of the angels* did He ever say:

B “You are My **Son**,

C Today I have **begotten** You”? (Ps. 2:7)

C’ And again: “I will be to Him a **Father**,

B And He shall be to Me a **Son**”? (2 Sam. 7:14)

B’ 6 But when He again brings the **firstborn** into the world, He says:

A’ “Let all the **angels** of God worship Him.” (Ps. 97:7)

Jesus is better than the angels – He is eternally begotten of the Father (the center), He is the Son

A 7 And of the **angels** He says:

“Who makes His angels **spirits** And His **ministers** a flame of fire.” (Ps. 104:4)

B 8 *But to the Son He says:*

“Your **throne**, O God, is forever and ever;

A **scepter** of *righteousness* is the **scepter** of Your **Kingdom**.

9 You have loved *righteousness* and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has **anointed** You

With the **oil** of gladness more than Your companions.” (Ps. 45:6,7)

C 10 And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning **laid the foundation** of the earth,

And the heavens are the work of Your **hands**.

11 They will perish, but You **remain**;

And they will all grow old like a garment;

12 Like a cloak **You** will fold them up,

And they will be changed.

But You are the **same**,

And Your years will not fail.” (Ps. 102:25-27)

B’ 13 But *to which of the angels has He ever said:*

“**Sit** at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your **footstool**”? (Ps. 110:1)

A’ 14 Are **they** not all **ministering spirits** sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Jesus is better than the angels:

He is the Creator – Section C

He is the King – Sections B and B’

The angels are His ministering spirits, his workers – Sections A and A’

B. Hebrews 2:1-4 - Hear Him!

1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

The central part of this second section of the sermon is exhortation. Sandwiched between two sets of exposition or explanation, this is the immediate application of the truths being taught – Hear Him!! The New Covenant times are not less dangerous than Old, they are more dangerous! Ignore the law mediated by angels and you suffered sever consequences. Ignore the son, and your state will be worse!

C. Hebrews 2:5-18 A Better Name: Son of Man

We have structured the third part of this section under various descriptions or sub-names of who Jesus is revealed to be.

1) Jesus, the Dominion Son of Man vv. 5-9a

5 For He has *not* put the world to come, of which we speak, *in subjection to angels*.

6 But one testified in a certain place, saying:

“What is **man** that You are mindful of him,
Or the **son of man** that You take care of him?”

7 You have made him a little lower than the **angels**;

You have crowned him with glory and honor,
And set him over the works of Your hands.

8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet.” Ps. 8:4-6

For in that He put all in subjection under him,
He left nothing that is not put under him.

But now we do not yet see all things put under **him**.

9 But we see **Jesus**, who was made a little lower than the **angels**,
for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor,

Jesus has come to bring man into full dominion over the earth. At man’s beginning, and certainly after the fall, angels were our tutors, but now, mankind is superior to the angels. Paul says we shall judge them. Jesus has come to bring man into his purpose.- dominion over the created order.

Ga 3:24-4:5 Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.²⁵ But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.²⁶ For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.²⁹ And if you *are* Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

4:1 Now I say *that* the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

2) Jesus the Captain of Our Salvation vv. 9b,10

that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things,
in **bringing many sons to glory**,
to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

This dominion was purchased by the precious blood of Jesus, which in this text is linked to his being the captain, the one who wins the battle for his whole army, the conqueror.

3) Jesus Our Brother vv. 11-13

11 For both He who sanctifies

and those who are being sanctified
are all of one,

for which reason He is not ashamed to call them *brethren*,

12 saying: “I will declare Your name to My *brethren*;

In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.” Ps. 22:2

13 And again: “I will put My trust in Him.” Isa,8:17

And again: “Here am *I and the children* whom God has given Me.” Isa. 8:18

Since Jesus’ being the son of man, identified with us, is linked to his being the son of God, we can have tremendous comfort – He loves us, the Son of God is also the Son of man, He calls us his children and his brother!

4) Jesus the Destroyer vv. 14-16

14 Inasmuch then as the *children* have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same,

that through **death**

He might destroy him who had the **power of death** that is, the devil,

15 and **release those** who through **fear of death** were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

16 For indeed He does *not give aid to angels*, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

His identification with humanity has resulted in the most important victory for us of all time – He has destroyed the devil, has removed the power and fear of death, which this text links to our being enslaved to sin.

Release from sin is tied here to the release from the fear of death. The atonement of Jesus, and a meditation on it, is the key to our sanctification.

5) Jesus Our High Priest vv. 17,18

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His **brethren**,
that He might be a *merciful and faithful High Priest* in things pertaining to God,
to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted,
He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Remember, when you see a “therefore” in a text, ask what its “there for!” The last therefore was at the beginning of the middle part of this section – based on Jesus being the Son of God, we are to pay earnest heed to him, and we are warned that we ignore His at our own peril.

Here, the “therefore” brings this entire section to its conclusion. The preacher’s purpose is comfort and aid for those who are being tempted! Jesus, being both Son of God AND Son of Man, is able to aid us, and we are to call on Him to do just that. His priestly work, necessitating his identification with us, His suffering and death for us, means He is able, at very level, to aid us when we are tempted – and He will!

Some of the pastoral implications:

1. Jesus is Son of God – we are to pay earnest heed to what he says or else!

2. Jesus, by His death as the Son of Man has freed us from the fear of death, which was the basis for our being enslaved to sin. This text is one of the most important texts in the whole bible as it relates to our sanctification. Fear of death is usually the cause for the sins of Christians. While rebellion and pride are also root causes for sin, this text ties our enslavement to sin to our fear of death.

Jesus is the Destroyer of death. Jesus did this by dying. The purpose was to free us from the fear of death. The fear of death makes us slaves to sin.

Now, not all fear is bad. We should fear God, and therefore listen to and obey His voice. But the key to unlock the shackles of fear that enslaves us to death is the atonement.

3. When we are tempted, Jesus will help us. Youth brings its particular forms of temptation. This text tells us that Jesus is both Son of God and Son of Man. He is holy, but He is compassionate and cares for us. He has released us from slavery to sin, and we are to cry out to Him for aid when we are tempted.

❖ **Homework**

- A. Read Psalm 95, the attached version of Hebrews 3:1-4:14 and Numbers 14.
- B. Be prepared to discuss the following questions (for older students only):

1. Which of the seven sections of our outline is 3:1-4:14 a part of?
 2. According to section two of our outline, what qualities of Jesus will be described in the third section, 3:1-5:10?
 3. How do the first three sections of Hebrews link with the first three days of creation and the first three feasts of Leviticus 23?
 4. What are the “inclusios” that indicate that 3:1-4:14 is a distinct section?
 5. Which quality is described in 3:1-4:14?
 6. If you divided 3:1-4:4 into two sections, one expositional and one exhortational, where would the break be?
 7. How is Jesus compared to Moses in this text?
 8. How is Jesus contrasted with Moses?
 9. How do we hear the Spirit’s voice, what He says to us?
- C. Work on your memory verses for a test in three weeks.
- D. Work on memorizing the outline for Hebrews

❖ **Prayer (prep for worship)**

Hebrews 3:1-4:14

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, [Christ] Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. ³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. ⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit *says*:

“Today, if you will hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works **forty years**. ¹⁰ Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’”

¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

¹² **Beware**, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil **heart** of unbelief in departing from the living God;

¹³ but exhort one another daily,

while it is called “Today,”

lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ

if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

¹⁵ while it is said: “Today,

if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your **hearts** as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who, having heard, rebelled? (Ps. 95:7,8)

Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? (Num. 14:13,19,22)

¹⁷ Now with whom was He angry **forty years**? (Ps. 95:10)

Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? (Num. 14:10,29,32)

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, (Ps. 95:11)

but to those who did not obey? (Num. 14:30,33,43)

¹⁹ **So we see** that they could not enter in because of unbelief

4 Therefore, since a **promise** remains of **entering His rest**, **let us fear** lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. ³ For we who have believed do enter *that rest*, as He has said:

“So I swore in My wrath,

‘They shall not enter *My rest*,’”

although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way:

“And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”;

⁵ and again in this place:

“**They shall not enter *My rest.***”

⁶ Since therefore it remains that some must *enter it*, and those to whom it was first preached **did not enter**

because of **disobedience**,

⁷ again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts.”

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remains therefore a **Sabbath-celebration** for the people of God. ¹⁰ For he who has entered *His rest* has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

¹¹ **Let us therefore be diligent to enter *that rest***, lest anyone fall according to the same example of **disobedience**.

¹² 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 discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great ***High Priest*** who has passed through the ***heavens***, ***Jesus*** the Son of God, let us hold fast our ***confession***.

Numbers 14 (See also Numbers 12:7; 13:1-25)

14 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. ² And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! ³ Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?” ⁴ **So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”**

⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

⁶ But **Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb** the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; ⁷ **and they spoke to all the congregation** of the children of Israel, saying: “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. ⁸ If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ ⁹ Only **do not rebel against the LORD**, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them.”

¹⁰ And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

¹¹ Then the LORD said to Moses: “How long will these people reject Me? And **how long will they not believe Me**, with all the signs which I have performed among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.”

¹³ And Moses said to the LORD: “Then the Egyptians will hear it, for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, ¹⁴ and they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, LORD, are among these people; that You, LORD, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them, and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ Now if You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, ¹⁶ ‘Because the LORD was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.’ ¹⁷ And now, I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken, saying, ¹⁸ ‘The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.’ ¹⁹ Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.”

²⁰ Then the LORD said: “I have pardoned, according to your word; ²¹ but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD— ²² because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have **put Me to the test now these ten times**, and **have not heeded My voice**, ²³ they **certainly shall not see the land** of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. ²⁴ But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it. ²⁵

Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley; tomorrow turn and move out into the wilderness by the Way of the Red Sea.”

²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ²⁷ “How long shall I bear with this **evil congregation** who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. ²⁸ Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: ²⁹ The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ³⁰ Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, **you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.** ³¹ But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. ³² But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. ³³ And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. ³⁴ According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely **forty years**, and you shall know My rejection. ³⁵ I the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this **evil congregation** who are gathered **together against Me.** In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ”

³⁶ Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, ³⁷ those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. ³⁸ But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

³⁹ Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. ⁴⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the LORD has promised, for we have sinned!”

⁴¹ And Moses said, “Now why do you transgress the command of the LORD? For this will not succeed. ⁴² Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for the LORD is not among you. ⁴³ For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have **turned away from the LORD**, the LORD will not be with you.”

⁴⁴ But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed from the camp. ⁴⁵ **Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain came down and attacked them, and drove them back as far as Hormah.**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 34

Hebrews 1:5-2:18 - Better Name Than Angels: Son of God, Son of Man

- Objectives:** 1. To cause you to delight in the person, work and Name of Jesus!
2. To cause you to joy in the removal of the fear of death, and the resulting freedom from sin.
3. To bring you to a renewed commitment to hear the voice of Jesus.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability**

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days **spoken** to us by His Son,

B whom He has **appointed** heir of all things,

C through whom also He **made** the worlds;

D ³ who **being** the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D' and **upholding** all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself **purged** our sins,

B' **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having **become** so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance **obtained** a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 51 What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Q. 52 What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God' s sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 - The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

II. 1:5-2:18 - A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

III. 3:1-5:10 - A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

❖ **Review – Hebrews 1:1-4**

The center section of Hebrews 1:1-4 focuses on the _____ work of _____.

The subject of these verses shifts from God the _____ to _____ the Son.

Sections C and C' focus on Jesus as the great _____.

Sections B and B' focus on Jesus as the great _____.

Sections A and A' focus on Jesus as the great _____.

The topic of the 2nd section of Hebrews, based on the end of this 1st section will be that Jesus is better than the _____.

What two Psalms are quoted in the first section? _____ and _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 1:5-2:18 – A Better Name Than Angels – Son of God and Son of Man**
Try to construct a 3 part-outline of this text.

A. 1:5-14 - A Better Name – _____ of _____

B. 2:1-4 - _____

C. 2:5-18 - A Better Name - _____ of _____

1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of...writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls”?

A. 1:5-14 A Better Name: Son of God

A 5 *For to which of the angels* did He ever say:

B “You are My **Son**,

C Today I have **begotten** You”? (Psalm 2:7)

C’ And again: “I will be to Him a **Father**,

B And He shall be to Me a **Son**”? (2 Sam. 7:14)

B’ 6 But when He again brings the **firstborn** into the world, He says:

A” “Let all the **angels** of God worship Him.” (Ps. 97:7)

A 7 And of the **angels** He says:

“Who makes His angels **spirits** And His **ministers** a flame of fire.” (Ps. 104:4)

B 8 *But to the Son He says:*

“Your **throne**, O God, is forever and ever;

A **scepter** of *righteousness* is the **scepter** of Your **Kingdom**.

9 You have loved *righteousness* and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has **anointed** You

With the **oil** of gladness more than Your companions.” (Ps. 45:6,7)

C 10 And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning **laid the foundation** of the earth,

And the heavens are the work of Your **hands**.

11 They will perish, but You **remain**;

And they will all grow old like a garment;

12 Like a cloak You will fold them up,

And they will be changed.

But You are the **same**,

And Your years will not fail.” (Ps. 102:25-27)

B’ 13 But *to which of the angels* has He ever said:

“**Sit** at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your **footstool**”? (Ps. 110:1)

A’ 14 Are **they** not all **ministering spirits** sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big band song “A String of Pearls.”

_____.

B. 2:1-4 – Hear Him!

C. Hebrews 2:5-18 A Better Name: Son of Man

A. Verses 5-9a - Jesus, the _____ Son of _____

B. Verses 9b,10 - Jesus the _____ of Our _____

C. Verses 11-13 Jesus Our _____

D. Verses 14-16 - Jesus the _____

E. Verses 17,18 - Jesus Our _____

Lessons for us:

1. Jesus is _____ of _____ – we are to pay earnest heed to what he says or else!
2. Jesus freed us from the fear of _____.
3. When we are _____, Jesus will help us.

❖ **Homework**

- A. Read Psalm 95, the attached version of Hebrews 3:1-4:14 and Numbers 14.
- B. Work on memorizing Hebrews 1:1-4 for a test in three weeks!
- C. Work on memorizing the outline for Hebrews

❖ **Prayer (Prep for worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 34
Hebrews 1:5-2:18 - Better Name Than Angels: Son of God, Son of Man
August 13, 2006

- Objectives:** 1. To cause you to delight in the person, work and Name of Jesus!
2. To cause you to joy in the removal of the fear of death, and the resulting freedom from sin.
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C through whom also He **made** the worlds;

D ³ who **being** the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D' and **upholding** all things by the word of His power,

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❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

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VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

❖ **Review – Hebrews 1:1-4**

The center section of Hebrews 1:1-4 focuses on the present work of Jesus.

The subject of these verses shifts from God the Father to Jesus the Son.

Sections C and C' focus on Jesus as the great Priest.

Sections B and B' focus on Jesus as the great King.

Sections A and A' focus on Jesus as the great Prophet.

The topic of the 2nd section of Hebrews, based on the end of this 1st section will be that Jesus is better than the angels.

What two Psalms are quoted in the first section? Psalm 2 and Psalm 110.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 1:5-2:18 – A Better Name Than Angels – Son of God and Son of Man
1:5-14 represents a “catena,” that is “a closely linked series, especially of...writings or commentaries.” What verses from the Old Testament make up this “string of pearls”?

A. 1:5-14 A Better Name: Son of God

A 5 *For to which of the angels* did He ever say:

B “You are My **Son**,

C Today I have **begotten** You”? (Psalm 2:7)

C’ And again: “I will be to Him a **Father**,

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A” “Let all the **angels** of God worship Him.” (Ps. 97:7)

A 7 And of the **angels** He says:

“Who makes His angels **spirits** And His **ministers** a flame of fire.” (Ps. 104:4)

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A **scepter** of *righteousness* is the **scepter** of Your **Kingdom**.

9 You have loved *righteousness* and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has **anointed** You

With the **oil** of gladness more than Your companions.” (Ps. 45:6,7)

C 10 And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning **laid the foundation** of the earth,

And the heavens are the work of Your **hands**.

11 They will perish, but You **remain**;

And they will all grow old like a garment;

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But You are the **same**,

And Your years will not fail.” (Ps. 102:25-27)

B’ 13 But *to which of the angels has He ever said:*

“**Sit** at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your **footstool**”? (Ps. 110:1)

A’ 14 Are **they** not all **ministering spirits** sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Ask your parents if they know who wrote the hit big band song “A String of Pearls.”

Glenn Miller.

Try to construct a 3 part-outline of this text.

A. 1:5-14 - A Better Name – Son of God

B. 2:1-4 - Hear Him

C. 2:5-18 - A Better Name - Son of Man

B. 2:1-4 – Hear Him!

C. Hebrews 2:5-18 A Better Name: Son of Man

A. Verses 5-9a - Jesus, the Dominion Son of Man

B. Verses 9b,10 - Jesus the Captain of Our Salvation

C. Verses 11-13 Jesus Our Brother

D. Verses 14-16 - Jesus the Destroyer

E. Verses 17,18 - Jesus Our High Priest

Lessons for us:

1. Jesus is Son of God – we are to pay earnest heed to what he says or else!
2. Jesus freed us from the fear of death.
3. When we are tempted, Jesus will help us.

❖ **Homework**

- A. Read Psalm 95, the attached version of Hebrews 3:1-4:14 and Numbers 14.
- B. Work on memorizing Hebrews 1:1-4 for a test in three weeks!
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❖ **Prayer (Prep for worship)**

Hebrews 3:1-4:14

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, [Christ] Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. ³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. ⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
In the day of trial in the wilderness,⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me,
And saw My works **forty years**.¹⁰ Therefore I was angry with that generation,
And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’”

¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

¹² **Beware**, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

¹³ but exhort one another daily,

while it is called “Today,”

lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ

if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

¹⁵ while it is said: “Today,

if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who, having heard, rebelled? Ps. 95:7,8

Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Num. 14:13,19,22

¹⁷ Now with whom was He angry **forty years**? Ps. 95:10

Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? Num. 14:10,29,32

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, Ps. 95:11

but to those who did not obey? Num. 14:30,33,43

¹⁹ **So we see** that they could not enter in because of unbelief

4 Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, **let us fear** lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. ³ For we who have believed do enter *that rest*, as He has said:

“So I swore in My wrath,

‘They shall not enter *My rest*,’”

although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way:

“And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”;

⁵ and again in this place:

“**They shall not enter *My rest*.**”

⁶ Since therefore it remains that some must *enter it*, and those to whom it was first preached **did not enter** because of disobedience,

⁷ again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts.”

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remains therefore a **Sabbath-celebration** for the people of God. ¹⁰ For he who has entered *His rest* has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

¹¹ **Let us therefore be diligent to enter *that rest***, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

¹² 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 discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great *High Priest* who has passed through the *heavens*, *Jesus* the Son of God, let us hold fast our *confession*.

Numbers 14 (See also Numbers 12:7; 13:1-25)

14 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. ² And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! ³ Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?” ⁴ **So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”**

⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

⁶ But **Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb** the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; ⁷ **and they spoke to all the congregation** of the children of Israel, saying: “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. ⁸ If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ ⁹ Only **do not rebel against the LORD**, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them.”

¹⁰ And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

¹¹ Then the LORD said to Moses: “How long will these people reject Me? And **how long will they not believe Me**, with all the signs which I have performed among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.”

¹³ And Moses said to the LORD: “Then the Egyptians will hear it, for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, ¹⁴ and they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, LORD, are among these people; that You, LORD, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them, and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ Now if You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, ¹⁶ ‘Because the LORD was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.’ ¹⁷ And now, I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken, saying, ¹⁸ ‘The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.’ ¹⁹ Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.”

²⁰ Then the LORD said: “I have pardoned, according to your word; ²¹ but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD— ²² because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have **put Me to the test now these ten times**, and **have not heeded My voice**, ²³ they **certainly shall not see the land** of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. ²⁴ But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it. ²⁵

Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley; tomorrow turn and move out into the wilderness by the Way of the Red Sea.”

²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ²⁷ “How long shall I bear with this **evil congregation** who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. ²⁸ Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: ²⁹ The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ³⁰ Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, **you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.** ³¹ But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. ³² But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. ³³ And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. ³⁴ According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely **forty years**, and you shall know My rejection. ³⁵ I the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this **evil congregation** who are gathered **together against Me.** In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ”

³⁶ Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, ³⁷ those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. ³⁸ But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

³⁹ Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. ⁴⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the LORD has promised, for we have sinned!”

⁴¹ And Moses said, “Now why do you transgress the command of the LORD? For this will not succeed. ⁴² Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for the LORD is not among you. ⁴³ For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have **turned away from the LORD**, the LORD will not be with you.”

⁴⁴ But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed from the camp. ⁴⁵ **Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain came down and attacked them, and drove them back as far as Hormah.**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 35

A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion – Part 1 Hebrews 3:1-4:14

- Objectives:** 1. To bring your students to praise God for the faithfulness of Jesus.
2. To focus on the text's call to faithfulness in observing the Lord's Day, the Christian Sabbath.
3. To increase your student's faithfulness to speak and hear God's Word in your interactions with others.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Psalm 95, Hebrews 3:1-4:14, and Numbers 14?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz in 2 weeks!**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews, correlations to the seven days of creation and “links”.**

NOTE: The bolded sections are the third, which we start today and finish next week, and the fifth, its corresponding bookend.

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all

who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”
IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”
V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Introduce structure of the third section, and its bookend, the fifth section.

Teacher: Take a couple of minutes, and talk your student through this brief outline

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

A. *Jesus is faithful, and worthy of our faith 3:1-6*

B. **We should give Him our faith, and enter His rest. 3:7-4:14**

B'. We should seek mercy through Him. 4:15,16

A'. Jesus is merciful and compassionate. 5:1-10

V. 11:1-12:14 We Should Live with Faith and Endurance

A. Our ancestors were faithful and endured hardships. 11:1-40

B. Like our ancestors, we should run with endurance the race. 12:1

B. Looking to Jesus, we should exercise faith. 12:2a

A. Jesus endured unto joy, and we, as sons, should endure chastening. 12:2b-14

❖ **Lesson - Hebrews 3:1-4:14 and Numbers 14.**

Discussion questions:

1. Which of the seven sections of our outline is 3:1-4:14 a part of?

The third.

2. According to section two of our outline, what qualities of Jesus will be described in the third section, 3:1-5:10?

Merciful and faithful. The author addresses these in reverse order in section III, first dealing with faith, then with mercy. This “chiastic” way of approaching his topics is the usual pattern in this book, he starts with the last of the two topics, then proceeds to the first.

3. How do the first three sections of Hebrews link with the first three days of creation and the first three feasts of Leviticus 23?

Light – the shining Sun – He comes on the Sabbath

Firmament – Jesus, Son of God and son of Man, mediates between heaven and earth – Passover makes a distinction between the heavenly delivered people and others.

Sacramental plants – Jesus is our Firstfruits, source of faithfulness and compassion - Firstfruits.

4. What are the “inclusios” that indicate that 3:1-4:14 is a distinct section?

Heavenly, high priest, confession, Jesus

5. Which quality is described in 3:1-4:14?

The faithfulness of Jesus

6. If you divided 3:1-4:4 into two sections, one expositional and one exhortational, where would the break be?

While there is some exposition and exhortation in both sections, 3:1-6 is primarily expositional, then 3:7-4:14 calls the Hebrews (and us!) to place our faith in the one who is faithful. 3:1-6 is primarily exposition, and 3:7-4:14 is primarily exhortation.

The teacher should now take a few minutes to explain the exposition of 3:1-6. The bolded section headers are what the teacher should point out as the sum of the text that follows them.

A Closer Look at 3:1-6 **“Jesus is faithful and worthy of our faith”**

a. Comparison of Jesus and Moses - “As”

First, the term “**as**” shows us that the author begins this section by comparing Jesus and Moses. They were both faithful, the topic of this section.

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, **as** Moses also was faithful in all His house.

b. Jesus Superiority to Moses “For”

But the text then goes on to talk about the superiority of Jesus over Moses. This entire sermon is about Jesus’ superiority to various created beings (prophets, angels, Moses, Aaron, Melchizedek, Abraham, etc.). Jesus’ superiority is based on His being the Creator, not a creature.

³ **For** this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house

c. The Reason for This Superiority

⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. ⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house,

d. Relevance to Us (Hinge to Next Section) “If”

This is the intro to the next section, which will be exhortation. (“If”)

whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

⁷Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: *“Today, if you will hear His voice”*

7. How is Jesus compared to Moses in this text?

Both were faithful.

8. How is Jesus contrasted with Moses?

Jesus is the Creator, He built the house, it is His house, whereas Moses is created, and a caretaker of Jesus’ house. Moses was a “shadow” of the far more glorious Jesus.

9. How do we hear the Spirit’s voice, what He says to us?

The teacher is to use the handout for this entire section (3:1-4:14) to help the students answer this question. The students’ were given this last week, and it is also an attached page on today’s handout. The students should follow the handout as the teacher makes the next points:

3:1-6 and 4:14 - First, the opening and closing sections show that the purpose of this section is our own steadfastness, our own faithfulness to Jesus, who is described as being faithful. Since Jesus is so faithful, we can place our faith in Him, and be steadfast and faithful ourselves.

3:7-11 and 4:12-13 - Second, moving towards the interior of the text, we see a connection between the Spirit presently speaking (says, not said) and the Word of God. The citation to Psalm 95 also hearkens back to its historical basis – Numbers 14. The students were to read Numbers 14 as part of their homework this past week. The text that was distributed had portions of it bolded that reveal the parallel between our text in Hebrews, Psalm 95 and Numbers 14. The people being addressed by the sermon to the Hebrews are being warned that they are dangerously close to not entering the rest of God, both temporal and eternal.

3:12-19 and 4:6-11 - Third, moving interior, the next section places hearing the voice of God and us speaking to one another in a parallel fashion. In his exposition of Psalm 95, he places strong warnings before those who fail to hear God’s voice and heed it – they are in grave danger of falling away from their participation, their union with Jesus. He tells them that their remains a “Sabbath celebration” (that is what the Greek term means) that remains

for us. So, the immediate application to the Hebrews is – keep the Lord’s Day, the Christian Sabbath, go to church, and hear His voice there, through the preaching of the word. To fail to do this is to fail to place our trust in the faithful Jesus, and to be subject to God’s curse of dying in the wilderness, and not entering God’s rest. To fail to hear God’s word, in Lord’s Day worship and through other Christians speaking words consistent with God’s Word to us, is to have an evil heart of unbelief, to be disobedient, part of rebellion that will bring God’s wrath on us.

4:1-5 - Fourth, moving towards the center, a promise begins the heart of the text. The promise is that if we place our faith in the one who is faithful, we will actually enter, here and now, into the eschatological rest of God!

Final thoughts on 3:1-4:14:

- A. The goal of this section is our steadfastness to our confession.
- B. Living is the Word, the Spirit speaks to us in the present through the Word, and the result is our word of account to God.
- C. We are to hear the Spirit’s voice through the voice of men, exhorting us to faith, to the end that our hearts not be hardened by the alluring lies of sin. This is a God appointed key means to the goal of steadfast to our confession.

This means that we have an obligation not only to hear others exhort us to faithfulness, but also to exhort those we see struggling. We have a positive obligation to both speak and hear words of encouragement, exhortation and sometimes strong warning, to one another.

- D. At the beating heart of this passage of warning and exhortation lies a wondrous promise: we can enter in the present into the eschatological and creation rest of God.
- E. The beginning of entering into this rest is our diligence to enter into the Sabbath celebration of convocative Lord’s Day worship. To fail to do this is to risk everything through disobedience.
- F. God has us in a head-lock, believe it or not.
When the text says that all things are naked and open before Him, the term in the Greek means literally that God has us a headlock. We can either place our trust in the one who is faithful, and experience great blessings, or rebel and be taken down.

❖ Homework

- A. Read the attached versions of Hebrews 4:15-5:10
- B. Be prepared to answer the following questions (older students only):
 - 1.) How are Jesus and Aaron compared in this text?
 - 2.) How are Jesus and Aaron contrasted in this text?
 - 3.) How would you define “compassion?”
 - 4.) Are you compassionate towards others?

- 5.) What effect does compassion and sympathy have on others?
 - 6.) What effect does the absence of compassion and sympathy have on others?
 - 7.) What does Micah 6:8 have in common with this section of Hebrews?
- C. Work on memory material – Hebrews 4:1-4 (test in two weeks), Outline, Westminster Shorter Catechism

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 35

A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion – Part 1

Hebrews 3:1-4:14

- Objectives:** 1. To bring you to praise God for the faithfulness of Jesus.
2. To focus on the text's call to faithfulness in observing the Lord's Day, the Christian Sabbath.
3. To increase your faithfulness to speak and hear God's Word in your interactions with others.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Psalm 95, Hebrews 3:1-4:14, and Numbers 14?

❖ Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz in 2 weeks!

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A²⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 51 What is forbidden in the second commandment?

The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Q. 52 What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God's sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews, correlation to the seven days of creation and “links”.

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 3:1-4:14**

Hebrews 2:17, the link to section III Jesus is described as _____ and _____.

Hebrews 3 begins by describing Jesus as _____.

Hebrews 3:1-6 describes _____ as faithful in his house and _____ as faithful over his house.

Jesus is greater than Moses because Jesus is the _____ of the “house”.

Hebrews 3:1-6 says that Jesus was _____ and Hebrews 4:14 says that _____ must be faithful too!

Hebrews 3:1-22 and Hebrews 4:12-13 both say that, unlike the Israelites in the wilderness, we need to _____ the voice of Jesus as He speaks to us through His _____.

Hebrews 3:12-19 and Hebrews 4:6-11 quote from Psalm _____ which says that if we fail to _____ the voice of God through the preached Word, we will not enter into the _____ rest of God.

One of the best ways we can heed this warning is by faithfully going to _____ on the Lord’s Day, the Christian _____.

Hebrews 4:1-5 says that we, by faith and obedience enter into the _____ of God.

❖ **Homework**

A Read the attached versions of Hebrews 4:15-5:10

B. Work on memory material – Hebrews 4:1-4 (test in two weeks), Outline, Westminster Shorter Catechism

Hebrews 3:1-4:14

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, [Christ] Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. ³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. ⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit *says*:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works **forty years**.¹⁰ Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’

¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”

¹² **Beware**, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil **heart** of unbelief in departing from the living God;

¹³ but exhort one another daily,

while it is called “Today,”

lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ

if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

¹⁵ while it is said: “Today,

if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your **hearts** as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who, having heard, rebelled? Ps. 95:7,8

Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Num. 14:13,19,22

¹⁷ Now with whom was He angry **forty years**? Ps. 95:10

Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? Num. 14:10,29,32

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, Ps. 95:11

but to those who did not obey? Num. 14:30,33,43

¹⁹ **So we see** that they could not enter in because of unbelief

4 Therefore, since a **promise** remains of **entering His rest**, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. ³ For we who have believed do enter *that rest*, as He has said:

“So I swore in My wrath,

‘They shall not enter *My rest*,’ ”

although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way:

“And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”;

⁵ and again in this place:

“**They shall not enter *My rest*.**”

⁶ Since therefore it remains that some must *enter it*, and those to whom it was first preached **did not enter** because of disobedience,

⁷ again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts.”

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remains therefore a **Sabbath-celebration** for the people of God. ¹⁰ For he who has entered *His rest* has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

¹¹ **Let us therefore be diligent to enter *that rest***, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

¹² 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 discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ 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**.

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Hebrews 4:15-5:10

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,*
that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A ¹ For every high priest **taken from among men** is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

B ² He can have **compassion** on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.

C ⁴ And **no man takes this honor to himself**, but he who is called by God, just as **Aaron** was.

C ⁵ So also **Christ did not glorify Himself** to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” ⁶ As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of **Melchizedek**”;

B ⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, ⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the **things which He suffered**.

A ⁹ And having been perfected, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, ¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”

OR

Hebrews 4:15-5:10

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,*
that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A ¹ For every high priest **taken from among men** is appointed for men in things pertaining to God,
B that he may **offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins**.

C ² He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also **subject to weakness**.

D ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to **offer sacrifices for sins**.

E ⁴ And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God,
just as **Aaron** was.

A ⁵ So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was **He who said to Him**: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” ⁶ As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of **Melchizedek**”;

B ⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had **offered up prayers and supplications**, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

C ⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the **things which He suffered**.

D ⁹ And having been perfected, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him,

E ¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**”

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 39, August 21, 2005

Objectives: 1. To bring you to praise God for the faithfulness of Jesus.

2. To focus on the text's call to faithfulness in observing the Lord's Day, the Christian Sabbath.
3. To increase your faithfulness to speak and hear God's Word in your interaction with others.

1. Greeting – 1 Minute

2. Attendance and Accountability – 2 Minute

3. Homework

- A. Read the attached versions of 4:15-5:10
- B. Be prepared to answer the following questions:
 - 1.) How are Jesus and Aaron compared in this text?
 - 2.) How are Jesus and Aaron contrasted in this text?
 - 3.) How would you define "compassion?"
 - 4.) Are you compassionate towards others?
 - 5.) What effect does compassion and sympathy have on others?
 - 6.) What effect does the absence of compassion and sympathy have on others?
 - 7.) What does Micah 6:8 have in common with this section of Hebrews?
- C. Prepare for a written quiz on memory verses (Hebrews 1:1-4) next Sunday

4. Review Memory Verses – 2 Minutes

I. 1:1-4 *The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son*

A ¹God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the **prophets**, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His **Son**,

B whom He has appointed **heir** of all things,

C through whom also He **made** the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of **His glory**

D and the express image of **His person**,

D and upholding all things by the word of **His power**,

C' when He had by Himself **purged** our sins,

B' sat down at the **right hand** of the Majesty on high,

A'⁴ having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent **name** than they.

5. WSC Material for Third Quarter (Ends August 28) – 1 Minute

Q37: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?

A37: The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory;

and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

Q38: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

A38: At the resurrection,

Believers, being raised up in glory,

shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgement,
and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

6. Outline of the Sermon to the Hebrews

Notice easily made correlations to the seven days of creation.

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

*LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they***

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

*LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”*

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

*LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”*

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

7. Introduce structure of the third section, and its bookend, the fifth section.

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

A. ***Jesus is faithful, and worthy of our faith 3:1-6***

B. We should give Him our faith, and enter His rest. 3:7-4:14

B. We should seek mercy through Him. 4:15,16

A. Jesus is merciful and compassionate. 5:1-10

V. 11:1-12:14 We Should Live with Faith and Endurance

A. Our ancestors were faithful and endured hardships. 11:1-40

B. Like our ancestors, we should run with endurance the race. 12:1

B. Looking to Jesus, we should exercise faith. 12:2a

A. Jesus endured unto joy, and we, as sons, should endure chastening. 12:2b-14

8. New Material -Hebrews 3:1-4:14 and Numbers 14.

Discuss discussion questions:

1.) Which of the seven sections of our outline is 3:1-4:14 a part of?

2.) According to section two of our outline, what qualities of Jesus will be described in the third section, 3:1-5:10?

- 3.) How do the first three sections of Hebrews link with the first three days of creation and the first three feasts of Leviticus 23?
- 4.) What are the “inclusios” that indicate that 3:1-4:14 is a distinct section?
- 5.) Which quality is described in 3:1-4:14?
- 6.) If you divided 3:1-4:4 into two sections, one expositional and one exhortational, where would the break be?

A Closer Look at 3:1-6 ***“Jesus is faithful and worthy of our faith”***

I. Comparison of Jesus and Moses

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling,
consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,
² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him,
as Moses also was faithful in all His house.

II. Jesus Superiority to Moses

³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory
than Moses,
inasmuch as He who built the house
has more honor
than the house

III. The Reason for This Superiority

⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all
things is God.

⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant,
for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward,
⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house,

IV. Relevance to Us (Hinge to Next Section)

whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the
end.

[⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: *“Today, if you will hear His voice”*]

- 7.) How is Jesus compared to Moses in this text?

- 8.) How is Jesus contrasted with Moses?

- 9.) How do we hear the Spirit’s voice, what He says to us?

Final thoughts on 3:1-4:14:

- A. The goal of this section is our steadfastness to our confession.

- B. Living is the Word, the Spirit speaks to us in the present through the Word,
and the result is our word of account to God.

- C. We are to hear the Spirit's voice through the voice of men, exhorting us to faith, to the end that our hearts not be hardened by the alluring lies of sin. This is a God appointed key means to the goal of steadfast to our confession.
- D. At the beating heart of this passage of warning and exhortation lies a wondrous promise: we can enter in the present into the eschatological and creation rest of God.
- E. The beginning of entering into this rest is our diligence to enter into the Sabbath celebration of convocative Lord's Day worship. To fail to do this is to risk everything through disobedience.
- F. God has us in a head-lock, believe it or not.

Hebrews 3:1-4:14

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, [Christ] Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. ³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. ⁵ And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit *says*:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works **forty years**.¹⁰ Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’”

¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

¹² **Beware**, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

¹³ but exhort one another daily,

while it is called “Today,”

lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ

if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

¹⁵ while it is said: “Today,

if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who, having heard, rebelled? Ps. 95:7,8

Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Num.

14:13,19,22

¹⁷ Now with whom was He angry **forty years**? Ps. 95:10

Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness?

Num. 14:10,29,32

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, Ps. 95:11

but to those who did not obey? Num. 14:30,33,43

¹⁹ **So we see** that they could not enter in because of unbelief

4 Therefore, since a promise remains of **entering His rest**, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. ³ For we who have believed do enter *that rest*, as He has said:

“So I swore in My wrath,

‘They shall not enter *My rest*,’”

although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way:

“And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”;

⁵ and again in this place:

“**They shall not enter *My rest.***”

⁶ Since therefore it remains that some must *enter it*, and those to whom it was first preached **did not enter**

because of **disobedience**,

⁷ again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,
Do not harden your hearts.”

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remains therefore a **Sabbath-celebration** for the people of God. ¹⁰ For he who has entered *His rest* has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

¹¹ **Let us therefore be diligent to enter *that rest***, lest anyone fall according to the same example of **disobedience**.

¹² 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 discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³ 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 (logos).

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great ***High Priest*** who has passed through the ***heavens***, ***Jesus*** the Son of God, let us hold fast our ***confession***

Hebrews 4:15-5:10

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,* that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A ¹ For every high priest **taken from among men** is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

B ² He can have **compassion** on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.

C ⁴ And **no man takes this honor to himself**, but he who is called by God, just as **Aaron** was.

C ⁵ So also **Christ did not glorify Himself** to become High Priest, but it was **He who said to Him**: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” ⁶ As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of **Melchizedek**”;

B ⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, ⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the **things which He suffered**.

A ⁹ And having been perfected, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, ¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”

OR

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,* that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A ¹ For every high priest **taken from among men** is appointed for men in things pertaining to God,

B that he may **offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins**.

C ² He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also **subject to weakness**.

D ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to **offer sacrifices for sins**.

E ⁴ And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as **Aaron** was.

A ⁵ So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was **He who said to Him**: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” ⁶ As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of **Melchizedek**”;

B'⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had **offered up prayers and supplications**, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

C'⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the **things which He suffered**.

D'⁹ And having been perfected, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him,

E'¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**”

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 36

A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion – Part 2 Hebrews 4:15-5:10

Objectives: 1. To encourage your students to approach God reverently and confidently, in worship and in prayer.
2. To encourage your students to give thanks for Christ’s faithfulness and compassion, and to endeavor to grow in their own faithfulness and compassion towards others.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 4:15-5:10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz next week!**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C’ when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B’ sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A ⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews, correlations to the seven days of creation and “links”.**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all

who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review last week’s material**

- 1) Which of the seven sections of our outline is 3:1-4:14 a part of?
3rd
- 2) According to section two of our outline, what qualities of Jesus will be described in the third section, 3:1-5:10?
Merciful and faithful
- 3) How do the first three sections of Hebrews link with the first three days of creation and the first three feasts of Leviticus 23?
Brightness of Jesus as true light of God
Mediator between heaven and earth
Firstfruits of core characteristics of faith and mercy/compassion
- 4) What are the “inclusios” that indicate that 3:1-4:14 is a distinct section?
Heavenly, high priest, confession, Jesus
- 5) Which quality is described in 3:1-4:14?
Faithfulness
- 6) If you divided 3:1-4:14 into two sections, one expositional and one exhortational, where would the break be?
While there is some exposition and exhortation in both sections, 3:1-6 is primarily expositional, then 3:7-4:14 calls the Hebrews (and us!) to place our faith in the one who is faithful. 3:1-6 is primarily exposition, and 3:7-4:14 is primarily exhortation.
- 7) How is Jesus compared to Moses in this text?
Both were faithful.
- 8) How is Jesus contrasted with Moses?
Jesus is the Creator, He built the house, it is His house, whereas Moses is created, and a caretaker of Jesus’ house. Moses was a “shadow” of the far more glorious Jesus.
- 9) How do we hear the Spirit’s voice, what He says to us?
Primarily through the preaching of the word, the voice of men and, and in the Bible.

❖ Lesson – 4:15-5:10

Taken as a whole the section we are in, the third section provides us with a view of Christ's faithfulness and His compassion. These two characteristics are critical to understanding the priestly ministry of Jesus. Like the fact that he is both Son of God and Son of Man, his faithfulness and compassion are linked as He ministers confidence to us. The first section of today's text, verses 15 and 16, are the "pay-off" so to speak, while the second section, 5:1-10, in which Jesus is both compared and contrasted with Aaron, is the explanation for the wonderful statements found in verses 15 and 16. The theme of Jesus' compassion is the link between the sections.

Hebrews 4:15-5:10

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,* that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Because Jesus is sympathetic towards us, compassionate, we can have confidence and boldness to draw near to Him, first in worship, and then also in prayer throughout the week.

Jesus is sovereign and loving. Without knowledge of God's love for us, His sovereignty is more frightening than comforting. But He does love us, and in that love, sympathizes with us, and is compassionate towards us. It was not the doctrine of God's sovereignty that the Serpent attacked in the garden; it was the doctrine of God's love for Adam and Eve. They were tempted to believe that God did not want their well-being. We are tempted to think the same thing. So, it is the compassion, sympathy and love of Jesus that is the motivating factor for us to draw near to Him and the Father in the Spirit.

It is a "throne of grace" to which we draw near. We are never to dim one aspect of Jesus, either his faithfulness as the Son of God nor his compassion as the Son of Man. We draw near to the throne of the sovereign, holy, almighty God, but we draw near to a throne of grace, where a loving, sympathetic, compassionate God awaits us.

A ¹For every high priest **taken from among men** is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

B ² He can have **compassion** on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.

C ⁴ And **no man takes this honor to himself**, but he who is called by God, just as **Aaron** was.

C ⁵ So also **Christ did not glorify Himself** to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." ⁶ As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of **Melchizedek**";

B'⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the **things which He suffered.**

A'⁹ And having been perfected, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him,¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”

1) How are Jesus and Aaron compared in this text?

A. They both were humble, and did not assume the office of priest, but were given it by the Father.

B. They both were compassionate towards their fellow men.

2) How are Jesus and Aaron contrasted in this text?

A. Aaron had to offer for his own sins, but not Jesus

B. Jesus offered Himself.

C. Jesus effected an eternal salvation.

3) How would you define “compassion?”

Dictionary.com – “Deep awareness of the suffering of another coupled with the wish to relieve it.”

To have feelings towards someone, of a sympathetic nature.

4) Are you compassionate towards others?

5) What effect does compassion and sympathy have on others?

As the text shows, the knowledge of Jesus’ compassion provides the confidence to approach him.

6) What effect does the absence of compassion and sympathy have on others?

It would make us not want to go to that person for help.

If we are obey the voice of Jesus speaking to one another, particularly in times of trouble, then we should show ourselves compassionate, so that others might come to us to hear the voice of Jesus speaking through us.

7) What does Micah 6:8 have in common with this section of Hebrews?

We are to do justice (be faithful to God’s standard, the word) Love mercy (be actively compassionate and seek ways to help others in their loneliness, trouble or difficulties)

And walk humbly with ‘god (our faithfulness and compassion are both defined by God’s Word, not our own thoughts.)

Looking at 4:15-5:10, we note:

- A. Jesus, because of His incarnation, is compassionate and sympathetic with us, so we can be confident He will help us.
- B. Jesus is compared and contrasted with the Aaronic priesthood.
 - 1. Like the Aaronic priesthood, Jesus is humble.
 - 2. Unlike the Aaronic priesthood, Jesus' whole faithful life was a mediation for sinners.
 - 3. Like the Aaronic priesthood, Jesus is compassionate.
 - 4. Unlike the Aaronic priesthood, Jesus effected eternal salvation for all that obey Him.
 - 5. Jesus is not of the Aaronic order, but is of the order of Melchizedek.

Looking at the entire section, 3:1-5:10, we note:

- A. As Christians, we are to be faithful and compassionate.
- B. This is particularly true in the perichoretic community of the church.
 - Perichoresis refers to the self-offering of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the "dance" of the Trinity as they all exist to serve and be served by one another.
 - 1) Interruptions are perichoretic opportunities to minister. Jesus is available.
 - Our compassion towards others will help us re-define "interruptions" by others as opportunities of service.
 - 2) We are to open ourselves to one another.
 - 3) This is the road to wholeness, witness and victory.
 - 4) This is rooted in our entrance into the Trinitarian dance, our heavenly calling.

❖ Homework

- A. Read the attached version of Hebrews 5:11-6:20. Be prepared to discuss the following questions (older students only):
 - 1) Of whom does the author have more to say, things that will be difficult? (5:11; 7:1)
 - 2) As a result of his teaching them, what does the author want the Hebrews to do?
 - 3) What does learning have to be wedded to before full maturity can be attained?
 - 4) "Discerning good and evil" is a technical phrase in the bible. To what does it refer?
 - 5) According to verses 4-8, what is the option if a Christian won't mature?
 - 6) What is the basis for the assurance of the author that the Hebrews won't burn?
 - 7) According to the inclusio, what problem is the author trying to correct in 5:11-6:12?
 - 8) What about Abraham are we to mimic, or imitate?
- B. Work on memory verses – Hebrews 1:1-4 for quiz next week
- C. Work on memory of outline and Westminster Catechism questions

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 36
A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion – Part 2
Hebrews 4:15-5:10

Objectives: 1. To encourage you to approach God reverently and confidently, in worship and in prayer.
2. To encourage you to give thanks for Christ's faithfulness and compassion, and to endeavor to grow in their own faithfulness and compassion towards others.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 4:15-5:10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz next week!**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

D ³ who being the brightness of His glory

E and the express image of His person,

D and upholding all things by the word of His power,

C' when He had by Himself purged our sins,

B' sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

A⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God' s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

Review - Outline of Hebrews

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

❖ **Review - Last week's material**

Hebrews tells us that Jesus is both the Son of _____ and the Son of _____

Hebrews tells us that Jesus is both _____ and _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 4:15-5:10**

Hebrews 4:15-16 tells us that Jesus was a _____ who could sympathize with our weaknesses because he was _____ just like we are, yet was without _____.

Because of this, we can come _____ to God's throne of _____ where we can obtain _____ and find _____ in time of need.

Hebrews 5:1-10 compares Jesus with _____, the High Priest.

Both Jesus and Aaron were _____.

Both Jesus and Aaron were _____ towards their fellow man.
But,

Aaron had to make offerings for his own _____, but _____ did not.

Aaron offered _____, whereas Jesus offered _____.

Aaron had to make offerings over and over whereas Jesus' offering effected an _____ salvation.

Compassion means to _____ someone else.

Sympathy literally means _____.

Micah 6:8 says that we are to do _____, to love _____, and to walk _____ with our God.

As Christians, we are to be _____ and _____, especially towards other people at _____.

❖ **Homework**

A) Read Hebrews 5:11-6:20

B) Memorize Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz next week!

C) Work on memory work – Outline, Westminster Shorter Catechism

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 36
A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion – Part 2
Hebrews 4:15-5:10

Objectives: 1. To encourage you to approach God reverently and confidently, in worship and in prayer.
2. To encourage you to give thanks for Christ's faithfulness and compassion, and to endeavor to grow in their own faithfulness and compassion towards others.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 4:15-5:10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz next week!**

A ¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

B whom He has appointed heir of all things,

C through whom also He made the worlds;

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❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

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Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God' s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

Review - Outline of Hebrews

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

❖ **Review - Last week's material**

Hebrews tells us that Jesus is both the Son of God and the Son of Man

Hebrews tells us that Jesus is both faithful and compassionate.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 4:15-5:10**

Hebrews 4:15-16 tells us that Jesus was a High Priest who could sympathize with our weaknesses because he was tempted just like we are, yet was without sin.

Because of this, we can come boldly to God's throne of grace where we can obtain mercy and find grace in time of need.

Hebrews 5:1-10 compares Jesus with Aaron, the High Priest.

Both Jesus and Aaron were both humble.

Both Jesus and Aaron were compassionate towards their fellow man.
But,

Aaron had to make offerings for his own sin, but Jesus did not.

Aaron offered animals, whereas Jesus offered Himself.

Aaron had to make offerings over and over whereas Jesus' offering effected an eternal salvation.

Compassion means to feel with someone else.

Sympathy literally means same sickness.

Micah 6:8 says that we are to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God.

As Christians, we are to be faithful and compassionate, especially towards other people at R C C.

❖ **Homework**

A) Read Hebrews 5:11-6:20

B) Memorize Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz next week!

C) Work on memory work – Outline, Westminster Shorter Catechism

Hebrews 5:11-6:20

5:11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become **dull of hearing**.

12 For though by this time you ought to be *teachers*, *you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God*; and you have come to need **milk** and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of **milk** is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a *babe*. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of **full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil**.

6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let **us go on to perfection**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,² of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.³ And **this we will do if God permits**.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, **and have tasted the heavenly gift**, and have **become partakers of the Holy Spirit**,⁵ and have **tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come**,⁶ if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;⁸ but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be **burned**.

9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.¹⁰ For God is not unjust to forget **your work and labor of love** which you have shown toward His name, in that you have **ministered to the saints, and do minister**.¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same **diligence to the full assurance of hope** until the end,¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises.

12 that you do not become sluggish, but **imitate** those who through faith and patience inherit the *promises*.

¹³ For when God made a *promise* [v. 12] to **Abraham**,
because He could swear by no one greater,
He swore by Himself,

¹⁴ saying, "*Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.*"

¹⁵ And so, after he had **patiently** endured, he obtained the *promise*.

¹⁶ For men indeed **swear** by the greater,
and an **oath** for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute [war of words].

¹⁷ Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the *immutability* of His **counsel**,
confirmed [guaranteed, mediated] it by an **oath**,

¹⁸ that by two *immutable* things, in which it is impossible for God to lie,
we might have strong consolation,

who have **fled for refuge** to lay hold of the hope set before us.

¹⁹ ***This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast,***
and which enters the **Presence behind the veil**,

²⁰ where the **forerunner** has entered for us, even Jesus,
having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek [7:1].

Hebrews 7:1

For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 37

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come Part 1 - Hebrews 5:11-6:20

Objectives: 1. To strongly encourage your students to grow in their knowledge of, and obedience to, the Bible. 2. To help your students to act like they're someone else!

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 5:11-6-20?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 1:1-4 – Quiz** – Hand out quiz on these verses to be filled out by each student and handed in

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

NOTE: Today, we begin the fourth and central section of the book. It is by far the longest section, and is somewhat complex.

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all

who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

- Introduce Expanded Outline for Section IV

Because the central section is so long, it will be helpful for the students to get a grasp of the basic flow of the section. It begins and ends with exhortation. Jesus is described as the better priest/offerer and the better offering in the next most inward sections. After the next short sections dealing with heaven and earth, the central thrust is the better covenant that Christ has effected. The section begins with an emphasis on Psalm 110 and moves to material based on Jeremiah 31.

The following chart has the section broken up into the way the material will be dealt with in this class over the next few weeks.

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

8. Review – 5 Minutes

A. How are sections two and three of our outline alike?

Section two is about Jesus being both Son of God and Son of Man, the true mediator between God and men.

(BTW, section two had a catena, or string of verses, beginning at Psalm 2 and ending with a reference to Psalm 110, at its core.)

Section three is about Jesus being both faithful (obedient to God) and merciful (compassionate towards man).

This should help the students to remember these two sections.

(BTW, section three had Psalm 8 and Psalm 95 as its two Scripture centers.)

(Section four will begin at Psalm 110, but then move to Jeremiah 31)

B. Jesus being our Firstfruits, what are we supposed to be like, in light of Section 3? Faithful and compassionate.

C. Were you compassionate this past week to others?

D. Do others feel confident approaching you with their problems?

E. According to what we have studied so far, what or whom is Jesus superior to?
The prophets, the angels, Moses, Aaron, priests, Abraham, Melchizedek

❖ **Lesson - Hebrews 5:11-6:20**

5:11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become **dull of hearing**.

(REMEMBER to draw the students out before supplying the answers to these discussion questions!)

1) Of whom does the author have more to say, things that will be difficult? (5:11; 7:1)

The inference seems to be to Melchizedek.

5:12-14 For though by this time you ought to be *teachers*, *you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God*; and you have come to need **milk** and not solid food.¹³ For everyone who partakes only of **milk** is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a *babe*. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of *full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil*.

2) As a result of his teaching them, what does the author want the Hebrews to do?

Teach!

This passage has been used by Bible teachers for centuries to provide a basic overview of what Christian Education is. It succinctly lays out some important truths about CE:

a) People need teachers to instruct them in the word of God (“oracles” and “word of righteousness”).

b) Instruction is not only in the principles/knowledge of the Christian faith (v. 12), but has as its goal ethical maturity (v. 14).

c) There is a natural progress and growth in knowledge and understanding. Some need milk (being immature and unskilled), and others require solid food (those who are “full of age” or are mature, being able through practice and experience to “discern both good and evil”). True and biblical instruction requires understanding the capacities of the students and giving them what they need for their growth and development in the faith.

d) Growth and progress are to be expected in the lives of those who are taught the word of God. Failure to move on to maturity is an educational (and maybe a pastoral) problem that must be addressed (as the author of Hebrews did in this passage).

e) The goal of education is the maturity to discern both good and evil; the antithesis. Through instruction over time (“full of age”) and through practice and experience, or the application of the instruction in everyday living, students are able to discern the biblical antithesis between the Christian faith and the world around him.

f) Maturity in knowledge and discernment should lead to teaching others (“you ought to be teachers”). Our students should progressively be able to help other grow in the faith (in the home, church, etc.).

3) What does learning have to be wedded to before full maturity can be attained?

Obedience.

This is shown, first, by the analysis of their problem as ethical first, and, as a result, academic second. They have become sluggish, and as a result of their sin, they have become stupid, or ignorant.

Jn 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

If people are ethically submissive to God, knowledge is given unto them. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. We make disciples by first baptizing them, and then teaching them. Submission to Christ's government in baptism precedes the ability to grow in knowledge of the doctrine. Our problem is not primarily intellectual, but moral, which has then twisted our intellectual abilities.

This is shown in today's text, second, by the phrase "reason of use." The biblical student must not only learn, but obey what he has learned.

4) "Discerning good and evil" is a technical phrase in the bible. To what does it refer?

It refers to rule. These texts demonstrate this:

1 Ki 3:9 (Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom, Granted by God)

⁹ Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

The idea is not knowing what is right and wrong. Solomon already knew that, of course. He needed wisdom to rule, to be able to discern in difficult cases, as when two women come before him both claiming to be the mother of a baby.

2 Sa 14:17 (A woman talking to David) Then thine handmaid said, The word of my lord the king shall now be comfortable: for as an angel of God, so *is* my lord the king to discern good and bad: therefore the LORD thy God will be with thee.

Again, this is seen as a technical phrase that means "rule."

Ge 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Adam and Eve wanted to be able to rule before they had matured. Their problem was a lack of patience. It was not that they wanted to grow up and become rulers - that is what God tells us in our Hebrews text is exactly what He wants us to do.

6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let **us go on to perfection**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith

toward God, 2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.³ And **this we will do if God permits.**

It is by God's grace ("if God permits") that our growth in knowledge and maturation will take place. Again, our growth in knowledge is not accomplished without our ethical submission to God and His gracious granting us to know anything.

Perfection here (as in the next chapter, chapter 7, as well) means to come to completeness, to arrive at the purpose for which we have been created. It does not mean sinless perfection, but rather, maturation to rule. Our purpose is to rule.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, **and have tasted the heavenly gift**, and have *become partakers of the Holy Spirit*,⁵ and have **tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come**,⁶ if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;⁸ but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be **burned**.

Now, in addition to the positive consequences of stirring up their souls to learn – namely, rule and authority, the author warns the Hebrews of the negative consequences if they fail to learn, or to mature. They will burn.

It is very important to notice the bolded parts of the text. These are not warnings given to the average man on the street, but rather to the man in the pew. He is untied to Christ in the church, but he must not think his participation in church is a "get out of jail free" card. No, we can fall away, and that to our ruin.

Notice once more (discern good and evil) the garden language. If we fail to continue to press on towards maturity, we will get kicked out of the garden, and will then find ourselves in the howling wilderness of thorns and thistles.

5) According to verses 4-8, what is the option if a Christian won't mature?

He will burn.

9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.¹⁰ For God is not unjust to forget **your work and labor of love** which you have shown toward His name, in that you have **ministered to the saints, and do minister**.¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same **diligence to the full assurance of hope** until the end,¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through *faith and patience* inherit the promises.

6) What is the basis for the assurance of the author that the Hebrews won't burn?

The basis is **not** their baptism, but rather their active obedience to Christ, as evidenced by their ministry to other Christians.

12 that you do not become sluggish, but **imitate** those who through faith and patience inherit the *promises*.

7) According to this inclusio (6:12), what problem is the author trying to correct in 5:11-6:12?

Sluggishness, a lack of a heart to do what God had told them to do. A drifting along, so to speak, in their Christian life, that was causing them to be tempted to stop going to church, and to stop ministering to others.

8) What about Abraham are we to mimic, or imitate?

His faith and resultant patience.

Calvin "to sloth he opposes imitation"

Calvin "examples convey to us a more impressive idea of things. When a naked truth is set before us, it does not so much affect us, as when we see what is required of us fulfilled in the person of Abraham."

The base word for imitate is the Greek root of our word mimic. We are to act like someone we are not – in this case, we are to act like Abraham, meaning we are to know something of his life. We are to positively look for role models and then mimic them, pretend we have their patience, kindness, love, faithfulness, servant's heart, etc. This imitation is an absolutely vital part of godly sanctification. It is not hypocrisy. Hypocrisy is acting like we are vipers when we are really saints!

¹³ For when God made a *promise* [v. 12] to **Abraham**,
because He could swear by no one greater,
He swore by Himself,

¹⁴ saying, "*Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.*"

To encourage their perseverance and patience, he tells them of God's great graciousness in affirming his word by means of swearing an oath. In many ways, God shows His great love to us in giving us multiple assurances of what we should take at face value – His word of promise to us in Christ!

¹⁵ And so, after he had *patiently* endured, he obtained the *promise*.

We see that this patience is not an inactive waiting, but rather a patient enduring, a continuing on in doing what is right.

¹⁶ For men indeed **swear** by the greater,

and an **oath** for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute [war of words].

¹⁷ Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the *immutability* of His **counsel**, confirmed [guaranteed, mediated] it by an **oath**,

¹⁸ that by two *immutable* things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, **we might have** strong consolation,

who have **fled for refuge** to lay hold of the hope set before us.

¹⁹ ***This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast,***

and which enters the **Presence behind the veil**,

²⁰ where the **forerunner** has entered for us, even Jesus,

having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek [7:1].

Hebrews 7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

As we prepare to draw into the presence of God in worship, may we give thanks to the one who is the sure and steadfast anchor of our soul, the Lord Jesus Christ, the forerunner, who has entered the throne room of God in heaven, and assured our entry as well.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached version of Hebrews 7:1-28, and (older students only) be prepared to discuss:

- 1) 7:1 is a paraphrase of Genesis 14:17. What very significant change is made?
- 2) Was Abraham's slaughter of the kings the lesser of two evils?
- 3) What does "Melchi" mean? Zedek? Ralph Smith's has a son named Ben Zedek. What does it mean?
- 4) Was Melchizedek a real person or a Christophany?
- 5) What two proofs are offered for Melchizedek being greater than Abraham?
- 6) How does this say anything about the Levitical [priesthood]?
- 7) What is the significance of verse 12?

B. Continue working on the memory material.

❖ **Prayer (Prep for Worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 37

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Part 1 - Hebrews 5:11-6:20

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Day 7 – Peace, rest

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❖ **Review**

In section II of our study of Hebrews (1:5-2:18) we learned that Jesus is the Son of _____ and the Son of _____.

In section III of our study of Hebrews (3:1-5:10) we learned that Jesus is both _____ (obedient to God) and _____ (compassionate towards man).

We too are supposed to be both _____ and _____ towards each other.

So far, we have learned that Jesus is greater than the _____, the _____, _____, _____, the _____, _____ and _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 5:11-6:20**

In Hebrews 5:11 and 7:1, the author of Hebrews says he will have more things to say about _____ which may be hard for the Hebrews to understand.

Hebrews 5:12-14 - As a result of his teaching them, the author of Hebrews wants the Hebrews Christians to be able to _____ others. But first they must begin to _____ what they already know to be true about the Scripture.

Hebrews 5:14 – The phrase “to discern good and evil” refers to _____.

Hebrews 6:1-3 – What will happen to the Hebrew Christians if they go back to being Jews and relying on the sacrificial system with the Old Testament priesthood?

The author of Hebrews is confident that the Hebrew Christians will be _____ in their faith and obedience, which will bring them _____ of inheriting all of the _____ of God.

In Hebrews 6:13-15, who does the author of Hebrews give as a good example of faith and patient obedience? _____.

Faith is not an inactive waiting, but a _____.

In Hebrews 6:16-20 God confirmed His promise to bless Abraham by swearing an _____ by _____.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews 7:1-28

B. Continue to work on memory material

Hebrews 7:1-28

Heb. 6:20²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High “Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (Ps. 110:4)

Hebrews 7:1-10

I. The Narrative from Genesis 14:17ff

¹ For this **Melchizedek**, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,
² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,”

³ without father,
without mother,
without genealogy,

having neither beginning of days
nor end of life,
but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

II. The Lesson for the Hebrews from the Genesis Narrative

⁴ *Now consider how great this man was,*

to whom even the patriarch Abraham **gave a tenth** of the spoils.

⁵ And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to **receive tithes** from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

⁶ but he whose genealogy is not derived from them **received tithes** from Abraham and **blessed** him who had the promises.

⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is **blessed** by the better.

⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there **he receives them**, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

⁹ Even Levi, who **receives tithes**,

paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his father when **Melchizedek met** him.

- - -

Heb 7:11 ¹¹ Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise “according to the order of Melchizedek,” (Ps. 110:4) and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

Hebrews 7:11-19

¹¹ Therefore, if **perfection** were through the **Levitical priesthood** (for under it the people received the **law**),

what further need was there that **another priest** should rise according to the order of **Melchizedek**,

and not be called according to the **order of Aaron**?

¹² *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.*

¹³ For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has *officiated at the altar*. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord arose from **Judah**, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of **Melchizedek**, there arises **another priest**

¹⁶ who has come, not according to the **law** of a fleshly commandment, but according to *the power of an endless life*. ¹⁷ For He testifies: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸ For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, ¹⁹ for the **law** made nothing **perfect**; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which *we draw near to God*.

Hebrews 7:20-28

Ps 110:4A “The LORD has sworn and will not relent”

²⁰ And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an **oath**

²¹ (for **they** have become **priests** *without an oath*, but **He** *with an oath*

by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn and will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’”),

²² by so much more Jesus has become a *surety of a better covenant*.

Ps 110:4b “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

²³ Also there were **many priests**,

because **they** were prevented by death from **continuing**.

²⁴ But **He**, because He **continues** forever, has an **unchangeable priesthood**.

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those

who come to God through Him,

since He always lives to make intercession for them. [Summation of 7:1-25]

Moving Beyond Psalm 110, From Priest to Self-offering

²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, [Just what we needed!] who is

holy, [Ps. 12:1; 18:26; 32:6; 79:1,2; 132:9; 149:1,2; Heb. 5:7,8; 1 Tim. 2:8; Tit. 1:8]

harmless, [Prov. 1:4; Job 2:3; Rom. 16:18]

undefiled, [Heb. 13:4; James 1:27]

separate from sinners, [Ezra 9:1; Neh. 9:2]

and has become higher than the heavens; [Heb. 4:14]

²⁷ who does not need *daily*, as **those** high priests, to offer up sacrifices,

(first for His own sins and then for the people’s,) [Lev. 16:6-10]

for this **He** did *once for all* when He offered up Himself.

²⁸ For the **law** appoints as high priests men who have **weakness**,

but the word of the **oath**, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been **perfected forever**.

Hebrews 1:1-4 Quiz

¹ God, who at various _____ and in various _____ spoke in time past to the fathers by the _____, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His _____,

whom He has appointed _____ of all things,

through whom also He _____ the worlds;

³ who being the _____ of **His glory**

and the express _____ of **His person**,

and upholding all things by the word of **His** _____,

when He had by Himself _____ our sins,

sat down at the _____ of the Majesty on high,

⁴ having become so much better than the _____, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent _____ than they.

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8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section II of our study of Hebrews (1:5-2:18) we learned that Jesus is the Son of God and the Son of Man.

In section III of our study of Hebrews (3:1-5:10) we learned that Jesus is both faithful (obedient to God) and merciful (compassionate towards man).

We too are supposed to be both faithful and merciful towards each other.

So far, we have learned that Jesus is greater than the prophets, the angels, Moses, Aaron, the priests, Abraham and Melchizedek.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 5:11-6:20**

In Hebrews 5:11 and 7:1, the author of Hebrews says he will have more things to say about Melchizedek which may be hard for the Hebrews to understand.

Hebrews 5:12-14 - As a result of his teaching them, the author of Hebrews wants the Hebrews Christians to be able to teach others. But first they must begin to obey what they already know to be true about the Scripture.

Hebrews 5:14 – The phrase “to discern good and evil” refers to rule.

Hebrews 6:1-3 – What will happen to the Hebrew Christians if they go back to being Jews and relying on the sacrificial system with the Old Testament priesthood?
They will burn

The author of Hebrews is confident that the Hebrew Christians will be diligent in their faith and obedience, which will bring them hope of inheriting all of the promises of God.

In Hebrews 6:13-15, who does the author of Hebrews give as a good example of faith and patient obedience? Abraham.

Faith is not an inactive waiting, but a patient enduring.

In Hebrews 6:16-20 God confirmed His promise to bless Abraham by swearing an oath by Himself.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews 7:1-28

B. Continue to work on memory material

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 41, September 4, 2005

Objectives:

1. To strongly encourage you to grow in your knowledge of, and obedience to, the Bible.
 2. To make you act like you're someone else!

1. Greeting – 1 Minute

2. Attendance and Accountability – 2 Minute

3. Homework – 1 Minute

A. Read the attached version of Hebrews 7:1-28, and be prepared to discuss:

1.) 7:1 is a paraphrase of Genesis 14:17. What very significant change is made?

2.) Was Abraham's slaughter of the kings the lesser of two evils?

3.) What does "Melchi" mean? Zedek? Ralph Smith's has a son named Ben Zedek. What does it mean?

4.) Was Melchizedek a real person or a Christophany?

5.) What two proofs are offered for Melchizedek being greater than Abraham?

6.) How does this say anything about the Levitical [priesthood]?

7.) What is the significance of verse 12?

B. Continue working on the memory material.

4. Scripture Memorization – 2 Minutes - PSALM 110 A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

"You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

5. New WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 1 Minute

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. The duty which God requires of man is obedience to His revealed will.

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law.

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

A41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in the ten commandments.

6. Review Outline of the Sermon to the Hebrews – 3 Minutes

Notice easily made correlations to the seven days of creation.

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

*LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they***

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

*LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”*

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

*LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest*

*“according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”*

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of

Good Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance.

*Link to VI – 12:13 “**Make Straight Paths**”*

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

7. Introduce Expanded Outline for Section IV (NOT Needed on Test!) – 5 Minutes

(Note: Dates are when the boxed texts will be covered in class.)

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

8. Review – 5 Minutes

- A. How are sections two and three of our outline alike?

- B. Jesus being our Firstfruits, what are we supposed to be like, in light of Section 3?

- C. Were you compassionate this past week to others?

- D. Do others feel confident approaching you with their problems?

- E. According to what we have studied so far, what or whom is Jesus superior to?

9. New Material – 25 Minutes Hebrews 5:11-6:20

5:11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become **dull of hearing**.

1.) Of whom does the author have more to say, things that will be difficult? (5:11; 7:1)

12 For though by this time you ought to be *teachers*, *you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God*; and you have come to need **milk** and not solid food.13 For everyone who partakes only of **milk** is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a *babe*. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of **full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil**.

2.) As a result of his teaching them, what does the author want the Hebrews to do?

3.) What does learning have to be wedded to before full maturity can be attained?

4.) “Discerning good and evil” is a technical phrase in the bible. To what does it refer?

6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let **us go on to perfection**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.3 And **this we will do if God permits**.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, **and have tasted the heavenly gift**, and have *become partakers of the Holy Spirit*,⁵ and have **tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come**,⁶ if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;⁸ but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be **burned**.

5.) According to verses 4-8, what is the option if a Christian won't mature?

9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.¹⁰ For God is not unjust to forget **your work and labor of love** which you have shown toward His name, in that you have **ministered to the saints, and do minister**.¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same **diligence to the full assurance of hope** until the end,¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through *faith and patience* inherit the promises.

6.) What is the basis for the assurance of the author that the Hebrews won't burn?

12 that you do not become sluggish, but **imitate** those who through faith and patience inherit the *promises*.

7.) According to the inclusio, what problem is the author trying to correct in 5:11-6:12?

8.) What about Abraham are we to mimic, or imitate?

Calvin "to sloth he opposes imitation"

Calvin "examples convey to us a more impressive idea of things. When a naked truth is set before us, it does not so much affect us, as when we see what is required of us fulfilled in the person of Abraham."

¹³ For when God made a *promise* [v. 12] to **Abraham**,

because He could swear by no one greater,

He swore by Himself,

¹⁴ saying, “*Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.*”

¹⁵ And so, after he had *patiently* endured, he obtained the *promise*.

¹⁶ For men indeed **swear** by the greater,

and an **oath** for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute [war of words].

¹⁷ Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the *immutability* of His *counsel*,

confirmed [guaranteed, mediated] it by an **oath**,

¹⁸ that by two *immutable* things, in which it is impossible for God to lie,

we might have strong consolation,

who have **fled for refuge** to lay hold of the hope set before us.

¹⁹ *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast,*

and which enters the **Presence behind the veil**,

²⁰ where the **forerunner** has entered for us, even Jesus,

having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek [7:1].

Hebrews 7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

Heb. 6:20²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High “Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (Ps. 110:4)

I. The Narrative from Genesis 14:17ff

¹ For this **Melchizedek**, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,”

³ without father, without mother, without genealogy,

having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

II. The Lesson for the Hebrews from the Genesis Narrative

⁴ *Now consider how great this man was,*

to whom even the patriarch Abraham **gave a tenth** of the spoils.

⁵ And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to **receive tithes** from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

⁶ but he whose genealogy is not derived from them **received tithes** from Abraham

and **blessed** him who had the promises.

⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is **blessed** by the better.

⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there **he receives them**, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

⁹ Even Levi, who **receives tithes**,

paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his father when **Melchizedek met** him.

Heb 7:11¹¹ Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise

“according to the order of Melchizedek,” (Ps. 110:4) and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

Hebrews 7:11-19

¹¹ Therefore, if **perfection** were through the **Levitical priesthood**

(for under it the people received the **law**),

what further need was there that **another priest** should rise according to the order of **Melchizedek**,

and not be called according to the **order of Aaron**?

¹² *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.*

¹³ For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has *officiated at the altar*. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord arose from **Judah**, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of **Melchizedek**, there arises **another priest**

¹⁶ who has come, not according to the **law** of a fleshly commandment, but according to *the power of an endless life*. ¹⁷ For He testifies: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸ For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, ¹⁹ for the **law** made nothing **perfect**; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which *we draw near to God*.

Hebrews 7:20-28

Ps 110:4A “The LORD has sworn and will not relent”

²⁰ And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an **oath**

²¹ (for **they** have become **priests** *without an oath*, but **He** *with an oath*

by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn and will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’”),

²² by so much more Jesus has become a *surety of a better covenant*.

Ps 110:4b “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

²³ Also there were **many priests**,

because **they** were prevented by death from **continuing**.

²⁴ But **He**, because He **continues** forever, has an **unchangeable priesthood**.

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those *who come to God through Him*,

since He always lives to make intercession for them. [Summaiton of 7:1-25]

Moving Beyond Psalm 110, From Priest to Self-offering

²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, [Just what we needed!] who is

holy, [Ps. 12:1; 18:26; 32:6; 79:1,2; 132:9; 149:1,2; Heb. 5:7,8; 1 Tim. 2:8; Tit. 1:8] harmless, [Prov. 1:4; Job 2:3; Rom. 16:18]

undefiled, [Heb.13:4; James 1:27]
separate from sinners, [Ezra 9:1; Neh. 9:2]
and has become higher than the heavens; [Heb. 4:14]

²⁷ who does not need *daily*, as **those** high priests, to offer up sacrifices,
(first for His own sins and then for the people's,) [Lev. 16:6-10]
for this **He** did *once for all* when He offered up Himself.

²⁸ For the **law** appoints as high priests men who have **weakness**,
but the word of the **oath**, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been
perfected forever.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 38

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come Part 2 - Hebrews 7:1-28

- Objectives:** 1. To help your students to understand the relationship of Christ to Melchizedek
2. To cause your students to praise God for the unfathomable work of Jesus, who lives to make intercession for them!
3. To encourage your students, as Christians, to strive to be holy, harmless and undefiled.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 7:1-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

PSALM 110 A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all

who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”
IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Lesson**

Hebrews 7:1-10

Heb. 6:20²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High “Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (Ps. 110:4)

I. The Narrative from Genesis 14:17ff

¹ For this **Melchizedek**, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,”

³ without father,
without mother,
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having neither beginning of days
nor end of life,
but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

II. The Lesson for the Hebrews from the Genesis Narrative

⁴ *Now consider how great this man was,*

to whom even the patriarch Abraham **gave a tenth** of the spoils.

⁵ And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to **receive tithes** from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

⁶ but he whose genealogy is not derived from them **received tithes** from Abraham

and **blessed** him who had the promises.

⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is **blessed** by the better.

⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there **he receives them**, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

⁹ Even Levi, who **receives tithes**,

paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his father when **Melchizedek met** him.

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Heb 7:11 ¹¹ Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise “according to the order of Melchizedek,” (Ps. 110:4) and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

Discussion

1) 7:1 is a paraphrase of Genesis 14:17. What very significant change is made? Melchizedek, King of Salem, instead of the King of Sodom, is said to come out to meet Abraham. (There is no change to the actual facts of the story, but rather to the emphasis on Melchizedek, since both kings met with Abraham after the slaughter of the other kings.)

2) Was Abraham’s slaughter of the kings the lesser of two evils?

No! It was a righteous act which led to the blessings by God’s representative – Melchizedek. In modern times, the “lesser of two evils” theory of just war has pervaded the church. But this has not always been the case. It is not evil for God to use representatives of His to wage war and bring His judgments and punishments to bear. Kidnapping is a capital crime in the bible (Ex. 21:16), and this is one reason why southern slavery, which predominantly involved kidnapping, was such an evil in our country’s history.

3) What does “Melchi” mean? Zedek? Ralph Smith, a missionary in Japan, has a son

named Ben Zedek. What does it mean?

King. Righteousness. Son of righteousness.

4) Was Melchizedek a real person or a Christophany (an appearance of Christ in human form before his incarnation)?

Every indication is that he was a real person. If one begins by simply reading the text in Genesis, there is every indication that this was a real man. This seems the best presupposition to bring to the Hebrews text. The Hebrews text that some take to mean that Melchizedek was a Christophany seems rather to be pointing to the textual way in which Melchizedek is described in Genesis. He had a father and mother, a “generation,” a beginning and end of his life and priesthood, but there is no listing of his father or mother, beginning or end, etc., IN THE TEXT. The same Greek term used to say he was without mother is used in other ancient Greek literature to say that Sarah had no naming of her mother in the text of the Bible.

5) What two proofs are offered for Melchizedek being greater than Abraham?

Abraham tithed to Melchizedek, and Melchizedek (the greater) blessed Abraham (the lesser).

6) How does this say anything about the Levitical [priesthood)?

Since Levi was born to and came from Jacob, who was born to Isaac, who was born Abraham, Levi is seen as identified with Abraham. In a sense, the text tells us that Levi tithed to Melchizedek, acknowledging the preeminence of the Melchizedekian priesthood to the Levitical priesthood.

More Notes:

This text moves from Psalm 110 to the Genesis account to make the case for the supremacy of the Melchizedekian priesthood to the Levitical priesthood, and the resultant supremacy of Jesus to the Levitical priesthood.

Abraham was great, as was the Levitical order. But greater than both of these was Melchizedek, and Jesus is greater than him!

Hebrews 7:11-19

¹¹ Therefore, if **perfection** were through the **Levitical priesthood**

(for under it the people received the **law**),

what further need was there that **another priest** should rise according to the order of **Melchizedek**,

and not be called according to the **order of Aaron**?

¹² *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.*

¹³ For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has *officiated at the altar*. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord arose from **Judah**, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of **Melchizedek**, there arises **another priest**

¹⁶ who has come, not according to the **law** of a fleshly commandment, but according to *the power of an endless life*. ¹⁷ For He testifies: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸ For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, ¹⁹ for the **law** made nothing **perfect**; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which *we draw near to God*.

Discussion

1) What is the significance of verse 12?

The students should be very familiar with this verse, and its meaning. When the priesthood changed from the fathers to the Levites, Leviticus was given to us. When the priesthood changed from Levitical to the new priesthood of Jesus, the way we **worship** was changed, transformed again.

The students should be instructed that the terms law, commandments, etc., in the book of Hebrews almost always refers to the laws governing how we are to **worship**.

In all of this, it is VERY important not to go beyond what the text tells us about Melchizedek. He was a real person and a real king, and a real priest. He was a “type” of Christ. But we know NOTHING about how God used him as a priest, how he led Gentiles in worship, etc. The point of the Melchizedek comparison is simply to state the supremacy of Jesus and to remind the Jews of what they should have known from the Old Testament – the Levitical order was always a non-permanent order. It was always God’s purpose to transform the priesthood again and finally by the coming of the Great High Priest – Jesus.

We are not to be led by these verses into useless and dangerous speculation of the “order of Melchizedek.” The bible is silent about that order. The purpose is to state the supremacy of Christ to all human priesthoods, and to say that the priesthood has been changed and

transformed definitively, resulting in New Testament worship, a transformation of Levitical worship, as we shall continue to see.

That there is a relationship between Levitical worship and the New worship of the Christian church is seen by the various parallels drawn so far in this book between Jesus and the Levitical order. Even in this text, Jesus is seen at a Levitical-like altar, etc.

Hebrews 7:20-28

Ps 110:4A “The LORD has sworn and will not relent”

²⁰ And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an **oath**

²¹ (for **they** have become **priests** *without an oath*,
but **He** *with an oath*

by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn and will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’”),

²² by so much more Jesus has become a *surety of a better covenant*.

Ps 110:4b “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

²³ Also there were **many priests**,

because **they** were prevented by death from **continuing**.

²⁴ But **He**, because He **continues** forever,
has an **unchangeable priesthood**.

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those
who come to God through Him,

since He always lives to make intercession for them. [Summation of 7:1-25]

Moving Beyond Psalm 110, From Priest to Self-offering

²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, [Just what we needed!] who is
holy, [Ps. 12:1; 18:26; 32:6; 79:1,2; 132:9; 149:1,2; Heb. 5:7,8; 1 Tim. 2:8; Tit. 1:8]
harmless, [Prov. 1:4; Job 2:3; Rom. 16:18]
undefiled, [Heb. 13:4; James 1:27]
separate from sinners, [Ezra 9:1; Neh. 9:2]
and has become higher than the heavens; [Heb. 4:14]

²⁷ who does not need *daily*, as **those** high priests, to offer up sacrifices,
(first for His own sins and then for the people’s,) [Lev. 16:6-10]
for this **He** did *once for all* when He offered up Himself.

²⁸ For the **law** appoints as high priests men who have **weakness**,
but the word of the **oath**, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been
perfected forever.

Discussion

Two more lines of reasoning from Psalm 110 are provided for the supremacy of Christ, along with two benefits.

1) First, vv. 20-22 tell us that, unlike the Levities, he has been made priest with an oath from the Father. The benefit articulated in relationship to this is that Jesus is the guaranty or surety of a better covenant.

2) Second, vv. 23-25, tells us that unlike the Levites, He is not stopped by death, His priesthood is thus perpetual. The benefit is that He has effected an everlasting salvation and intercession. We are saved to the uttermost, since His perpetual life is for the purpose of making intercession for us.

Verse 25 is an astonishing bit of Scripture. The thrust of its meaning is that, from the perspective of this text, the very purpose of Christ's life is now totally involved in making intercession for His people, so that we might be saved to the uttermost, that is, in all respects. Surely this is something to give God mighty praise and thanksgiving for!

And yet, as wonderful as this verse is, the next one brings us to an even higher praise of God, not for His incredible and marvelous actions towards us, His work, but praise for His very person. Jesus is holy, harmless, and undefiled. He is totally dedicated to the purposes of the Father (He is holy); He is harmless, in the sense of having no evil or malicious intentions to anyone; and He is undefiled, without the slightest hint or taint of sin.

Next, this block of Scripture gives us a wonderful wrap-up of His person as the perfect high priest in verse 26, and then begins to move past the priesthood of Jesus (the one who offers) to considering Him as the perfect offering.

These texts prepare us perfectly to enter into God's courts with loud and heartfelt praise for the beauty of the Savior, and for His great love and service to us.

We go to praise God, but we also go to receive gifts of transformed lives from him as well. Surely, we should seek to be like the Savior. We are Christians, who bear the name of the Savior. We are called to see our very life as service to others, as He ever lives to serve us through intercession. And as the Savior, so His saints – we are to grow in our holiness, in our dedication and commitment to Jesus in all that we do and say. We should seek to be harmless, that is, having no evil intentions to any man, and we should grow in our own removal from defilement. Holy, harmless, and undefiled. Are you ready to commit yourself to grow in these areas? Only the Savior possesses these characteristics in the fullest sense, of course. But He promises to mature us into His image. Praise God! Now, that's the Savior who is exactly what we need!

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 8:1-9:11A.

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions (older students only)

1. How does the center of the first section (8:1-6) relate to the flow of the book of Hebrews?
2. How do verses 8:2 and 8:5 impact discussions about the relationship of New Testament worship to Old Testament worship?
3. How do these same verses impact our understanding of how much freedom we have to develop worship that we think might be good for us or pleasing to us?
4. How are these sections (8:1-6; 8:7-13; 9:1-10; 9:11 ff) “stitched” together?
5. Was the first covenant flawed, or was it the people who were at fault?
6. When will or did the first covenant vanish away?
7. How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7? In what ways are they similar, and in what ways different?
8. What seems like a mistake in 9:3-5a?

C. Work on memory materials

❖ Prayer/Prep for worship

8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work

8 Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have **such a High Priest**, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the **true tabernacle** which the Lord erected, and not man.

³ For every high **priest** is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices.

Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.

⁴ For if He were on earth, He would not be a **priest**, since there are priests who **offer the gifts** according to the law;

⁵ who serve the **copy and shadow** of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

⁶ But now He has obtained **a more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect

⁷ For if that **first** covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says:

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ⁹ not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. ¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹¹ None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. ¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”

¹³ In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the **first** obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant

9 Then indeed, even the **first** covenant had **ordinances** of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.

² For a tabernacle was prepared:

the **first part**, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;

³ and behind the **second** veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶ Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the **first part** of the tabernacle, performing the services.

⁷ But into the **second part** the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people’s sins committed in ignorance;

⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹ It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience—

¹⁰ concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly **ordinances** imposed until **the time of reformation**.

9:11A High Priest of Good Things to Come

¹¹ But Christ **came** as High Priest of the good things to come,

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 38
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 2 - Hebrews 7:1-28

Objectives: 1. To help your students to understand the relationship of Christ to Melchizedek
2. To cause your students to praise God for the unfathomable work of Jesus, who lives to make intercession for them!

3. To encourage your students, as Christians, to strive to be holy, harmless and undefiled.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 7:1-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Psalm 110**

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’ s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section II of our study of Hebrews (1:5-2:18) we learned that Jesus is the Son of _____ and the Son of _____.

In section III of our study of Hebrews (3:1-5:10) we learned that Jesus is both _____ (obedient to God) and _____ (compassionate towards man).

Now in section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like _____, High Priest of _____ things to come.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 7:1-28**

Hebrews 7:1-10

Melchizedek is spoken about in Genesis _____ and in Psalm _____.

“Melchi” means _____ and “Zedek” means _____

Was Melchizedek a real person or an Old Testament appearance of Christ in human form?

_____.

Abraham paid _____ to Melchizedek and Melchizedek _____ Abraham.

Since _____ came from Abraham’s family, this proves that the priesthood of _____ was greater than the _____ priesthood.

Hebrews 7:11-19

Verse 12 tells us that with the coming of Jesus, a priest like _____, the way of _____ God changed also.

With the coming of _____, old way of worshipping God through _____ went away.

Hebrews 7:20-28

Verses 20-22 say that Jesus has been made a priest with an _____ from God the _____.

Verses 23-25 tell us that, unlike the _____, Jesus' priesthood is not stopped by _____.

Verse 25 gives us the wonderful promise that Jesus is always _____ for us!

Verse 26 says that Jesus is _____, _____, and _____.

❖ Homework

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 8:1-9:11a.

B. Work on the memory material

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 38
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 2 - Hebrews 7:1-28

Objectives: 1. To help your students to understand the relationship of Christ to Melchizedek
2. To cause your students to praise God for the unfathomable work of Jesus, who lives to make intercession for them!

3. To encourage your students, as Christians, to strive to be holy, harmless and undefiled.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 7:1-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Psalm 110**

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

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Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’ s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

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Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

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V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

[VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth](#)

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

[VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work](#)

Day 7 – Peace, rest

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❖ **Review**

In section II of our study of Hebrews (1:5-2:18) we learned that Jesus is the Son of [God](#) and the Son of [Man](#).

In section III of our study of Hebrews (3:1-5:10) we learned that Jesus is both [faithful](#) (obedient to God) and [merciful](#) (compassionate towards man).

Now in section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like [Melchizedek](#), High Priest of [good](#) things to come.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 7:1-28**

Hebrews 7:1-10

Melchizedek is spoken about in Genesis [14](#) and in Psalm [110](#).

“Melchi” means [king](#) and “Zedek” means [righteousness](#)

Was Melchizedek a real person or an Old Testament appearance of Christ in human form?

[A real person](#).

Abraham paid [tithes](#) to Melchizedek and Melchizedek [blessed](#) Abraham.

Since [Levi](#) came from Abraham’s family, this proves that the priesthood of [Melchizedek](#) was greater than the [Levitical](#) priesthood.

Hebrews 7:11-19

Verse 12 tells us that with the coming of Jesus, a priest like [Melchizedek](#), the way of [worshipping](#) God changed also.

With the coming of [Jesus](#), the old way of worshipping God through [animal sacrifices](#) went away

Hebrews 7:20-28

Verses 20-22 say that Jesus has been made a priest with an oath from God the Father.

Verses 23-25 tell us that, unlike the Levites, Jesus' priesthood is not stopped by death.

Verse 25 gives us the wonderful promise that Jesus is always praying for us!

Verse 26 says that Jesus is holy, harmless and undefiled.

❖ Homework

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 8:1-9:11a.

B. Work on the memory material

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 42, September 11 2005

- Objectives:** 1. To understand the relationship of Christ to Melchizedek
2. To cause you to praise God for the unfathomable work of Jesus, who lives to make intercession for you!
3. To encourage you, as a Christian, to strive to be holy, harmless and undefiled.

1. Greeting – 1 Minute

2. Attendance and Accountability – 2 Minute

3. Homework – 1 Minute

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 8:1-9:11A.

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions:

1. How does the center of the first section (8:1-6) relate to the flow of the book of Hebrews?
2. How do verses 8:2 and 8:5 impact discussions about the relationship of New Testament worship to Old Testament worship?
3. How do these same verses impact our understanding of how much freedom we have to develop worship that we think might be good for us or pleasing to us?
4. How are these sections (8:1-6; 8:7-13; 9:1-10; 9:11 ff) “stitched” together?
5. Was the first covenant flawed, or was it the people who were at fault?
6. When will or did the first covenant vanish away?
7. How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7? In what ways are they similar, and in what ways different?
8. What seems like a mistake in 9:3-5a?

4. Scripture Memorization – 2 Minutes (Test on September 25)

PSALM 110 A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,
“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

5. WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 1 Minute

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. The duty which God requires of man is obedience to His revealed will.

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law.

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

A41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in the ten commandments.

6. Outline Review – 3 Minutes

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

*LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”*

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

*LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”*

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

*LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”*

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good

Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema!

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not

10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

7. New Material – 30 Minutes

Hebrews 7:1-10

Heb. 6:20²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High “Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (Ps. 110:4)

I. The Narrative from Genesis 14:17ff

¹ For this **Melchizedek**, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,”

³ without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

II. The Lesson for the Hebrews from the Genesis Narrative

⁴ *Now consider how great this man was,*

to whom even the patriarch Abraham **gave a tenth** of the spoils.

⁵ And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to **receive tithes** from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

⁶ but he whose genealogy is not derived from them **received tithes** from Abraham

and **blessed** him who had the promises.

⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is **blessed** by the better.

⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there **he receives them**, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

⁹ Even Levi, who **receives tithes**,

paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his father when **Melchizedek met** him.

Heb 7:11¹¹ Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise “according to the order of Melchizedek,” (Ps. 110:4) and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

Discussion

1.) 7:1 is a paraphrase of Genesis 14:17. What very significant change is made?

- 2.) Was Abraham's slaughter of the kings the lesser of two evils?
- 3.) What does "Melchi" mean? Zedek? Ralph Smith's has a son named Ben Zedek. What does it mean?
- 4.) Was Melchizedek a real person or a Christophany?
- 5.) What two proofs are offered for Melchizedek being greater than Abraham?
- 6.) How does this say anything about the Levitical [priesthood?

Hebrews 7:11-19

¹¹ Therefore, if **perfection** were through the **Levitical priesthood**

(for under it the people received the **law**),

what further need was there that **another priest** should rise according to the order of **Melchizedek**,

and not be called according to the **order of Aaron**?

¹² *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.*

¹³ For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has *officiated at the altar*. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord arose from **Judah**, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of **Melchizedek**, there arises **another priest**

¹⁶ who has come, not according to the **law** of a fleshly commandment, but according to *the power of an endless life*. ¹⁷ For He testifies: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸ For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, ¹⁹ for the **law** made nothing **perfect**; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which *we draw near to God*.

Discussion

What is the significance of verse 12?

Hebrews 7:20-28

Ps 110:4A “The LORD has sworn and will not relent”

²⁰ And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an **oath**

²¹ (for **they** have become **priests** *without an oath*, but **He** *with an oath*

by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn and will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’”),

²² by so much more Jesus has become a *surety of a better covenant*.

Ps 110:4b “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

²³ Also there were **many priests**,

because **they** were prevented by death from **continuing**.

²⁴ But **He**, because He **continues** forever, has an **unchangeable priesthood**.

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those

who come to God through Him,

since He always lives to make intercession for them. [Summation of 7:1-25]

Moving Beyond Psalm 110, From Priest to Self-offering

²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, [Just what we needed!] who is
holy, [Ps. 12:1; 18:26; 32:6; 79:1,2; 132:9; 149:1,2; Heb. 5:7,8; 1 Tim. 2:8; Tit. 1:8]
harmless, [Prov. 1:4; Job 2:3; Rom. 16:18]
undefiled, [Heb.13:4; James 1:27]
separate from sinners, [Ezra 9:1; Neh. 9:2]
and has become higher than the heavens; [Heb. 4:14]

²⁷ who does not need *daily*, as **those** high priests, to offer up sacrifices,
(first for His own sins and then for the people's,) [Lev. 16:6-10]
for this **He** did *once for all* when He offered up Himself.

²⁸ For the **law** appoints as high priests men who have **weakness**,
but the word of the **oath**, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been
perfected forever.

Discussion

Homework – Hebrews 8:1-9:11a

8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work

8 Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have **such a High Priest**, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the **true tabernacle** which the Lord erected, and not man.

³ For every high **priest** is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices.

Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.

⁴ For if He were on earth, He would not be a **priest**, since there are priests who **offer the gifts** according to the law;

⁵ who serve the **copy and shadow** of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

⁶ But now He has obtained a **more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect

⁷ For if that **first** covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says:

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ⁹ not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. ¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹¹ None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. ¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”

¹³ In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the **first** obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant

9 Then indeed, even the **first** covenant had **ordinances** of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.

² For a tabernacle was prepared:

the **first part**, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;

³ and behind the **second** veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶ Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the **first part** of the tabernacle, performing the services.

⁷ But into the **second part** the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance;

⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹ It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience—

¹⁰ concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly **ordinances** imposed until **the time of reformation.**

9:11A High Priest of Good Things to Come

¹¹ But Christ **came** as High Priest of the good things to come,

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 39

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come Part 3 - Hebrews 8:1-9:11a

Objectives: 1. To understand how Levitical worship informs our worship.
2. To bring your students to a commitment to covenant faithfulness, to go “forward” and not back.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 8:1-9:11a?

❖ Scripture Memorization

PSALM 110 A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,
“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not
10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ Lesson

The Big Picture – The Centrality of the Covenant

The teacher should take a few minutes to talk about the big picture as we move towards the center, or heart, of the book of Hebrews. Use the expanded outline of section IV (above) to tell the students that, this week, we are talking about the first half of the very middle of the book of Hebrews.

At the heart of the book is a comparison and contrast of what the text calls the first and second covenants. The word covenant is not introduced in the book of Hebrews until chapter 7, verse 22:

²² by so much more Jesus has become a *surety of a better covenant*.

This first occurrence of the word “covenant” was what we could call a “marker” that the author dropped to let us know that this topic of covenant was coming up soon, and that it was central to his sermon. The contrast between Jesus, the Levitical and Aaronic priests and the priesthood of Melchizedek was, from this perspective, a set-up to talk about the better covenant that this new priest was to definitively establish.

Now, in chapters 8 and 9, the topic of covenant is front and center, vitally central to the text. The term “covenant” is used 17 times in Hebrews, and 12 of those 17 occurrences are here in this central section of the book.

Looking at the expanded section four, we note that the section opens with a discussion of the heavenly realities that the copies of worship on earth are modeled after. (You were to have read 8:1-6 for today’s lesson.) Next week, we will look at the corresponding verses, 9:24-28 in a bit more detail. But notice today that verse 24 repeats much of what is said in 8:1-6:

9:24²⁴ For *Christ* has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to *appear* in the presence of God for us;

Notice also that 8:1-6 closes with the first of these twelve references to covenant found here at the center of this book:

⁶ But now He has obtained **a more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

8:1-6 describes the heavenly realities wherein the work of Jesus to bring out the better covenant took place.

The two texts, then, of 8:1-6 and 9:24-28 surround the central section of the book, wherein teaching on the covenant takes center stage.

The next four sub-sections describe first, the provisional and imperfect nature of the first covenant (8:7-13); second, the weaknesses of that old covenant, and then moves to third, the power of the second covenant as opposed to that weakness of the first, then finally, fourth, to the definitive establishment of the new and better covenant through the work of Jesus’ self-offering in the heavenly sanctuary.

Some Important Details Along the Way

8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work

8 Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have **such a High Priest**, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the **true tabernacle** which the Lord erected, and not man.

³ For every high **priest** is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices.

Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.

⁴ For if He were on earth, He would not be a **priest**, since there are priests who **offer the gifts** according to the law;

⁵ who serve the **copy and shadow** of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

⁶ But now He has obtained a **more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

Last week, we asked you to think about some questions we would discuss about today’s text. The first three of these were related to this first block of text, 8:1-6.

1. How does the center of the first section (8:1-6) relate to the flow of the book of Hebrews?

“Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.”

Hebrews is moving from a consideration of Jesus as the perfect priest to Jesus the perfect offering. Verse 1 tells us that we are moving to the heart and soul of this book and his line of reasoning. Jesus is the perfect priest, who brings the perfect offering, Himself, to the perfect tabernacle/temple, that in heaven, to put into effect the new covenant.

2. How do verses 8:2 and 8:5 impact discussions about the relationship of New Testament worship to Old Testament worship?

First: the Old Testament worship was modeled after the true and heavenly tabernacle. Second, since we are not yet definitively and finally in heaven, our worship, “new testament worship,” also is to reflect the true heavenly worship. Thus, our worship will be informed by and “track” Old Testament worship.

The author is certainly saying that with the change of priesthood, there is a change of law, and “law” in Hebrews means the laws of how we are to worship. But since the old patterns were copies of the heavenly truths that our worship should also reflect or image, our worship will, in some ways, look like Levitical worship.

We must always remember that Mosaic worship was a shadow and a copy, but we must also never forget that those shadows and copies are there to provide us more detail on what heavenly worship looks like.

3. How do these same verses impact our understanding of how much freedom we have to develop worship that we think might be good for us or pleasing to us?

In Verse 5 we are told that God told Moses “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

The implication of this is that Moses was not to make up how he thought worship should look like, what he thought would be good for people to do in worship, but to be careful that the tabernacle worship looked just like what God had revealed to Him from heaven worship.

In the same way, we are not to engage in what the reformers called “will worship,” that is, worship that is based on our ideas, wills or views. Formal worship is to be carefully constructed to reflect all that we know about heavenly worship, and this knowledge will be found in the bible, particularly those sections that are devoted to describing worship, such as those texts that describe Levitical worship, tabernacle of David worship, etc.

8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect

⁷ For if that **first** covenant had been faultless,
then no place would have been sought for a second.

⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says:

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make *a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

⁹ not according to the **covenant that I made** with their fathers
in the day when **I took them** by the hand to lead them out of the land
of Egypt;

because **they did not continue** in My covenant,
and **I disregarded them**, says the LORD.

¹⁰ For this is the *covenant that I will make with the house of Israel* after those
days, says the LORD:

1.) *I will put My laws in their mind
and write them on their hearts;*

2.) *and I will be their God,
and they shall be My people.*

3.) ¹¹ *None of them shall teach his neighbor,
and none his brother, saying,*

*‘Know the LORD,’
for all shall know Me,
from the least of them to the greatest of them.*

4.) ¹² *For I will be merciful
to their unrighteousness,
and their sins and their lawless deeds
I will remember no more.”*

¹³ In that He says, “**A new covenant,**”
He has made the first **obsolete**.

Now what is becoming **obsolete** and growing old

is ready to **vanish away**.

4. How are these sections (8:1-6; 8:7-13; 9:1-10; 9:11ff) “stitched” together?

8:6 – better covenant

8:7 – first covenant

8:13 – first [covenant]

9:1 – first covenant

9:10 – until the time of reformation

9:11 – Christ came as high priest of good things to come.

5. Was the first covenant flawed, or was it the people who were at fault?

Verses 7 and 8 indicate that the flawed nature of the first covenant was primarily linked to the fault with the people. Having said that, it is also very clear from the book of Hebrews that the first covenant, like the priests associated with it, was always to be seen as provisional and not final. It was imperfect, as it were, compared to the heavenly realities that Christ would bring to consummation with his self-offering.

It is important to remember that the quotation from Jeremiah 31 had as its original fulfillment, the restoration of God’s people in the land after their exile to Assyria, Babylon and the Persian Empire.

Jeremiah lays out four specifics of what this new covenant was about:

1) Internalized Law

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts;

2) God’s People

and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

3) Universal Knowledge of God

¹¹ *None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.*

4) Forgiveness of Sins

¹² *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”*

Of these four, three of them (1,2,4) were true of saints previous to the coming of Jesus. In Ezekiel 36:24-30 and 11:17-21, God said He would write his laws on the hearts of those Israelites who returned from the exile to Israel, some 400-500 years before Jesus. In Deut. 6:6,7 God said that His laws were to be in the hearts of His people when they first entered and then lived in the promised land, many centuries before the coming of Jesus. In Psalm 37:31, the Old Testament saint was described in this way:

31 The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

And, of course, the common designation of God's people throughout Old Testament history was that they were forgiven of their sins, and that He was their God, and they were His people.

So, we are not so different from the Old Testament saint. Surely things are much better now. The gospel has moved over the whole face of the world in a dramatically fuller way than in the times before the coming of Jesus. And we have definite advantages living this side of the cross of Christ, which this sermon to the Hebrews will make clear in later chapters. But here, we are reminded that, in some very significant ways, we are really not that different from those who had the covenant renewed to them after the fall in the garden, after the flood, after the tower of Babel, after the exodus from Egypt, after the Philistine capture of the ark, and after the exile.

6. When will or did the first covenant vanish away?

70 AD, with the destruction of Jerusalem. This is why the text says it is ready to be obliterated, to vanish away.

9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant

9 Then indeed, even the **first** covenant had **ordinances** of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.

² For a tabernacle was prepared:

the **first part**, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;

³ and behind the **second** veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶ Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the **first part** of the tabernacle, performing the services.

⁷ But into the **second part** the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance;

⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹ It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience—

¹⁰ concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly **ordinances** imposed until **the time of reformation**.

9:11A High Priest of Good Things to Come

¹¹ But Christ **came** as High Priest of the good things to come,

7. How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7? In what ways are they similar, and in what ways different?

How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7?

Both refer to the first, then the second.

In what ways are they similar?

They both describe the two zones of the Mosaic tabernacle/temple – the holy place and the holy of holies.

In what ways different?

2b-5a focus on the actual places and what was in them.

9:6 and 7 focus on the priest's work in these places.

8. What seems like a mistake in 9:3-5a?

The placement of the golden altar of incense in verse 4. The text seems to say it was in the holiest, but it was actually in the holy place. However, the Greek text can be read so as to imply that the golden altar of incense is right in front of the holy of holies.

We have here, of course, the 3 gifts of God – glory, knowledge and life, contained in the holy place as symbolized in Aaron's rod that blossomed, the law and the golden jar of manna. The students should be reminded of all that we learned about the three gifts and the flow of Levitical worship. We are forgiven of our sins and receive the gift of glory. We are taught God's word and thus achieve true knowledge. We take the Lord's Supper and experience rejoicing life in community. Jesus came to open these great gifts up to us, to tear the veil and grant us these wonderful privileges.

This is great news, but it calls for an appropriate response to us.

The covenant became "old" because the people failed to respond to the wonderful gift of salvation and covenant blessings from God with faith. At the heart of the section above on the new covenant, we see an implied warning:

⁹ not according to the **covenant that I made** with their fathers
in the day when **I took them** by the hand to lead them out of the land
of Egypt;
because **they did not continue** in My covenant,
and **I disregarded them**, says the LORD.

As we said earlier, in some ways we are not so different from the Old Testament saints. Earlier in Hebrews, he warned them that if they acted like their fathers who refused to enter the blessings of following him into the Promised Land, if they shrank back from

walking with Him, they would suffer curses in the wilderness (see Psalm 95). Now, he implies a warning to us that if we, like our forefathers, do not continue in His covenant, we shall be disregarded by him – the word meaning, He will not care for us, not think on us for good. In fact, our state would be worse. This would make us even worse than our forefathers since we would now be pulling back directly from Jesus who has entered history and definitively initiated the new covenant.

In Jeremiah 27, we read:
Jeremiah 7:23-26

23 “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’²⁴ “Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels *and* the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.²⁵ “Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending *them*.²⁶ “Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.

The choice is yours today. Will you do better or worse than your fathers? Will you listen to your own counsels and dictates of your heart, or will you be the people of God, whose law is inside you, directing your steps? Will you do better than your moms and dads, going forward or will you go backward?

Please raise your hands and say “Amen” if you want, God being your helper, to go forwards and exceed your parents, walking as God’s people.

❖ Homework

- A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 9:11-28
- B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions (older students only)
 1. In verses 11 and 12, how are the C sections alike, and different from the B sections? How are the B sections alike, and different from the A sections?
 2. Looking at verses 13 and 14 in parallel, how are they alike? Different?
 3. According to this section, what is the purpose of the power of the new covenant?
 4. What is the common theme in the four sections of verses 15-23, and what is the relationship of this to the Lord’s Supper?
 5. How do these verses (vv. 15-23) relate to the concluding verses of the previous section (verses 11-14)?
 6. According to the last section (verses 24-28) what was the purpose of Christ’s sacrifice of Himself?
 7. What is the significance of this last question for your actions this week?
- C. Work on memory material

❖ Prayer / Prep for Worship

Hebrews 9:11-28

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

A¹¹ But **Christ** came as High Priest of the good things to come,

B with the greater and more perfect *tabernacle* not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

C¹² Not with the *blood* of goats and calves,

C' but with His own *blood*

B' He entered the *Most Holy Place* once for all,

A' having obtained **eternal redemption**.

A¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer,

B sprinkling the *unclean*,

C sanctifies for the **purifying of the flesh**,

A' ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of **Christ**,

B' who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself *without spot* to God,

C' **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to **serve** the living God?

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of **death**, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

¹⁶ For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the **death** of the testator. ¹⁷ For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

¹⁸ Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without **blood**. ¹⁹ For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." ²¹ Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

²³ Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better **sacrifices** than these.

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

²⁴ For **Christ** has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to **appear** in the presence of God for us;

²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— ²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has **appeared** to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so **Christ** was **offered** (see 8:3) once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will **appear** a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 39
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 3 - Hebrews 8:1-9:11a

Objectives: 1. To understand how Levitical worship informs our worship.
2. To bring you to a commitment to covenant faithfulness, to go “forward” and not back.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 8:1-9:11a?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Psalm 110**

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like _____, High Priest of _____ things to come.

“Melchi” means _____ and “Zedek” means _____

Was Melchizedek a real person or an Old Testament appearance of Christ in human form?

_____.

Abraham paid _____ to Melchizedek and Melchizedek _____ Abraham.

Since _____ came from Abraham’s family, this proves that the priesthood of _____ was greater than the _____ priesthood.

With the coming of _____, old way of worshipping God through _____ went away.

Unlike the _____, Jesus’ priesthood is not stopped by _____.

Jesus is always _____ for us!

Jesus is _____, _____, and _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 8:1-9:11**

Hebrews 8:1-6

Verse 3 tells us that Jesus is not only the perfect priest, but also the perfect _____.

Verses 2 and 5 tell us that Jesus is a minister at the true _____ in heaven whereas the tabernacle in the Old Testament was a _____ and a _____ of this.

Verse 5 also tells us that we should worship God only in ways that the _____ tells us.

Hebrews 8:7-13

Verses 7-9 tell us that the primary problem with the first covenant was with the _____.

Verses 10-12 are a quote from the book of _____.

Hebrews 9:1-11

The Tabernacle:

Outer Courtyard - 1. _____ 2. _____

Holy Place

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Holy of Holies - _____ of the _____

1. _____ / _____

2. _____ / _____

3. _____ / _____

The furniture in the tabernacle and the work of the priests in the tabernacle all pointed to _____.

Will you, as a New Covenant Christian be more faithful to Jesus than the Old Covenant Christians were?

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews 9:11-28 (See attached)

B. Work on memory material

❖ **Pray / Prep for Worship**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 39
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 3 - Hebrews 8:1-9:11a

Objectives: 1. To understand how Levitical worship informs our worship.
2. To bring you to a commitment to covenant faithfulness, to go “forward” and not back.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 8:1-9:11a?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Psalm 110**

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like Melchizedek, High Priest of good things to come.

“Melchi” means king and “Zedek” means righteousness.

Was Melchizedek a real person or an Old Testament appearance of Christ in human form?

A real person.

Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek and Melchizedek blessed Abraham.

Since Levi came from Abraham’s family, this proves that the priesthood of Melchizedek was greater than the Levitical priesthood.

With the coming of Jesus, old way of worshipping God through animal sacrifices went away.

Unlike the Levites, Jesus’ priesthood is not stopped by death.

Jesus is always prays for us!

Jesus is holy, harmless, and undefiled.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 8:1-9:11**

Hebrews 8:1-6

Verse 3 tells us that Jesus is not only the perfect priest, but also the perfect sacrifice .

Verses 2 and 5 tell us that Jesus is a minister at the true tabernacle in heaven whereas the tabernacle in the Old Testament was a copy and a shadow of this.

Verse 5 also tells us that we should worship God only in ways that the Bible tells us.

Hebrews 8:7-13

Verses 7-9 tell us that the primary problem with the first covenant was with the people.

Verses 10-12 are a quote from the book of [Jeremiah](#).

Hebrews 9:1-11

The Tabernacle:

Outer Courtyard - 1. [bronze altar](#) 2. [laver of washing](#)

Holy Place

1. [golden lampstand](#)

2. [table of showbread](#)

3. [altar of incense](#)

Holy of Holies – [Ark of the covenant](#)

1. [Aaron's rod / glory](#)

2. [Ten Commandments / knowledge](#)

3. [Jar of manna / life](#)

The furniture in the tabernacle and the work of the priests in the tabernacle all pointed to [Jesus](#).

Will you, as a New Covenant Christian be more faithful to Jesus than the Old Covenant Christians were?

❖ Homework

A. Read Hebrews 9:11-28 (See attached)

B. Work on memory material

❖ Pray / Prep for Worship

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 43, September 18 2005

Objectives: 1. To understand how Levitical worship informs our worship.

2. To bring you to a commitment to covenant faithfulness, to go “forward” and not back.

1. Greeting – 1 Minute

2. Attendance and Accountability – 2 Minute

3. Homework – 3 Minute

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 9:11-28

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions:

1. In verses 11 and 12, how are the C sections alike, and different from the B sections? How are the B sections alike, and different from the A sections?
2. Looking at verses 13 and 14 in parallel, how are they alike? Different?
3. According to this section, what is the purpose of the power of the new covenant?
4. What is the common theme in the four sections of verses 15-23, and what is the relationship of this to the Lord’s Supper?
5. How do these verses (vv. 15-23) relate to the concluding verses of the previous section (verses 11-14)?
6. According to the last section (verses 24-28) what was the purpose of Christ’s sacrifice of Himself?
7. What is the significance of this last question for your actions this week?

4. Scripture Memorization – 2 Minutes (Test Next Week!)

PSALM 110 A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent,
“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; therefore He shall lift up the head.

5. WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 2 Minute

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. The duty which God requires of man is *obedience to His revealed will*.

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was *the moral law*.

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

A41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in *the ten commandments*.

6. Outline Review – 5 Minutes

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

*LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”*

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

*LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”*

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

*LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”*

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good

Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema! (September 4)

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek (September 11)

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

(Sept. 18)

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

(Sept. 25)

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not (Oct. 2)

10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

7. New Material – 30 Minutes

A. The Big Picture – The Centrality of the Covenant

B. Some Important Details Along the Way

8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work

8 Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have **such a High Priest**, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the **true tabernacle** which the Lord erected, and not man.

³ For every high **priest** is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices.

Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.

⁴ For if He were on earth, He would not be a **priest**, since there are priests who **offer the gifts** according to the law;

⁵ who serve the **copy and shadow** of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

⁶ But now He has obtained a **more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

1. How does the center of the first section (8:1-6) relate to the flow of the book of Hebrews?

“Therefore it is necessary that this One also have **something to offer**.”

2. How do verses 8:2 and 8:5 impact discussions about the relationship of New Testament worship to Old Testament worship?

3. How do these same verses impact our understanding of how much freedom we have to develop worship that we think might be good for us or pleasing to us?

8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect

⁷ For if that **first** covenant had been faultless,
then no place would have been sought for a second.

⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says:

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make *a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—*

⁹ not according to the **covenant that I made** with their fathers
in the day when **I took them** by the hand to lead them out of the land
of Egypt;

because **they did not continue** in My covenant,
and **I disregarded them**, says the LORD.

¹⁰ For this is the *covenant that I will make with the house of Israel* after those
days, says the LORD:

1.) *I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts;*

2.) *and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

3.) ¹¹ *None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying,
‘Know the LORD,’*

for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.

4.) ¹² *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness,
and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”*

¹³ In that He says, “**A new covenant,**”

He has made the first **obsolete**.

Now what is becoming **obsolete** and growing old
is ready to **vanish away**.

4. How are these sections (8:1-6; 8:7-13; 9:1-10; 9:11ff) “stitched” together?

5. Was the first covenant flawed, or was it the people who were at fault?

6. When will or did the first covenant vanish away?

9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant

9 Then indeed, even the **first** covenant had **ordinances** of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.

² For a tabernacle was prepared:

the **first part**, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;

³ and behind the **second** veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶ Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the **first part** of the tabernacle, performing the services.

⁷ But into the **second part** the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance;

⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹ It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience—

¹⁰ concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly **ordinances** imposed until **the time of reformation**.

9:11A High Priest of Good Things to Come

¹¹ But Christ **came** as High Priest of the good things to come,

7. How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7? In what ways are they similar, and in what ways different?

How are 9:2b and 9:3-5a parallel to 9:6 and 9:7?

In what ways are they similar?

In what ways different?

8. What seems like a mistake in 9:3-5a?

Prayer

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

A¹¹ But **Christ** came as High Priest of the good things to come,

B with the greater and more perfect *tabernacle* not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

C¹² Not with the *blood* of goats and calves,

C' but with His own *blood*

B' He entered the *Most Holy Place* once for all,

A' having obtained **eternal redemption.**

A¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer,

B sprinkling the *unclean,*

C sanctifies for the **purifying of the flesh,**

A' ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of **Christ,**

B' who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself *without spot* to God,

C' **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to **serve** the living God?

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of **death**, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

¹⁶ For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the **death** of the testator. ¹⁷ For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

¹⁸ Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without **blood.** ¹⁹ For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." ²¹ Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

²³ Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better **sacrifices** than these.

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

²⁴ For **Christ** has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to **appear** in the presence of God for us;

²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— ²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often

since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has ***appeared*** to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so ***Christ*** was ***offered*** (see 8:3) once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will ***appear*** a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 40

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come Part 4 - Hebrews 9:11-28

Objectives: 1. To see how the work of Jesus has prepared your students, through a cleansed conscience, to serve God, first in worship, then in all of their life.
2. To commit to progressively apply the definitive putting away of sin accomplished by Jesus.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 9:11-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Please turn in a sheet of paper with your name and Psalm 110 on it.

New Scripture Memorization

Teacher Note: This is the character application arterial from the concluding chapter of Hebrews. It will be the final Scripture memorization texts for this school year. The bolded portions show different spheres of the application: **community; benevolence aspects of community (strangers and prisoners); family; business (conduct has primary reference here to vocation); and government.**

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

2 Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. 3 Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

4 **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

5 Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

6 So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

7 Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not

10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

Teacher Note: Use the short amount of time to remind the students of the big [picture in which our more detailed analysis of the text will be set. With today’s text we go from an emphasis on the insufficiencies of the previous covenantal arrangement (particularly when seen apart from Christ!) to the sufficiency of the new one mediated by Jesus.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 9:11-28

9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant

A¹¹ But *Christ* came as High Priest of the good things to come,

B with the greater and more perfect *tabernacle* not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

C¹² Not with the *blood* of goats and calves,

C' but with His own *blood*

B' He entered the *Most Holy Place* once for all,

A' having obtained **eternal redemption**.

A¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer,

B sprinkling the *unclean*,

C sanctifies for the **purifying of the flesh**,

A' ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of *Christ*,

B' who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself *without spot* to God,

C' **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to **serve** the living God?

Discussion

1. In verses 11 and 12, how are the C sections alike, and different from the B sections?

The two halves of the C sections are alike in referencing blood, used in the divine services, earthly then heavenly.

They are different from the B sections, which reference the place of the divine services – earthly and heavenly tabernacles.

The C sections are like the B sections in contrasting the earthly and heavenly service.

This continues the thought of Hebrews 9:1, which spoke of the covenant as consisting in two things – “ordinances of divine service” and “sanctuary.”

Heb 9:1

9:1 Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.

That chapter went on to describe the tabernacle, and the actions of the priest in that tabernacle.

How are the B sections alike, and different from the A sections?

They are alike in focusing on the work of Jesus in the heavenly tabernacle, they are different in that the A sections focus on the result of that work – good things that are now and are coming more and more, linked to eternal redemption. The good thing is equated

with that redemption, the removal of sins, which results in good things increasing in the earth, the new Adam, cleansed of sin, bringing about new beauty in the world.

2. Looking at verses 13 and 14 in parallel, how are they alike?

Both talk about blood and cleansing.

Different?

Verse 14 shows that the cleansing accomplished by Jesus is more effective in giving us a clear conscience before God. Without Jesus, the old covenant rites are absolutely useless in dealing with our defiled consciences. Even pointing toward Jesus, these shadows and images were less able to bring our consciences to rest.

NOTE: It should be pointed out to the students that “dead works” can be more literally translated “works that lead to death” refers to anything we do apart from Christ, all of which bring only death and judgment upon us apart from Him. The Greek word for works is the common word for any labor, not the more specialized word which would point to religious duties or the Divine Liturgy in tabernacle or temple. This term is more comprehensive, not limited to cultic (formal religious) practices.

Also, the student should be focused on the work of the Spirit in this verse. As the fire was the vehicle for the sacrifice to be offered to God, so the Spirit is linked to the work of Jesus. Verses such as Lev. 9:24, 1 Kings 18:38, and 2 Chr. 7:1

Le 9:24 and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

This is significant for us as well. It is the power of the Spirit who empowers us to live our lives for Jesus. Remind the students that the sin of Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10) was using their own fire, not the Spirit-fire, to approach God. In the same way, we must rely on the Spirit’s empowerment for us as well.

In one of the Eucharistic prayers of the church, some communions pray:
“that the Holy Spirit make of us an eternal offering”

Albert Vanhoye, the one whose outline we are using for this course, puts it this way:
“Clearly it is by setting us afire with charity in union with Christ that the Holy Spirit transforms us into a sacrifice which rises to God.” (Structure and Meaning of the Epistle to the Hebrews, Subsidia Biblica 12, page 68.)

Note also the reference to God the Father in verse 14, marking this as a verse of Trinitarian emphasis.

3. According to this section, what is the purpose of the power of the new covenant? Service to God. The word here is the word used of the Divine Liturgy, ritual actions that we perform in worship. But clearly, we only worship in Spirit and truth if we then extend this service throughout the entirety of our lives.

We have been saved to serve, first in worship, then in the world. First in the garden, then in the broader land of Eden. First in Eden, then the outlying lands. First in the tabernacle/temple/church, then In Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth. As Adam was called to serve God by extending the beauty and productivity of the garden over the face of the world, we are saved to the same end – to exercise dominion over the earth. We are saved to love the triune God and transform the fallen world (RCC’s vision statement).

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of **death**, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

¹⁶ For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the **death** of the testator. ¹⁷ For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

¹⁸ Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without **blood**. ¹⁹ For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, “This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you.” ²¹ Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

²³ Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better **sacrifices** than these.

Discussion

4. What is the common theme in the four sections of verses 15-23,

Blood, death, sacrifice. The New Covenant is established by the death of Jesus, the sacrifice of his blood bringing us the blessings of the covenant. The idea is that what he has just said – that we can serve God by means of a cleansed conscience, is accomplished by the death of Jesus.

and what is the relationship of this to the Lord’s Supper?

The Lord’s Supper is a weekly ritual reminder that the death of Jesus is the means by which all the blessings of the testament/covenant are distributed to us, his heirs, and that this is the assurance of the atonement for our sins and the purging/cleansing of our consciences so that we might serve God.

5. How do these verses (vv. 15-23) relate to the concluding verses of the previous section (verses 11-14)?

These verses conclude on the note that the definitive cleansing has occurred through Christ's blood and death. The purification of our consciences are the means by which we enter into the service of God.

Thus, the defiled conscience is shown to be a major stumbling block to our service, but is removed through the blood of Jesus. The appropriation of the atonement, and the resultant clean conscience that God provides us through it, is the engine which drives our service and sanctification.

Ac 24:15,16

¹⁵ I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of *the* dead, both of *the* just and *the* unjust. ¹⁶ This *being* so, ***I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.***

Ac 23:1

23 Then Paul, looking earnestly at the council, said, "Men *and* brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day."

The students should be pushed to discuss this, and to think about their consciences, and to commit to having clean ones.

Additionally, the students are reminded that the Levitical purification offering was the BEGINNING of the Divine Liturgy, modeled after eternal heavenly realities. We are cleansed so that we might ascend, give tribute reflecting our weekly dominion work, and eat the peace offering, rejoicing with the community we have served in love during the week.

We are cleansed, purified, to serve, not to "bide time" for our deaths, nor just to evangelize in the narrow sense, the world. We are brought back to Adam's task of exercising dominion over the earth, and truly enjoying it!

9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
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²⁴ For ***Christ*** has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to ***appear*** in the presence of God for us;

²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— ²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has ***appeared*** to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so ***Christ*** was ***offered*** (see 8:3) once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will ***appear*** a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Discussion

6. According to the last section (verses 24-28) what was the purpose of Christ's sacrifice of Himself?

To put away sin.

TEACHER NOTE; The second appearing of Jesus is a reference to the second coming, when full salvation will be realized. In its fullest sense, salvation is only complete with the resurrection of the believer's body, along with the resurrection of all the body of Christ, not just the individual saint's abiding without the body in the presence of Jesus.

7. What is the significance of this last question for your actions this week?

The students should be asked to commit themselves to watching over their consciences, which are so key to their service of God. And beyond that, they should commit themselves afresh to serve God, not just on the Lord's Day but throughout this week in specific.

If there is time, a discussion of how the students will do this would be very appropriate.

❖ Homework

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 10

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions (older students only):

- 1) What does the author mean by "the law" in verse 1?
- 2) How are verses 2 and 3 similar? Different
- 3) What new information do verses 2 and 3 give compared to 9:10, 14?
- 4) Verses 5-7 quote from Psalm 40:6-8. How and why are they different?
- 5) How does Luke 24:27 relate to verses 4-10?
- 6) What is the shift in topic from verses 4-10 to verses 11-14?
- 7) How does verse 13 relate back to earlier portions of Hebrews?
- 8) What does verse 18 say has ceased?
- 9) How can verses 19-39 be outlined to delineate four parts?

C. Work on memory material

❖ Prayer / Prep for Worship

Hebrews, Chapter 10

10 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - in the volume of the book it is written of Me - to do Your will, O God.’ ”

⁸ Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,” ¹⁷ then He adds, “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.” ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

³² But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³ partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴ for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵ Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

³⁷ “For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”

³⁹ But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 40
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 4 - Hebrews 8:9:11-28

Objectives: 1. To see how the work of Jesus has prepared you, through a cleansed conscience, to serve God, first in worship, then in all of their life.

2. To commit to progressively apply the definitive putting away of sin accomplished by Jesus.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 9:11-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³

Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’ s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

[VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work](#)

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like [Melchizedek](#), High Priest of [good](#) things to come.

Hebrews 8:3 tells us that Jesus is not only the perfect priest, but also the perfect [sacrifice](#).

Hebrews 8:2 and 5 tell us that Jesus is a minister at the true [tabernacle](#) in heaven whereas the tabernacle in the Old Testament was a [copy](#) and a [shadow](#) of this.

Hebrews 8:7-9 tell us that the primary problem with the first covenant was with the [people](#).

The furniture in the tabernacle and the work of the priests in the tabernacle all pointed to [Jesus](#).

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 9:11-28**

Hebrews 8:1-9:10 speaks of the [weakness](#) of the [Old](#) Covenant, whereas Hebrews 9:11-28 speaks of the [strength](#) of the [New](#) Covenant mediated by [Jesus](#).

Verse 11 says that Jesus serves at a greater and more perfect [tabernacle](#)

Verse 12 says that Jesus did not offer the blood of [goats](#) and [calves](#) but He offered his [own](#) blood.

The animal sacrifices were offered [over](#) and [over](#) whereas Jesus' sacrifice was [once](#) for [all](#).

Verse 13 - What did Jesus sacrifice on the cross do that the animal sacrifices couldn't do? (verses 13-14) [Cleanse your conscience](#) from works that lead to [death](#).

In the Levitical worship, what offering pointed to this cleansing of your conscience? [Purification](#)

Read Acts 24:15,16 - Do you have a clean conscience?

Animals were [set on fire](#) to offer them to God and we are “set on fire” (empowered) by the [Holy Spirit](#).

Verse 14 says that the purpose of our salvation in Jesus is to serve God

Verses 15-23 tell us that the establishment of the New Covenant required Jesus' death, blood, and sacrifice

Every Lord's Day we are reminded of this during our celebration of Communion.

According to verse 26, Jesus came to put away sin.

According to verse 27 Jesus will come a second time for our salvation

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 10

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions (older students only):

- 1) What does the author mean by "the law" in verse 1?
- 2) How are verses 2 and 3 similar? Different
- 3) What new information do verses 2 and 3 give compared to 9:10, 14?
- 4) Verses 5-7 quote from Psalm 40:6-8. How and why are they different?
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- 7) How does verse 13 relate back to earlier portions of Hebrews?
- 8) What does verse 18 say has ceased?
- 9) How can verses 19-39 be outlined to delineate four parts?

C. Work on memory material

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 40
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 4 - Hebrews 8:9:11-28

Objectives: 1. To see how the work of Jesus has prepared you, through a cleansed conscience, to serve God, first in worship, then in all of their life.

2. To commit to progressively apply the definitive putting away of sin accomplished by Jesus.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 9:11-28?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³

Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

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Q. 53 - Which is the third commandment?

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54 - What is required in the third commandment?

The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God’ s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like _____, High Priest of _____ things to come.

Hebrews 8:3 tells us that Jesus is not only the perfect priest, but also the perfect _____.

Hebrews 8:2 and 5 tell us that Jesus is a minister at the true _____ in heaven whereas the tabernacle in the Old Testament was a _____ and a _____ of this.

Hebrews 8:7-9 tell us that the primary problem with the first covenant was with the _____.

The furniture in the tabernacle and the work of the priests in the tabernacle all pointed to _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 9:11-28**

Hebrews 8:1-9:10 speaks of the _____ of the _____ Covenant, whereas Hebrews 9:11-28 speaks of the _____ of the _____ Covenant mediated by _____.

Verse 11 says that Jesus serves at a greater and more perfect _____.

Verse 12 says that Jesus did not offer the blood of _____ and _____ but He offered his _____ blood.

The animal sacrifices were offered _____ and _____ whereas Jesus' sacrifice was _____ for _____.

Verse 13 - What did Jesus sacrifice on the cross do that the animal sacrifices couldn't do? (verses 13-14)

_____ from works that lead to _____.

In the Levitical worship, what offering pointed to this cleansing of your conscience?

Read Acts 24:15,16 - Do you have a clean conscience?

Animals were _____ to offer them to God and we are “set on fire”
(empowered) by the _____

Verse 14 says that the purpose of our salvation in Jesus is to _____.

Verses 15-23 tell us that the establishment of the New Covenant required Jesus’ _____,
_____, and _____.

Every Lord’s Day we are reminded of this during our celebration of _____

According to verse 26, Jesus came to put away _____.

According to verse 27 Jesus will come a _____ for our
_____.

❖ **Homework**

A. [Read the attached translation of Hebrews 10](#)

B. [Work on memory material](#)

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 44, September 25 2005

Objectives: 1. To see how the work of Jesus has prepared you, through a cleansed conscience, to serve God, first in worship, then in all of your life.

2. To commit to progressively apply the definitive putting away of sin accomplished by Jesus.

1. Greeting – 1 Minute

2. Attendance and Accountability – 15 Minutes

Please turn in a sheet of paper with your name and Psalm 110 on it.

3. Homework – 1 Minute

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 10

B. Be prepared for a discussion of the following questions:

- 1.) What does the author mean by “the law” in verse 1?
- 2.) How are verses 2 and 3 similar? Different
- 3.) What new information do verses 2 and 3 give compared to 9:10, 14?
- 4.) Verses 5-7 quote from Psalm 40:6-8. How and why are they different?
- 5.) How does Luke 24:27 relate to verses 4-10?
- 6.) What is the shift in topic from verses 4-10 to verses 11-14?
- 7.) How does verse 13 relate back to earlier portions of Hebrews?
- 8.) What does verse 18 say has ceased?
- 9.) How can verses 19-39 be outlined to delineate four parts?

4. New Scripture Memorization – 1 Minute

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

5. WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 1 Minute

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. The duty which God requires of man is **obedience to His revealed will.**

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was **the moral law.**

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

A41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in **the ten commandments.**

6. Outline Review – 6 Minutes

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

*LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”*

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

*LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”*

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

*LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”*

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good

Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema!

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not

. 2)

10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging (October 2)

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance. (October 23, 30)

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth (November 6, 13)

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work (November 13)

Review – November 20

Final Exam on Hebrews and Leviticus – November 27

New Sunday School classes begin on December 4

7. New Material – 20 Minutes

9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant

A¹¹ But **Christ** came as High Priest of the good things to come,

B with the greater and more perfect *tabernacle* not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

C¹² Not with the *blood* of goats and calves,

C' but with His own *blood*

B' He entered the *Most Holy Place* once for all,

A' having obtained **eternal redemption**.

A¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer,

B sprinkling the *unclean*,

C sanctifies for the **purifying of the flesh**,

A' ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of **Christ**,

B' who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself *without spot* to God,

C' **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to **serve** the living God?

Discussion

1. In verses 11 and 12, how are the C sections alike, and different from the B sections?

How are the B sections alike, and different from the A sections?

2. Looking at verses 13 and 14 in parallel, how are they alike?

Different?

3. According to this section, what is the purpose of the power of the new covenant?

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of **death**, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

¹⁶ For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the **death** of the testator. ¹⁷ For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.

¹⁸ Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without **blood**. ¹⁹ For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, “This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you.” ²¹ Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

²³ Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better **sacrifices** than these.

Discussion

4. What is the common theme in the four sections of verses 15-23,

and what is the relationship of this to the Lord’s Supper?

5. How do these verses (vv. 15-23) relate to the concluding verses of the previous section (verses 11-14)?

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

²⁴ For **Christ** has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to **appear** in the presence of God for us;

²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— ²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has **appeared** to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so **Christ** was **offered** (see 8:3) once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will **appear** a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Discussion

6. According to the last section (verses 24-28) what was the purpose of Christ's sacrifice of Himself?

7. What is the significance of this last question for your actions this week?

Homework for October 2 - Hebrews, Chapter 10

10 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - in the volume of the book it is written of Me - to do Your will, O God.’ ”

⁸ Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,” ¹⁷ then He adds, “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will

repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.”³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

³² But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³ partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴ for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵ Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

³⁷ “For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”

³⁹ But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 41

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come Part 5 - Hebrews 10

Objective: To urge the students, at the conclusion of this large doctrinal section, to commit themselves afresh to having “open ears” to hear and do the will of Jesus, the Savior who died for them.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We should live with faith and endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not

10:19-39 Concluding **Exhortations** – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

Teacher: Point out to the students that we leave this central section of Hebrews after today’s lesson. And today’s text has the linking verse to section 5.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 10**

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not

10 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - in the volume of the book it is written of Me - to do Your will, O God.’ ”

⁸ Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,” ¹⁷ then He adds, “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

Discussion (Homework From Last Week – older students only)

1) What does the author mean by “the law” in verse 1?

The laws governing worship. This is the consistent use in this book. Why do we assume that law means the laws governing our morality or civil government? (Answer – while there may be various good reasons for this, one important reason also is that we (America in the 21st century) tend to de-emphasize worship in our culture and exalt the individual and the state. The Ten Words begin with worship, and then move to implications in for the individual’s “normal” life, the family, and culture.)

2) How are verses 2 and 3 similar? Different?

They both discuss the effects of the sacrificial system on the conscience of those that engaged in them. They both talk about the fact that these sacrifices were repeated over and over, indicating that their purpose was not the definitive cleansing of the conscience that Jesus’ sacrifice accomplished.

They are different in that verse 3 says that not only did they not cleanse the conscience, they actually REMINDED those that did them of their sins.

3) What new information do verses 2 and 3 give compared to 9:10, 14?

That the sacrifices actually included a reminder that the full definitive cleansing of the sinner’s conscience was yet future.

4) Verses 5-7 quote from Psalm 40:6-8. How and why are they different?

Ps 40:6 says “Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; *my ears You have opened*. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.”

Hebrews 10:5 says “Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, **but a body You have prepared for Me.**”

First, the author of Hebrews puts these verses from the Psalms in the mouth of the incarnate Christ (“when He came into the world”).

Second, he takes the opening of the ear of the Psalm as a synecdoche.

syn·eck·da·kee

Definition: A figure of speech in which a part is used for the whole (as *hand* for *sailor*), the whole for a part (as *the law* for *police officer*), the specific for the general (as *cutthroat* for *assassin*), the general for the specific (as *thief* for *pickpocket*), or the material for the thing made from it (as *steel* for *sword*).

In this case, the part is being used for the whole, the ear for the body. The circumcised or opened ear is one that is open to the command of the one speaking. He is “all ears,” we say, to hear and do what he is asked. He will sue his whole body to obey what he is instructed to do.

Remember the earlier portions of Hebrews that urged the Hebrews to hear Jesus.

In Chapter 2:1, for instance, the author, after having taught about Jesus being better than angels, having a better name, Son of God and Son of Man, told the Hebrews that we should “give more earnest heed to the things which we have heard.”

One summary way to describe the book of Hebrews is to hear Jesus, the one who speaks from heaven (Hebrews 12:25ff.)

But this doesn't mean just to hear audibly what is said through Jesus' authorities (parents, teachers, pastors, etc.). No, it means listening well enough to KNOW what they are saying. But it doesn't stop there either. It means listening well enough not just to attain intellectual knowledge, but to listen well enough to obey what is being said. So, not just with our ears, but obedience with our whole person is stressed. So, Jesus is the model, once more. His ear is open to the Father, his incarnate body, prepared for him by the Father, is one of total service to the Father.

But there is more to this section of Hebrews than that. The obedience referenced by the opened ear has a very fixed focal point in this section. The main thrust is not a moral lesson on why you should listen to your parents better. That is there. But the main thrust is something much more profound, much more basic to our lives. The thrust of these verses is Jesus' obedience to be the offering, the sacrifice, to die in the body prepared by the Father for him, to be the once for all offering that bulls and goats could never be. This parallelism in these verses is “not bulls and goats, but the body you prepared.” That is, a body to be offered for our salvation. The “doing of Your will” in verse 7 is surely

comprehensive, it refers to the totality of Christ's incarnate life on earth. But its primary focus here is doing the will of the Father by dying for you. Praise God! What love!

5) How does Luke 24:27 relate to verses 4-10?

Lk 24:27: ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

The Psalter, being part of the Scriptures mentioned in this verse, speaks of Jesus. The author is correctly interpreting the Bible by making application to Jesus first, then to us.

6) What is the shift in topic from verses 4-10 to verses 11-14?

From Jesus as offering and sacrifice in verses 4-10, verses 11-14 focus on Jesus as offeror, the one who brings the sacrifice, the priest.

Note that the contrast is being the standing priests and the sitting Jesus.

7) How does verse 13 relate back to earlier portions of Hebrews?

Earlier in this book, there was a large section of this sermon devoted to Psalm 110, with an emphasis on comparing and contrasting Melchizedek and Jesus. Now, verse 13 returns to this Psalm 110, and brings up images of verse 1:

“The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

These are now the days in which we live. The gospel is going forth, the good news that Jesus died for sinners, and rose to reign. The gospel is conquering the world. Jesus waits to return until all of the world has been made his footstool through faith and obedience. We said at the beginning of this book that Christ's priesthood and kingly rule are tied together in this book. And here we have a very explicit reference to this great truth.

8) What does verse 18 say has ceased?

Verses 15-17 sum up this section, which has in some ways been a mini-sermon on Jeremiah 31:31-34.

Remember the major sections of Hebrews?

It began with a catena, a string of verses (1:1-2:4), then moved to Psalm 8 (2:5-18), then on to Psalm 95 (3:1-4:13), then to Psalm 110 (4:14-7:28) then to Jeremiah 31:31-34 (8:1-10:31). This would be one very acceptable and useful way to outline the book. And we shall see next week that the new part of our outline will focus on yet another important Old Testament text: Habakkuk 2.

But this section concludes with a statement that there remains no more an offering for sin, that is, it focuses on the end of the Old Testament purification offering. Once more, we see the stress laid on the cleansing, the purification of the worshipper's conscience from sin, preparing him to draw near to God and serve Him, both in worship, then in his life.

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

³² But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³ partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴ for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵ Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

³⁷ "For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

³⁹ But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Discussion

9) How can verses 19-39 be outlined to delineate four parts?

I. Verses 19-25 – exhortation

Based on the exposition, we now have exhortation. Three let "uses"

Let us draw near – go to church

Let Us hold fast our confession – live lives in keeping with church

Let us encourage one another, by our attendance and activities on Sunday (not forsaking,,,) and (by implication) throughout the week by our actions and words.

II. Verses 26-31 – very strong warnings if we fail to have opened ears, so to speak. A “terrible expectation of judgment.”

The increased blessings of the times after Jesus are also times of increase curses and judgments if we neglect so great a salvation. The New Testament times are more dangerous to live in than the old.

III. Verses 32-35 – A calling to mind of their former faithfulness, even unto suffering persecution.

IV. Verses 36-39 – A final call to live with endurance and in faith, the subjects of the next section of this sermon. These are the link verses to section five.

As this fourth section of the sermon opened with strong exhortations, warnings and a reminder of their former faithfulness (5:1-6:20), so it closes. This is a pastoral sermon, and this central doctrinal section shows that, as it opens and closes urging the hearers to be true hearers indeed.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.

(Teacher: Make sure the students look at the last sheet of their handouts (Hebrews chapter 11) and understand what you mean by “sections.”)

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Name _____

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1: ___ - ___ The Father's Final _____ - The _____ and
_____ Son

II. 1:5-___:18 A Better Name Than _____ - Son of _____ and Son of

III. 3: ___-5:10 A Better _____ - _____ : Source of Faithfulness, Rest,

IV. 5:11-10: ___ - Christ, A _____ Like Melchizedek, High Priest of
_____ Things to _____

V. ___:1-12: ___ - We Should Live with _____ and
_____.

VI. 12: ___-13:19 - Strong _____, Straight _____ -
Living in _____ Community on _____

VII. 13:20-___ - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every _____

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 41
Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
Part 5 - Hebrews 10

Objective: To urge the you, at the conclusion of this large doctrinal section, to commit themselves afresh to having “open ears” to hear and do the will of Jesus, the Savior who died for you.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

2 Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

4 **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

5 Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

6 So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

7 Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like _____, High Priest of _____ things to come.

Hebrews 8 tells us that Jesus is the Great High Priest of a better _____ which was established on better _____ than the Old Covenant.

Hebrews 9 tells us that Jesus came as High Priest to offer _____ as the perfect sacrifice.

Jesus’ sacrifice cleanses our _____ and puts away _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 10**

In Hebrews, when the author speaks of the “law” he is speaking about laws regarding the _____ of God..

Verses 1-4 say that the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament did not permanently cleanse the people from their _____ but actually _____ them of their sins year after year.

Verses 5-7 are a quote from Psalm _____ and speak of the willingness of Jesus to _____ the Father and give up His life as the _____ sacrifice for sin.

Verses 11-18:

How often did the priests have to perform the offerings in the Old Testament? _____

How many times did Jesus have to offer Himself for the forgiveness of our sins? _____

According to verses 12-13, where is Jesus now? _____

What is He doing? _____

Who will God use to defeat all of his enemies? _____

True or False Verses 14-18 say that, because of Jesus' sacrifice of Himself on the cross, there is no longer any need for more sacrifices.

Verses 19-39:

What are the three "Let us's" of verses 19-25

1.

2.

3.

What do verses 26-31 say will happen to us if we reject Jesus and His sacrifice for our sin?

_____.

In Verses 32-35, the author of Hebrews tells the readers to _____ their former faithfulness, even in the face of _____.

What do the Hebrew Christians need according to verse 36? _____.

Verses 37-39 say that the Hebrew Christians must live by _____.

This gives us a clue that Section V of the book of Hebrews will tell us that we should live with _____ and _____.

According to verse 38, how does God view a Christian who does not live with faith and endurance?

_____.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 41

Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Part 5 - Hebrews 10

Objective: To urge the you, at the conclusion of this large doctrinal section, to commit themselves afresh to having “open ears” to hear and do the will of Jesus, the Savior who died for you.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews Hebrews 10?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

2 Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

4 **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

5 Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

6 So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

7 Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Expansion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory Exhortation - Shema!
7:1-28 Jesus is High Priest of the Superior Order of Melchizedek
8:1-6 Heavenly Patterns for Earthly Work 8:7-13 The Old Covenant Was Provisional and Imperfect 9:1-10 The Weakness of the Old Covenant 9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come
9:11-14 The Power of the New Covenant 9:15-23 The New Covenant Is Established 9:24-28 Access to Heaven , Closer Relationship to God
10:1-18 The Offering of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not 10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

❖ **Review**

In section IV of our study of Hebrews (5:11-10:39) we are learning that Jesus is a priest like Melchizedek, High Priest of good things to come.

Hebrews 8 tells us that Jesus is the Great High Priest of a better covenant which was established on better promises than the Old Covenant.

Hebrews 9 tells us that Jesus came as High Priest to offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice.

Jesus' sacrifice cleanses our conscience and puts away sin.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 10**

In Hebrews, when the author speaks of the “law” he is speaking about laws regarding the worship of God..

Verses 1-4 say that the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament did not permanently cleanse the people from their sins but actually reminded them of their sins year after year.

Verses 5-7 are a quote from Psalm 40 and speak of the willingness of Jesus to obey the Father and give up His life as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

Verses 11-18:

How often did the priests have to perform the offerings in the Old Testament? daily

How many times did Jesus have to offer Himself for the forgiveness of our sins? once

According to verses 12-13, where is Jesus now? At the right hand of the Father in heaven

What is He doing? Waiting until all of His enemies are defeated

Who will God use to defeat all of his enemies? Me (the church)

True of False Verses 14-18 say that, because of Jesus' sacrifice of Himself on the cross, there is no longer any need for more sacrifices.

Verses 19-39:

What are the three "Let us's" of verses 19-25

1. **Draw near to God (go to church)**
2. **Hold fast our confession (live Christian lives)**
3. **Consider one another to stir up love and good works by gathering together each Lord's Day**

What do verses 26-31 say will happen to us if we reject Jesus and His sacrifice for our sin?

Certain fearful expectation of judgment

In Verses 32-35, the author of Hebrews tells the readers to remember their former faithfulness, even in the face of persecution.

What do the Hebrew Christians need according to verse 36? endurance.

Verses 37-39 say that the Hebrew Christians must live by faith.

This gives us a clue that Section V of the book of Hebrews will tell us that we should live with faith and endurance.

According to verse 38, how does God view a Christian who does not live with faith and endurance?
He has no pleasure in them.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Homework - Hebrews 11

A¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

B⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

C⁵ By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

D⁶ 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.

E⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

F⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

G¹¹ By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

H¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.

¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

G¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

F²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

E²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king’s command. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

D³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

C³² And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: ³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. ³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again.

B³⁶ Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁷ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. ³⁸ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— ³⁹ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

A³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 45, October 2 2005

Objective: To urge you, here at the conclusion of this large doctrinal section, to commit yourself afresh to having “open ears” to hear and do the will of Jesus, the Savior who died for you.

1. **Greeting – 1 Minute**

2. **Attendance and Accountability – 3 Minutes**
Return of Memory Verse Quiz

3. **Homework – 1 Minute**

- A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.
- B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

4. **Scripture Memorization – 1 Minute**

Hebrews 13:1-8

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

5. **WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 1 Minute**

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. the duty which God requires of man is **obedience to His revealed will**.

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was **the moral law**.

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

Q41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in **the ten commandments**.

6. Outline Review – 6 Minutes

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come
*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance. (October 23, 30)

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth (Nov. 6, 13)

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work (November 13)

7. New Material – 20 Minutes

Context: Conclusion of Section IV

5:1-6:20 Introductory **Exhortation** - Shema!

7:1-28 Jesus is High **Priest** of the Superior Order of Melchizedek

8:1-6 **Heavenly Patterns** for Earthly Work

8:7-13 The **Old Covenant** Was Provisional and Imperfect

9:1-10 The Weakness of the **Old Covenant**

9:11 High Priest of Good Things to Come

9:11-14 The Power of the **New Covenant**

9:15-23 The **New Covenant** Is Established

9:24-28 Access to **Heaven**, Closer Relationship to God

10:1-18 The **Offering** of Jesus Accomplished What the Old Offerings Could Not
. 2)

10:19-39 Concluding Exhortations – Live By Faith, Assembling and Encouraging

. 2)

10 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come - in the volume of the book it is written of Me - to do Your will, O God.’ ”

⁸ Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,” ¹⁷ then He adds, “Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

Discussion (Homework From Last Week)

1.) What does the author mean by “the law” in verse 1?

2.) How are verses 2 and 3 similar? Different

3.) What new information do verses 2 and 3 give compared to 9:10, 14?

4.) Verses 5-7 quote from Psalm 40:6-8. How and why are they different?

- 5.) How does Luke 24:27 relate to verses 4-10?

- 6.) What is the shift in topic from verses 4-10 to verses 11-14?

- 7.) How does verse 13 relate back to earlier portions of Hebrews?

- 8.) What does verse 18 say has ceased?

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

³² But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³ partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴ for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵ Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

³⁷ "For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

³⁹ But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Discussion

9.) How can verses 19-39 be outlined to delineate four parts?

Homework for October 23 - Hebrews, Chapter 11

A¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

B⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

C⁵ By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

D⁶ 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.

E⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

F⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

G¹¹ By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

H¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

G'¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

F'²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and

worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

E' ²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

D' ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

C' ³² And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: ³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. ³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again.

B' Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

A' ³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 42
We Should Live With Faith and Endurance
Part 1 - Hebrews 11

Objective: To help the students to understand that faith involves both strong belief and courageous action, looking to the present realities of Christ’s reign and to the future hope

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 11?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ Review

a. Hebrews 1:1-10:18 – Credenda – “Things to be believed”

Purpose – To encourage Jewish Christians to faithfulness and endurance in the midst of persecution and temptation to compromise (i.e. to go along with the Jewish sacrificial system without pointing to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of it)

Jesus is...

- better than the prophets
- better than the angels
- a better High Priest
- better than Moses
- a better King/Priest than Melchizedek

Jesus brings...

- A better covenant with a
- better tabernacle and
- better laws of worship with a
- better offering (Himself)

b. Hebrews 10:19-13:25 – Agenda – “Things to be done”

- **Hebrews 10:19-21** – “Therefore...”

- 1) Having boldness...
- 2) Having a High Priest...

- **Hebrews 10:22-25**

- Let us:
- a) draw near
 - b) hold fast
 - c) consider one another

- **Hebrews 10:26-31** – **Warning! Warning!**

- Hebrews 10:32-39 – Run in faith (in Christ), with endurance (see v. 32,36), looking to your future hope

❖ Lesson

Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.

A. Introduction (11:1-3)

B. Abel's example of suffering on account of faith (11:4)

C. Enoch's example of triumph through faith (11:5)

D. Principle of faith: Impossible to please God without faith (11:6)

E. Example of faith seen through Noah (11:7)

F. Abraham's faith (11:8-10)

G. Sarah's conception of Isaac by faith (11:11-12)

H. Middle section: Interim comment (11:13-16)

G' Abraham's offering up of Isaac by faith (11:17-19)

F' Faith of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph (11:20-22)

E' Examples of faith seen in the Mosaic era (11:23-29)

D' Examples of faith in conquering Jericho (11:30-31)

C' Examples of those who triumphed through faith (11:33-35a)

B' Examples of others who suffered on account of faith (11:35b-38)

A' Conclusion (11:39-40)

Introduction

Hebrews 10:36 – For you have need of endurance so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.

So... 1) Look ahead to the promise

2) Live by faith

3) Don't draw back!! (10:37-39)

Here are some examples of men and women who have gone before you who have done just that!! Chapter 11

A (11:1-3) / A'(11:39-40) – Faith - Introduction and Conclusion

A. Introduction - What is faith? (11:1-3)

Substance of things hoped for – Future realities that are not yet fulfilled but that will certainly come to pass

Evidence of things not seen – Present realities that I cannot see yet are certainly true

This is an intentional paradox – Leithart – “Faith is directed beyond visible reality to an invisible and future reality that is certainly true”

And what are those things hoped for? Our adoption, the redemption of our bodies, to be raised incorruptible, and enter into the eternal kingdom of glory. To be conformed to Christ in His glorious body.

And what are those things not seen?
Heavenly things; the reality of Christ's heavenly
enthronement; the heavenly tabernacle and the priestly ministry of the greater Melchizedek

Keith Green – “This world is much more than the things that surround you. Open your eyes!”

Ultimately...Jesus is the hoped for one!
Ultimately...Jesus is the unseen one!
Thus, faith is the substance and evidence of Christ!!

Faith -
It's not just: Me -----→ Jesus
But rather it is Christ in me!!!

Colossians 1:25-29 ... of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,²⁶ the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.²⁷ To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**²⁸ **Him** we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.²⁹ To this *end* I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Thus faith is what we say, think or do that demonstrates to God, ourselves, and to the sinful, lost world that Jesus Christ is in us...and that only He is the hope of the world

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

When the world sees you walking in faith, they are seeing Jesus, the unseen, hoped for one!!

So, the author of Hebrews is going to now give examples of men and women who

- 1) Looked ahead to the promise of the coming Messiah and the heavenly kingdom
- 2) Lived by faith through endurance in doing the will of God despite hardship and not seeing the promise fulfilled in their own lifetimes
- 3) Didn't draw back!! (10:37-39)

A' – Conclusion (11:39-40)

v. 39 – What promise did the OT saints not receive? – See H below (the heavenly city)

v. 40 – What was the “something better” that the OT saints did not receive, but that NT saints do? → Jesus Himself, who is the better...EVERYTHING and the mediator of the new covenant!!!

None of the OT saints that the author will talk about received the promise that they were running toward...the city of God, Mt. Zion and Jesus Himself. But the Jewish Christians that the author is writing to have:

Hebrews 12:22-24 But you **have come** to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,²⁴ to **Jesus the Mediator** of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

Yet, even these NT Christians have not seen the final fulfillment of all of these promises:

Hebrews 13:14 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

So, they have need of endurance and running the race of faith with perseverance too!

H – Middle Section: Interim comment (11:13-16)

Hebrews 11:13-16 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were **strangers and pilgrims on the earth**.¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind **that country** from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, **a heavenly country**. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

So, these Jewish Christians are to have their eyes not on their current troubles, but on the heavenly city, on their future hope...on Jesus...and God will not be ashamed of them.

Do not read - So, this eschatological orientation of faith is introduced in verses 1-3, restated in verses 13-16, and summarized in verses 39-40. In between these summary statements, the author cited examples of faith from the OT to illustrate this forward-looking aspect of faith. Faith in Hebrews, then, involves the present and the future.

G (11:11-12) and G' (11:17-19)

Basis of the chiasm –

G – Sarah's conception of Isaac by faith

G' – Abraham's offering up of Isaac by faith

- Both refer to Isaac

- Both emphasize steadfastness of faith while waiting for the fulfillment of God's

promises (see v. 11b, 17b)

- Both have resurrection themes

G – Sarah is past the age of giving life; Abraham was “as good as dead” yet a multitude is born of Him

G' – Isaac is as good as dead in Abraham's eyes, yet he is “Resurrected” when God stays his hand from slaying Isaac. “only begotten son” v. 17 – a possible reference to Jesus' resurrection

F (11:8-10) and F' (11:20-22)

Basis of the chiasm –

F – Abraham's faith

F' – Faith of Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Both mention Isaac and Jacob

- Both deal with the forward looking faith of the patriarchs mentioned (see v. 10, 20b, 21, 22) i.e forward to the Promised Land, the coming of Jesus, and the heavenly city beyond Jesus' times

E (11:7) and E' (11:23-29)

Basis of the chiasm –

E – Example of faith seen through Noah

E' – Examples of faith seen in the Mosaic era

- Both deal with **water** experiences – Noah and family saved via the flood which killed the enemies of God, Moses and the Israelites saved via the Red Sea which killed the enemies of God

- Both deal with faith that is marked by **obedience** in the face of future events – Noah prepared the ark (flood came 100 years after the start of construction!); Moses parents disobeyed Pharaoh's edict and Moses forsook Egypt and the relative "safety and peace" it offered him and he kept the Passover, looking forward to the exodus.

Faith is not just belief...it is action!!!

- Both point to Jesus – Noah is called the "heir of righteousness which is according to faith (a lot like Paul's justification by faith in Jesus); Moses "esteeming the reproach of Christ" just as Christ chose to endure the cross and despised the shame of it

D (11:6) and D' (11:30-31)

Basis of the chiasm – At first glance doesn't seem like they should be paired – a statement with a historical account

D – Principle of faith; Impossible to please God without faith

D' – Examples of faith in conquering Jericho

- v. 6 says that without faith it is impossible to please God → v. 30 is the story of the faithful second generation of Israel conquering Jericho after the first generation failed to demonstrate faith in God by being unwilling to enter the Promised Land.

- v. 6 says that he who comes to God must believe that He is → v. 31 Rahab believed that the God of Israel is the one true God (read Joshua 2:8-14)

- V. 6 says that he who comes to God must believe that God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him → Rahab hides the spies and asks in faith to be protected by Gods people. She is future oriented (thinking of the preservation of her family for the future)

C (11:5) and C' (11:32-35a)

Basis of the chiasm

C – Enoch's example of triumph through faith – see Genesis 5:21-24

He was taken because he pleased God by walking in obedience, steadfastness, and a forward looking aspect for 300 years

C' – Examples of those who triumphed through faith –

Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel – read v. 33-34 for all of the examples of **faith in action!!**

Women received their dead raised to life again – a resurrection motif (could go with B' instead of C')

B (11:4) and B' (11:35b-40)

Basis of the chiasm

B - Abel's example of suffering on account of faith

Still speaks? – Could refer to his offering made in faith since the emphasis of the verse is on his offering. Though Abel is dead, his offering still speaks...life from death, a resurrection motif

B' – Examples of others who suffered on account of faith

- Hope of the resurrection – v. 35b (and 35a too!)

❖ Homework

A. Read Hebrews Chapters 11 and 12

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ Prayer / Prep for Worship

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 42
We Should Live With Faith and Endurance
Part 1 - Hebrews 11

Objective: To help you to understand that faith involves both strong belief and courageous action, looking to the present realities of Christ’s reign and to the future hope

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 11?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ Review

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage _____ Christians to live with _____ and _____ in the midst of _____ and temptation to _____.

2) Hebrews 1:1-10-18 is the _____ section of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to _____.

3) Hebrews 10:19-13:25 is the _____ portion of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to _____.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 11 – See handout

1) Hebrews 10:36-39 says that we need _____ and so we should

a)

b)

c)

2) According to Hebrews 11:1, faith is the substance of things _____ for, the evidence of things not _____.

Ultimately, faith is the substance and evidence of _____.

3) According to Hebrews 11:39-40 , what promise did the Old Testament saints NOT receive?

_____, ultimately _____

3) The center section of Hebrews 11 says that the Jewish Christians (and we) are

_____ and _____ on the earth and that they should have their eyes on their future hope, the _____ city and on _____.

4) The G sections of Hebrews 11 both talk about:

a)

b)

c)

- 5) The F sections of Hebrews 11 both mention _____ and _____ and both talk about looking _____ to the Promised Land , the coming of Jesus and the heavenly city.
- 6) The E sections of Hebrews 11 both deal with _____, both deal with faith that is marked by _____ and both point to _____.
- 7) The D sections of Hebrews 11 are about faith in _____.
- 8) The C sections of Hebrews 11 are all about Christians who _____ through faith.
- 9) The B sections of Hebrews 11 are about Christians who _____ for their faith.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews chapters 11 and 12

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 42
We Should Live With Faith and Endurance
Part 1 - Hebrews 11

Objective: To help you to understand that faith involves both strong belief and courageous action, looking to the present realities of Christ's reign and to the future hope

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 11?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

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Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ Review

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage Jewish Christians to live with faith and endurance in the midst of suffering and temptation to compromise.

2) Hebrews 1:1-10-18 is the “credenda” section of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to believe.

3) Hebrews 10:19-13:25 is the “agenda” portion of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to do.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 11 – See handout

1) Hebrews 10:36-39 says that we need endurance and so we should

a) Look ahead to the promise

b) Live by faith

c) Don't draw back

2) According to Hebrews 11:1, faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Ultimately, faith is the substance and evidence of Jesus.

3) According to Hebrews 11:39-40, what promise did the Old Testament saints NOT receive?

The heavenly city, ultimately Jesus

3) The center section of Hebrews 11 says that the Jewish Christians (and we) are

strangers and pilgrims on the earth and that they should have their eyes

on their future hope, the heavenly city and on Jesus.

4) The G sections of Hebrews 11 both talk about:

a) Isaac b) patient faith c) resurrection

- 5) The F sections of Hebrews 11 both mention Isaac and Jacob and both talk about looking foward to the Promised Land , the coming of Jesus and the heavenly city.
- 6) The E sections of Hebrews 11 both deal with water, both deal with faith that is marked by obedience and both point to Jesus.
- 7) The D sections of Hebrews 11 are about faith in action.
- 8) The C sections of Hebrews 11 are all about Christians who triumphed through faith.
- 9) The B sections of Hebrews 11 are about Christians who suffered for their faith.

❖ **Homework**

A. Read Hebrews chapters 11 and 12

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Hebrews 11

A¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

B⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

C⁵ By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

D⁶ 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.

E⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

F⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

G¹¹ By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

H¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

G'¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,¹⁸ of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,”¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

F'²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.²² By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

E'²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

D'³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days.³¹ By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

C'³² And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets:³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again.

B' Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

A'³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1:1 - ___ The _____ Final Word - The Bright and _____
Son

II. 1: ___ -2:18 A Better _____ Than Angels - Son of _____ and Son of _____

III. 3: ___ -5: ___ A Better High - _____ : Source of _____, Rest,

IV. 5:11- ___ :39 - Christ, A Priest Like _____, High Priest of Good
_____ to _____

V. ___ :1-12: ___ - We _____ Live with _____ and
_____.

VI. 12: ___ -13:19 - _____ Hands , _____ Paths -
_____ in Heavenly _____ on Earth

VII. 13:20- ___ - _____ : Completeness Unto _____ Good

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class, Week 48, October 23 2005

Objective: To help the students to understand that faith involves both strong belief and courageous action, looking to the present realities of Christ's reign and to the future hope

1. **Greeting – 1 Minute**
2. **Attendance and Accountability – 3 Minutes**
3. **Homework – 1 Minute**
 - A. Read Hebrews Chapters 12
 - B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).
4. **Scripture Memorization – 1 Minute**

Hebrews 13:1-8

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

5. **WSC Material for Fourth Quarter – 1 Minute**

Q39. What is the duty which God requires of man?

A39. The duty which God requires of man is **obedience to His revealed will.**

Q40. What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

A40. The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was **the moral law.**

Q41. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended?

A41. The moral law is summarily comprehended in **the ten commandments.**

6. **Outline Review – 6 Minutes**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

IV. 5:11-10:39 Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

*Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**...,the just shall live by **faith**”*

V. 11:1-12:13 We should live with faith and endurance. (October 23, 30)

VI. 12:14-13:19 Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth (Nov. 6, 13)

VII. 13:20-25 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work (November 13)

7. Review

a. Hebrews 1:1-10:18 – Credenda – “Things to be believed”

Purpose – To encourage Jewish Christians to faithfulness and endurance in the midst of persecution and temptation to compromise (i.e. to go along with the Jewish sacrificial system without pointing to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of it)

Jesus is...

- better than the _____
- better than the _____
- a better _____
- better than _____
- a better _____ / _____ than _____

Jesus brings...

- A better _____ with a
- better _____ and
- better _____ of _____ with a
- better _____ (Himself)

b. Hebrews 10:19-13:25 – Agenda – “Things to be done”

- **Hebrews 10:19-21** – “Therefore...”

1) Having _____ ...

2) Having a _____ ...

- **Hebrews 10:22-25**

Let us: a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

- **Hebrews 10:26-31** – **Warning! Warning!**

- **Hebrews 10:32-39** – **Run in faith (in Christ), with endurance (see v. 32,36), looking to your future hope**

8. New Material – 20 Minutes

Read the attached translation of Hebrews 11, and be prepared to discuss how the various

sections (A and A', B and B', etc.) match up with each other.

Introduction

Hebrews 10:36 – For you have need of endurance so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.

So...1)

2)

3)

Here are some examples of men and women who have gone before you who have done just that!! Chapter 11

A (11:1-3) / A'(11:39-40) – Faith - Introduction and Conclusion

A. Introduction - What is faith? (11:1-3)

Substance of things hoped for –

Evidence of things not seen -

Keith Green – “This world is much more than the things that surround you. Open your eyes!”

Ultimately..._____ is the hoped for one!

Ultimately..._____ is the unseen one!

Thus, faith is the substance and evidence of _____!!

A' – Conclusion (11:39-40)

v. 39 – What promise did the OT saints not receive? –

v. 40 – What was the “something better” that the OT saints did not receive, but that NT saints do?

H – Middle Section: Interim comment (11:13-16)

G (11:11-12) and G' (11:17-19)

G –

G' –

F (11:8-10) and F' (11:20-22)

F –

F' –

E (11:7) and E' (11:23-29)

E –

E' –

D (11:6) and D' (11:30-31)

D –

D' –

C (11:5) and C' (11:32-35a)

C –

C' –

B (11:4) and B' (11:35b-40)

B -

B' –

PRAYER

Homework for October 23 - Hebrews, Chapter 11

A¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

B⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

C⁵ By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

D⁶ 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.

E⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

F⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

G¹¹ By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

H¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵ And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

G'¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

F' ²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

E' ²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

D' ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

C' ³² And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: ³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. ³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again.

B' Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

A' ³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 43
We Should Live With Faith and Endurance
Part 2 - Hebrews 12:1-13

Objective: To help your students to be finishers, even when it's painful.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 11-12?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

TEACHER: We are transitioning today from the first section of V (“We Should Live with Faith”) to the second (“and Endurance”). These two topics were announced at the end of the fourth section, by the verses cited below (Heb. 10:36-39). Next week, we move to outline section VI, with its emphasis on community.

Teacher: The test on this outline and the memory verse is just four weeks away. Try to make sure all the students are ready!

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 12:1-13

A. Run With Endurance (Focus on Jesus) – Hebrews 12:1-3

1 Therefore *we* also, since *we* are surrounded by so great a *cloud of witnesses* [Chapter 11]; let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us **run** with **endurance** the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and **finisher of our faith**, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the **cross**, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the **throne** of God. ³ For consider Him who **endured** such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Illustration 1 - A Race

Teacher Notes:

The “therefore” links this section to the last, but opens a new section. The reference to the witnesses also links this back to the “hall of faith” in Chapter 11. The imagery is that these saints, now in heaven are in the stadium as we run the race that is ours. They are “attested witnesses” (11:39 – NKJV “having obtained a good testimony”). They are witnesses (12:1, same root word as 11: 39).

They ran wonderfully and faithfully. How shall we run? Faith is evidenced by us running with endurance. Faith starts, but also finishes the race, exhibiting endurance. This is the central character quality focused on in this section of the text and in our lesson – endurance, so that we might finish the race. The emphasis in this lesson is the call to not just be beginners of the race, not to just get out of the blocks well, so to speak, and not just faithful runners for a portion of our lives, but to be finishers of the race. This (finishing

well) requires endurance when the going gets tough, wearisome, boring, monotonous or whatever.

“Endurance” means staying with something in spite of temptations to quit. It means to be finishers of tasks that turn out to be more difficult than we might have first expected. It can be thought of as “actualized faith.”

There are two keys to endurance given in this section:

First, we are told that one of the keys to endurance is confessing and loosing ourselves from sin. The imagery is that sin, when not dealt with Biblically, will either weigh us down, or bind us up, and endanger our ability to be finishers. A sprinter doesn't run dressed in a long tight robe that would impede his movements. Nor does he sprint carrying 100 pound weights! He will get so tired he will not finish well, or perhaps even finish at all!

Second, we are pointed to our exemplar, our great King and Savior, who finished his race well. In John 4:54, Jesus said “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.”

Jesus is not just an example. He is that of course. He finished his race, and the result was the victor's crown. Rather than focus on short-term joy, he focused on long-term rewards, and thus finished the race. This is surely to be an example to us. **No cross, no crown!** Crucifixion is followed by resurrection and ascension. We, like Jesus, die to live, suffer so that we might receive the reward, endure the cross for the great reward of the promised crown. This requires faith, so faith and endurance are vitally linked character qualities.

Heb 11:6 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.

Jesus is also an example to us in how MUCH he suffered. The text draws our eyes to Him who endured great opposition and sufferings from sinners. Mocked, scourged, beaten beyond recognition, crown of thorns, crucifixion, and more – separation from the Father for our sakes. When we are tempted to quit, or to slow down in our race, to be less faithful and not endure, we are to meditate on Jesus, His sufferings and His great reward.

But Jesus is said in verse two to be the author and finisher of OUR faith. It is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, dealing with our sin and giving us His finishing strength, which yields endurance in us. We are to call on the Holy Spirit who comes to bring us things of Jesus, to give us the strength to endure that we do not have – the endurance of the Lord Jesus Christ, that He might be the finisher of our race.

B. The Meaning of Suffering (Focus on Christians) – Hebrews 12:4-12

1. Sonship and Sanctifying Suffering – Verses 4-8

⁴ *You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.* [Hinge] ⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to **sons**: “*My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;* ⁶ *For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.*” (Prov. 3:11,12 - *Midrash*) ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with **sons**; for what **son** is there whom a father does not chasten? ⁸ But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not **sons**.

Illustration 2 – A Boxing Match

The analogy now changes from a race to a boxing match (*striving* against sin). This shift in focus introduces a new topic: the meaning of *our* sufferings. Another key to the practice of endurance is to recognize the **source and meaning** of trials – they are the chastening that demonstrates the Father’s love for us.

In this section, the notion of endurance is developed by the word “chastening” *v. 5, 7, 8,11 and nowhere else in the book).

Moving from the cloud of witnesses to the race we run, the text now becomes a “midrash.” A “midrash” is a commentary on a particular biblical text as it applies to the specific situation the author is addressing in his direct experience. So, here, the writer to the Hebrews calls up Proverbs 3:11,12 and applies the lessons to the situation faced by those he is writing to. This midrash will continue into the second part of this section on the meaning of suffering.

Pr 3:11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction;
12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights.

In verses 7 and 8 he uses the Proverbs text to speak to the necessity of paternal discipline for true sonship. Another key to our endurance is to see the trials and sufferings that might otherwise cause us to consider quitting, as evidences of the Father’s love for us as true sons of His, and thus redouble our efforts to please Him.

This is very important for us. Satan tempted Adam and Eve to doubt the intentions of God as Father to them. He made them think that God had his own interests in mind when he commanded them, rather than their best interests. When we have trials, we will be tempted to Adamic sin, doubting the love of God. But His sure and faithful word tells us that these very trials are actually demonstrations of His great love for us. And, on top of this, the example of Jesus facing the ultimate suffering of all time for our sakes is further evidence of His love to us, and cause for endurance.

The relationship we have to fathers is the constant source of movies, songs, books and more. That's because, in the fall, we are prone to doubt the love of God. We feel alienated from our heavenly fathers, and usually, to our earthly fathers as well. This is particularly true when the going gets tough. But the tough get going when they mediate on the love of the Father for them, even proven in the difficult times we encounter as we run our races.

A key to being a finisher when the times are difficult is to remember that the very trials that seem evidence of the Father's displeasure of us are actually evidences of His love and our true sonship.

The transition sentence into this section, with its reference to the shedding of blood, points us back to Jesus, whose shed blood was the great demonstration of the Father's love, and should be brought to mind whenever we are tempted to doubt God's love and quit.

1 Jn 4:9, 10 ⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but *that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

2. The Discipline of Human and Divine Fathers: Character, Intention and Results – Verses 9-11

⁹ *Furthermore* [link], we have had human **fathers** who corrected us, and we *paid them respect (entrepo)*. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the **Father** of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For **they** indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but **He** for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

As the midrash continues, the proper response to the necessary discipline of true sons is given to us. Here, the focus shifts to fathers, human and divine. Our fathers discipline us in love, but they are prone to error and sin. Sometimes they will get it wrong, and sometimes, they will discipline in sin. But still, true children count their fathers worthy of being paid respect. But the Divine Father, God, is unlike our earthly fathers. He NEVER gets it wrong, and NEVER sins! How much more, then, should we respond to chastisements by paying respect to our Father in Heaven. This respect is shown by us finishing the tasks we are called to, our race, our life of faithfulness to Jesus, our endurance.

So, we have the **necessity** of fatherly discipline (love for true sons), the **proper response** (respect), and then the text moves to the **benefits** of the chastisements. The benefit is holiness. Later, we will be told that without holiness, no one will see the Lord. So, there is great benefit to the discipline that God brings to us. So, we are encouraged to be finishers, to remember that the trials that may tempt us to quit are marks of true love and our sonship, come from a loving Father who never errs, and come for the purpose of

increasing our holiness, yielding peace and righteousness as Abba Father trains us as His sons, His image-bearers in Christ.

3. Finish the Race – Verse 13

¹² *Therefore* [hinge] strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, ¹³ and make straight *paths* for your feet, so that what is lame may not be *dislocated (ektrepo)*, but rather be healed.

Now, at the conclusion of this section, we return to the race analogy, and to the exhortation to finish the race with endurance. The analogy is marked by the use of the word “path”, so, we are to be finishers of the race.

While the reference seem to be first to our own hands, knees and feet, there seems a shift to toes at the conclusion of this section, which will set us up for next week’s lesson.

How about you? Are you a finisher? While the text is talking about enduring to the end of one’s life, that race is marked by various mileposts. Do you finish tasks that your parents have given you? Do you finish even though the going gets tough? Or is your life marked by various unfinished projects dotting the landscape? We serve a finisher – the Lord Jesus Christ – who calls us to be finishers as well. Without endurance, we won’t finish anything. Faith is evidenced by an enduring through difficult times. Jesus is the great example, who endured, and is now enthroned at the right hand of the Father, ruling. Will you rule for Jesus in your homes, vocations and entertainments? Will you exhibit the endurance of the one whose name you bear – Christ? Will you be a finisher?

❖ Homework

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 12:14-29 (all students), and be prepared to answer the following questions (older students only):

1. What is the significance of the bolded and underlined terms (“all people” “anyone” “many”) in the flow of the movement of this sermon?
 2. Based on the parallel texts that begin and end the text, how is service to God defined? Holiness? How do the threatened judgments compliment each other?
 3. What specific ways can you fulfill your obligations, as listed in this text?
 4. How does the writer’s use of Esau on the one hand, and Mount Sinai on the other, differ?
 5. What was Esau’s problem?
 6. Compare and contrast the two mountains. Think of access, prima facie (first glance) fear, worship, mediator, implications, etc.
 7. What did worship at Zion look like? What was its relationship to Temple worship? How does this impact our view of our worship?
 8. What is the significance of all the terms relating to audible sound?
 9. How does this text relate our worship to the rest of our week?
- B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ Prayer / Prep for Worship

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 43
We Should Live With Faith and Endurance
Part 2 - Hebrews 12:1-13

Objective: To help you to be finishers, even when it's painful

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 11-12?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³

Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

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⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline**

I. 1:1-4 The Father's Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

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VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage _____ Christians to live with _____ and _____ in the midst of _____ and temptation to _____.

2) Hebrews 1:1-10-18 is the _____ section of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to _____.

3) Hebrews 10:19-13:25 is the _____ portion of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to _____.

4) Hebrews 11 is the “Hall of _____” which reminded the Jewish Christians of all of the faithful saints who came before them.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 12:1-13**

1) Hebrews 12:1-4 compares the Christian life to a _____.

2) As Christians, we are to run our spiritual race with _____.

3) Christians are not just to be good “starters” of the Christian life, but good _____ as well.

4) The two keys to running a Christian life with endurance are to get free of _____ and to look to _____ as our great example.

5) Hebrews 12:4 compares the Christian life to a _____ match in which we are to fight against _____.

6) Hebrews 12:5-8 says that the chastening of the Lord is proof that we are true _____ and _____ of our heavenly Father.

7) One of the greatest proofs of God’s love for us is the _____ of Jesus, shed on the cross for us.

8) We should all accept correction from our earthly _____ as well as from our heavenly _____.

9) God’s correction in our lives leads to _____ and _____.

❖ **Homework – Read Hebrews 12 and work on memory work**

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 43
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Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage **Jewish** Christians to live with **faith** and endurance in the midst of **persecution** and temptation to **compromise**.

2) Hebrews 1:1-10:18 is the **“credenda”** section of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to **believe**.

3) Hebrews 10:19-13:25 is the **“agenda”** portion of the book.

In it, the author teaches the Jewish Christians what they are to **do**.

4) Hebrews 11 is the “Hall of **faith**” which reminded the Jewish Christians of all of the faithful saints who came before them.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 12:1-13**

1) Hebrews 12:1-4 compares the Christian life to a **race**.

2) As Christians, we are to run our spiritual race with **endurance**.

3) Christians are not just to be good “starters” of the Christian life, but good **finishers** as well.

4) The two keys to running a Christian life with endurance are to get free of **sin** and to look to **Jesus** as our great example.

5) Hebrews 12:4 compares the Christian life to a **boxing** match in which we are to fight against **sin**.

6) Hebrews 12:5-8 says that the chastening of the Lord is proof that we are true **sons** and **daughters** of our heavenly Father.

7) One of the greatest proofs of God’s love for us is the **blood** of Jesus, shed on the cross for us.

8) We should all accept correction from our earthly **fathers** as well as from our heavenly **Father**.

9) God’s correction in our lives leads to **holiness** and **righteousness**.

❖ **Homework – Read Hebrews 12 and work on memory work**

❖ **Prayer / Prep for Worship**

Name _____

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1: ___ - ___ The Father's Final _____ - The _____ and
_____ Son

II. 1:5-___:18 A Better Name Than _____ - Son of _____ and Son of

III. 3: ___-5:10 A Better _____ - _____ : Source of Faithfulness, Rest,

IV. 5:11-10: ___ - Christ, A _____ Like Melchizedek, High Priest of
_____ Things to _____

V. ___:1-12: ___ - We Should Live with _____ and
_____.

VI. 12: ___-13:19 - Strong _____, Straight _____ -
Living in _____ Community on _____

VII. 13:20-___ - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every _____

Hebrew 12:14-29

14 Pursue **peace** with **all people**,
and holiness,
without which no one will see the Lord:

15 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; 16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like **Esau**, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. 17 For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

18 For you have not come to the **mountain** that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the *sound* of a trumpet and the *voice of words*, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be *spoken* to them anymore. 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: “And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.” 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”)

22 But you have come to **Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that *speaks* better things than that of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse Him who *speaks*. For if they did not escape who refused Him who *spoke* on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, 26 whose voice then *shook* the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I *shake* not only the earth, but also heaven.” 27 Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being *shaken*, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be *shaken* may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be *shaken*,

let us have **grace**,
by which we may serve God acceptably
with reverence and godly fear.

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

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Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 44

Strong Hands, Straight Paths. Living in Heavenly Community on Earth Part 1 - Hebrews 12:14-29

Objective: 1. To bring your students to a commitment to fulfill their obligations to their fellow man. 2. To help your students identify the temptations of secularism, and commit to resist them.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 12:14-29?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

Lesson – Hebrews 12:14-29

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let us have **grace**,

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with reverence and godly fear.

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

❖ Lesson – Hebrews 12:14-29 – Strong Hands, Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth – Part 1

Verse 14 (Compared to verse 28b-29)

The title to the sixth section of our outline of Hebrews (12:14-13:19) is “Strong Hands, Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth”. Having been encouraged to exercise faith and endurance as **individuals** (chapters 11 and 12A), we are now moved to a consideration of our obligations to **community** (Notice the bolded and underlined words in verses 14 and 15 – “all people”, “anyone”, “many”).

Chapter 12 ends, in verse 29, with a statement regarding serving God acceptably and this is linked to verse 14, which talks about pursuing peace with all people. This teaches us that by seeking peace with our fellow man, and seeking God’s order and its blessings in our communities, we are serving God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. (It should be emphasized that Biblical peace is not the absence of conflict, but rather the presence of God, His well-ordered gracious and loving community and the blessings that flow from Him in that community.)

Romans 12:18 says “If it is possible, **as much as depends on you**, live peaceably with all men.”

Ask the students: How does this affect our understanding of verse 14a?

Answer – Our commitment is to PURSUE this peace, but it will not be possible with all men. If we fulfill the obligations of verse 14a, we should be able to go to bed and sleep well, even if we are at odds with someone else.

The Bible says we are to pursue peace. This means going to those who may have offended us (Matthew 18), as well as going to those whom we have offended. We are to live responsibly in community.

Jesus stated this in Matthew 5:23-25.

²³ Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.²⁵ Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

There is a second parallel between verses 14 and 28b-29. Verse 14 says that we are to live holy lives in community or else we will not see the Lord. Verses 28b-29 says that we are to serve God acceptably with reverence and Godly fear because God is a consuming fire. On one hand, we can’t see God if we are not living holy lives, and on the other, we will see His judgment (consuming fire). The absence of relationship with God is matched to the presence of His wrath against us. These are strong motivators, both positive and negative, to pursue peace with all men and to live holy lives!!

Ask the students how they can begin to pursue peace with all people:

Being sensitive to others, particularly those struggling with community/friends.
Going to those we think we may have offended, and those who have offended us.

Verse 15-17 – Esau

In verse 15, the writer of Hebrews uses Esau as a negative example of someone who did not live a holy life. (If necessary, briefly review the life of Esau and his relationship with Jacob from the Genesis account)

What exactly was Esau's problem?

- 1) Secularism, the same problem most of us are faced with today. Not caring for God's blessings, but just drifting along, seeing temporal matters as the only "real" and important ones. The Hebrews are tempted along the same lines.
- 2) Impatience. He was short-termed oriented (giving up his birthright for a bowl of soup), instead of thinking of the long-term impact of his present actions.
- 3) Perhaps presumptuousness. He may be seen as an example of someone who thinks his future is taken care of, he is Dad's favorite, doesn't have to work out his salvation, so to speak.

Verses 18-28a – Mt. Sinai and Mt. Zion

In these verses, the writer of Hebrews makes a contrast between Israel's experience at Mt. Sinai during their journey to the Promised Land, and the current status of the Jewish Christians:

Mt Sinai is the mountain where Moses met with God and received the Law from God. But, according to Exodus 19, only Moses and Aaron were allowed to go all the way to the top of the mountain to draw near to God. The priests and the elders were allowed to go part way up the mountain, but the people had to stay off of the mountain altogether lest the wrath of God break out against them. If even an animal tried to come onto Mt. Sinai while God was present there, it was to be stoned to death. This reminds us of the tabernacle and the temple, in which the lay people were only allowed into the courtyard area where animals were sacrificed as we learned about in the book of Leviticus. Only the priests could enter the Holy Place and only the High Priest could come into the Holy of Holies where the ark of the covenant was, and that only once a year. According to verse 21, Mt. Sinai was a terrifying place, even for Moses!

However, verse 22 says that, in Jesus, we have come, not to Mt. Sinai, but to Mt. Zion. Mt. Zion is an area in Jerusalem where the tabernacle of David was set up during his reign as king. In this tabernacle (tent) David placed the ark of the covenant. The worship which took place at Mt. Zion during David's reign was distinct from that which took place at the tabernacle in many ways:

- 1) Gentiles were included
- 2) No bloody sacrifices took place
- 3) Musical instruments were included in the worship
- 4) There was no veil separating the people from the ark of the covenant

All of these elements and practices foreshadowed the coming of Jesus, when Gentiles would have access to the gospel of salvation, when the animal sacrifices would no longer be needed, when the worship of God would become even more glorious, and when men and women of every tribe, tongue, people, and race would be able to draw near to God. Some aspects of Mt. Zion worship (the use of musical instruments for instance) were later incorporated into the worship at the temple when Solomon had it built after the death of David

Though Mt. Sinai is spoken of as a fearful place, in one sense, Mt. Zion is the more dangerous place, since believers in Jesus now all draw near to our Holy God.

Verses 22-24 tell us that, every Lord's Day we worship not only with the other members of our church, but with all other Christians in their various churches on earth. We also worship with the angels and the faithful departed saints in heaven as well. Because of the better sacrifice of Jesus, whose blood ushered us into a better covenant with the Lord, we can come right into the very throne room of the Triune God! What a wonderful privilege we have every week!

The Lord once spoke to Moses and the people from Mt. Sinai. Jesus now rules and reigns from heaven and we ascend, as it were, to him in heaven every Lord's day where he speaks to us from His word. Verse 25 warns us not to refuse Jesus who draws us so close to himself! God will use the worship of Him every week to equip His people to then go into the world and shake it up with the gospel! Our worship needs to carry on into our weeks as we put into practice what we have learned from Him each Lord's Day!

Are you committed to sing loudly and well, to pray with fervent zeal, and to listen and learn from the preached word each Lord's Day so that you can serve the Lord acceptably with reverence and godly fear?

❖ Homework

A. Read the attached translation of Hebrews 13, and be prepared to answer the following questions (older students only):

- 1) What is the significance of the bolded material in 12:28 and the first verse of chapter 13?
- 2) Is verse 1 a header for this section? Why or why not?
- 3) What is the significance of verse 2? How could you practice this on Sunday?
- 4) What does "angels" in verse 2 refer to?
- 5) What are the implications of **all of** verse 3 for prison ministries?
- 6) What are the implications of verse 4 for dating?
- 7) How does verse 4 relate to verse 1?
- 8) What two temptations to covetousness are addressed by verses 5b and 6?
- 9) What are the bookend commands in verses 7 and 17?
- 10) How does verse 18 relate to this entire section (13:1-18)?

B. Work on memorization materials (outline, Scripture, catechism).

❖ **Prayer (Prep for Worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 44
Strong Hands, Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth
Part 1 - Hebrews 12:14-29

Objectives: 1. To bring you to a commitment to fulfill your obligations to your fellow man. 2. To help you identify the temptations of secularism, and commit to resist them.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 12:14-29?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

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For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

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⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**”

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

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Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

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VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage _____ Christians to live with _____ and _____ in the midst of _____ and temptation to _____.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 12:14-29**

1) According to verse 14 who are we supposed to pursue peace with?

2) Does Romans 12:18 say that this will always be possible?

3) According to Matthew 18, what are you supposed to do if someone sins against you?

4) According to Matthew 5, what are you supposed to do if you have sinned against someone else?

5) Who can't we see if we are not living holy lives? _____

6) What will we see if we do not live holy lives? _____

7) According to verses 15-17, What were Esau's problems?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

8) Fill in the following table:

MT. SINAI	TABERNACLE / TEMPLE

9) Mt. Zion (Tabernacle of David) Worship

a.

b.

c.

d.

10) Who do we worship with on the Lord's Day?

a.

b.

c.

d.

11) Who do we draw near to every Lord's Day? _____

❖ **Homework**

Read Hebrews 13

Work on memory material

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 44
Strong Hands, Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth
Part 1 - Hebrews 12:14-29

Objectives: 1. To bring you to a commitment to fulfill your obligations to your fellow man. 2. To help you identify the temptations of secularism, and commit to resist them.

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VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage **Jewish** Christians to live with **faith** and **endurance** in the midst of **persecution** and temptation to **compromise**.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 12:14-29**

1) According to verse 14 who are we supposed to pursue peace with? **All men**

2) Does Romans 12:18 say that this will always be possible? **No**

3) According to Matthew 18, what are you supposed to do if someone sins against you?
Go to them and seek to be reconciled

4) According to Matthew 5, what are you supposed to do if you have sinned against someone else?
Go to them and seek to be reconciled

5) Who can't we see if we are not living holy lives? **God**

6) What will we see if we do not live holy lives? **God's judgment**

7) According to verses 15-17, What were Esau's problems?

a. **Seculariam**

b. **Impatience**

c. **Presumption**

8) Fill in the following table:

MT. SINAI	TABERNACLE / TEMPLE
Top – Moses and Aaron	Holy of Holies – High Priest
Half way up – Priests and Elders	Holy Place - Priests
Base – People	Courtyard – People and Animals

9) Mt. Zion (Tabernacle of David) Worship

- a. **Gentiles present**
- b. **No bloody sacrifices**
- c. **Musical instruments**
- d. **No veil**

10) Who do we worship with on the Lord's Day?

- a. **Christians at our church**
- b. **Christians at other churches**
- c. **Angels**
- d. **Glorified saints in heaven**

11) Who do we draw near to every Lord's Day? **God**

❖ **Homework**

Read Hebrews 13

Work on memory material

Hebrews 13 “From Worship to Life”

[See Heb. 12:28,29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may **serve God acceptably** with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.]

¹ Let brotherly love continue.

² Do not forget to entertain strangers,
for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

³ Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—
those who are mistreated— since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ Marriage is honorable among all,
and the bed undefiled;
but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct**
be without covetousness;
be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember those who rule over you,
who have spoken the word of God to you,
whose faith follow,
considering the outcome of their **conduct**.

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

⁹ Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

¹¹ **For** the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the highpriest for sin, are burned outside the camp.

¹² **Therefore** Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

¹³ **Therefore** let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

¹⁴ **For** here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ **But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.**

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a **good conscience**, in all things desiring to **live** honorably. ¹⁹ But I specially urge you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

²⁰ Now may the God of peace
who brought up our **Lord Jesus** from the dead,
that great Shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

²¹ make you complete in every good work
to do His will,
working in you what is well pleasing in His sight,
through **Jesus Christ**,
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

²² And I appeal to you, brethren, bear with the word of exhortation, for I have written to you in few words. ²³ Know that our brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I shall see you if he comes shortly. ²⁴ Greet all those who rule over you, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you. ²⁵ Grace be with you all. Amen.

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 45

Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Hebrews 13

Objective: 1. To urge your students to practical deeds of Christian service.
2. To encourage your students to commit to building up their future family with holiness and chastity.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 13?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

The Book of Revelation opens with a description of Jesus and closes with a description of His beautiful bride, the church, the New Jerusalem. Similarly, Hebrews opens with a focus on Jesus, and closes with a benediction on His bride.

❖ Review

As we said last week, the title to the sixth section of our outline of Hebrews (12:14-13:19) is “Strong Hands, Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth”. Having been encouraged to exercise faith and endurance as **individuals** (chapters 11 and 12A), we then moved to a consideration of our obligations to **community**. In Chapter 12 we saw that one of the ways we can do this is by pursuing peace with all people, as much as it depends on us. Unlike Esau, we are also to live holy lives before one another.

The motivation to live in heavenly community on earth is the fact that we will be able to draw near to God (Mt. Zion worship) and avoid his wrath.

Hebrews 12 ended with a statement regarding serving God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. As we come to chapter 13 we once again see that serving God acceptably involves love for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We move from worship on Sunday to life in relation to one another, with both Christians and non-Christians, from Monday through Saturday

❖ Lesson –

VI. 12:14-13:19 – Strong Hands Straight Paths – Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Part 2 - Hebrews 13:1-20

[See Heb. 12:28,29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may *serve God acceptably* with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.]

¹ Let brotherly love continue.

² Do not forget to entertain strangers,
for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

³ Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—
those who are mistreated— since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ Marriage is honorable among all,
and the bed undefiled;
but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your *conduct*
be without covetousness;
be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

Verse 1 – This verse may be seen as a header for this whole section, since what follows (instructions for marriage, benevolence actions, rulers, and our vocations (business) can all be seen as encompassed in our one requirement to love our neighbor/brother as ourselves. On the other hand, this verse could be used profitably to make us think not just about benevolence, marriage, rulers and business, but friendships as well.

Verse 2 - Having been shown grace and kindness by God, we are to show this heavenly grace and kindness to others. The Greek word translated “entertain strangers” is in a few other places, translated “show hospitality.” Christians should be given to hospitality, to making those who feel uncomfortable comfortable. On the other hand, we are to be careful and fulfill our guarding responsibilities to our own bodies, our children, family, and community. It doesn’t mean being stupid, but it does mean reaching out to befriend people. The “strangers” in the Old Testament were those who came to Israel to live in the context of God’s law, even though they weren’t Jews. It did not mean the really “strange” people we sometimes see today!

On Sunday, we should be sensitive to visitors and those who are newer to our community, and to those who may not be the most popular kids. They should be the particular recipients of our attempts to make them feel comfortable, loved and accepted in our “heavenly” community. How well do you do this on Sunday?

If we focus on this on Sunday, it will likely become a part of our family life as well, being hospitable to our neighbors, those new to our region or country, etc.

One of the two goals of this lesson is to cause you to commit to do acts of Christian service. This can be as simple as talking to someone here on Sunday that you don’t know, or who appear to be alone. There are many lonely people, even here at our church on Sunday. Today, not next Sunday, befriend someone! This is linked to evangelism as well:

Ro 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

What does “angels” in verse 2 refer to? We don’t know, for sure! The word “angel” means the bringer of good tidings, and usually refers to what we think of as angels. But it can also be used to refer to pastors, those who bring the good tidings of the gospel, as in Revelation 2 and 3. Verse 2 could mean that when you show hospitality to those visiting your church or area, you may actually find out that it’s a pastor and his family that you have invited to dinner!

Verse 3 - The specific prisoners referred to here are those that are imprisoned because of their faith and testimony to Jesus. While prison ministries are good deeds to engage in, since prisoners today are usually being punished by God for their sins, and may well be being brought to repentance, usually the prison ministry verses are referring to those imprisoned for the faith.

Verse 4 tells us that even lawful marital physical relationships are to be governed by God and His Word, and engaged in a way that is honoring to God. Since this is true, how much more should the way men and women interact prior to marriage! This verse says that fornicators (those who engage in sexual relations prior to marriage) and adulterers (those who engage in sexual relations with a person who is married to someone else) are not dealing in brotherly love with one another. They will be judged by God.

Verse 4 relates to verse 1 in that the whole of the Christian family is here alluded to by way of a reference to the marriage itself. The way men and women move towards marriage is a vitally important aspect of our Christian walk. To treat others in an unchaste and unholy way is to sin against the basic command to engage in brotherly (and sisterly!) love.

One of the objectives of this lesson is “To get you to commit to building your future family with holiness and chastity.” Will you do that right now? [The teacher may want to lead the class in a short prayer of dedication to sexual holiness.]

Verses 5-6 - These verses talk about our jobs, our vocations, our business, and how we handle our money. One temptation is idolatry, getting the ultimate value of the Creator God mixed up with the created images of His glory, like money and things. The other temptation is to be fearful, not believing that God will take care of our well-being. God has promised us that, He will provide for all of our material needs and so we can joyfully conduct ourselves without covetousness towards others.

⁷ *Remember* those who rule over you,
who have spoken the word of God to you,
whose faith *follow*,

considering the outcome of their *conduct*.

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

⁹ Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

¹¹ **For** the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp.

¹² **Therefore** Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

¹³ **Therefore** *let us* go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

¹⁴ **For** here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ ***But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.***

¹⁷ *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.

Notice verses 7 and 17 and ask the class how these verses relate to one another.

Verse 7 commands us to **remember** (honor) and verse 17 commands us to **obey** the authorities God has placed over us in the church (taught you the word, watch out for your souls).

1 Th 5:12,13 ¹² And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³ and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

There is a definite link between obeying the commands to honor your church elders and the resultant peace in the congregation. So, the header verse of brotherly love is also related to the need to honor your pastors.

[The middle verses of this section are an argument against the temptation to return to Jewish food laws. While this is normally thought of as prohibiting certain foods, these verses show that the Jews thought that by eating kosher food, they were profited spiritually. But our table, the Lord's Table or altar, is a reminder that our souls are nurtured by grace, not by food. So-called Jewish food laws are thus characterized as "strange doctrines." Finally, in verse 16, the principle of grace is then to be demonstrated by our sharing with one another.]

¹⁸ *Pray* for us; for we are confident that we have a ***good conscience***, in all things desiring to ***live*** honorably. ¹⁹ But I specially urge you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

Verse 18 – By living honorably (in brotherly love) towards one another, we can have also have a good conscience towards God.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

²⁰ Now may the God of peace
 who brought up our **Lord Jesus** from the dead,
 that great Shepherd of the sheep,
 through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
 ²¹ make you complete in every good work
 to do His will,
 working in you what is well pleasing in His sight,
 through **Jesus Christ**,
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

²² And I appeal to you, brethren, bear with the word of exhortation, for I have written to you in few words. ²³ Know that our brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I shall see you if he comes shortly. ²⁴ Greet all those who rule over you, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you. ²⁵ Grace be with you all. Amen.

Finally, the benediction at the end of this sermon can be tied to the Shepherd's virtues being manifested in the sheep; the bridegroom's beauty being manifested in the bride, all by His grace and empowerment. The center verse is a restatement of much of what has been said in this sermon. Jesus has come to bring His people to maturation and "perfection. And this maturation is expressed in good works. He shed his blood that we might do His will.

❖ Homework

Work on Hebrews outline, and the review material from Leviticus

❖ Pray (Prep for Worship)

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 45

Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth – Part 2 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work Hebrews 13

Objective: 1. To urge you to practical deeds of Christian service.
2. To encourage you to commit to building up your future family with holiness and chastity.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 13?

❖ Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56 What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage _____ Christians to live with _____ and _____ in the midst of _____ and temptation to _____.

2) In chapter 12 we learned that we are to pursue _____ with all people and to live _____ lives.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 13**

1) Verse 1 tells us that we are to let brotherly _____ continue.

2) What might the “angels” in verse 2 refer to?

3) How can we “entertain strangers”...

...at church?

...in our homes?

4) When verse 3 tells us to remember prisoners, what sort of prisoners is it specifically referring to?

5) Verse 4 tells us that we need to conduct ourselves with holiness both _____ and _____ marriage.

6) In verses 5 and 6, what has God promised us regarding our material needs?

7) Verse 7 says that we should _____ those who rule over us; Verse 17 says that we should _____ those who rule over us.

8) The “strange doctrines” of verse 9 have to do with the various Jewish _____ laws that are no longer needed due to the coming of _____.

9) Verse 21 which is the center of section VII of our Hebrews outline says that we are to be _____ in every _____. Jesus shed His blood for us that we might do His _____.

❖ **Homework**

Work on Hebrews outline, and the review material from Leviticus

❖ **Prayer (Prep for Worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 45

Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth – Part 2 Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work Hebrews 13

Objective: 1. To urge you to practical deeds of Christian service.
2. To encourage you to commit to building up your future family with holiness and chastity.

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you read Hebrews 13?

❖ **Scripture Memorization – Hebrews 13:1-8**

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

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For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 55 What is forbidden in the third commandment?

The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning and abusing of any thing whereby God maketh himself known.

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The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

❖ **Review Outline of Hebrews – Fill in the blanks of the attached outline**

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

Day 1 - Let there be Light, Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun

LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

Day 2 - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.

LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful** and **faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

Day 3 - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, compassion and endurance

LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

Day 4 - The Priest-King is the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.

Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

Day 5 – Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance.

Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

Day 6 - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

Day 7 – Peace, rest

❖ **Review**

1) The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage **Jewish** Christians to live with **faith** and **endurance** in the midst of **persecution** and temptation to **compromise**.

2) In chapter 12 we learned that we are to pursue **peace** with all people and to live **holy** lives.

❖ **Lesson – Hebrews 13**

1) Verse 1 tells us that we are to let brotherly **love** continue.

2) What might the “angels” in verse 2 refer to? **pastors**

3) How can we “entertain strangers”...

...at church? **Reaching out to visitors, or to less popular boys and girls**

...in our homes? **Showing hospitality to all**

4) When verse 3 tells us to remember prisoners, what sort of prisoners is it specifically referring to? **Christians in prison for their faith**

5) Verse 4 tells us that we need to conduct ourselves with holiness both **before** and **after** marriage.

6) In verses 5 and 6, what has God promised us regarding our material needs? **He will never leave us nor forsake us...He will provide for all of our needs**

7) Verse 7 says that we should **remember** those who rule over us; Verse 17 says that we should **obey** those who rule over us.

8) The “strange doctrines” of verse 9 have to do with the various Jewish **food** laws that are no longer needed due to the coming of **Jesus**.

9) Verses 21 which is the center of section VII of our Hebrews outline says that we are to be **complete** in every **good work**. Jesus shed His blood for us that we might do His **will**.

❖ **Homework**

Work on Hebrews outline, and the review material from Leviticus

❖ **Prayer (Prep for Worship)**

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 46

Hebrews Review

Objective: To review the book of Hebrews to solidify your students’ knowledge of the seven-part outline and its correlation to the seven days of creation

❖ Greeting

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you review the Hebrews outline and the Leviticus review test?

❖ Scripture Memorization

Hebrews 13:1-8

1 Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ Westminster Shorter Catechism

❖ Lesson – Review of Hebrews – (Note – There is no “Student Handout” this week)

In this lesson the teacher is to walk the students through the outline of Hebrews, stressing the main points of each section, mentioning the linking verses between sections, and repeating the correlation between each section and the seven days of creation.

A question and answer format is used here to facilitate review and discussion:

Introduction

- Who wrote the book of Hebrews? (Only God knows for sure)
- Who was the book of Hebrews written to (Jewish Christians, perhaps in Rome – see reference to Italy in 13:24)
- When was the book of Hebrews written? (probably in the 60’s. It contains warnings of the judgment to come in AD 70)
- What was the purpose of the writing of the book of Hebrews? (The purpose of the book of Hebrews is to encourage Jewish Christians to live with faith and endurance in the midst of persecution and temptation to compromise.)
- Why did we study Hebrews after studying Leviticus? (Hebrews, far more than any other New Testament book, talks in much detail about the Levitical system of worship. The

work of Jesus is both compared and contrasted to the Aaronic priesthood and the worship found in Leviticus. **Hebrews is about how we draw near to God.** This phrase is used repeatedly through out the book. And you will recall that the whole purpose of the offerings of Leviticus was to draw near – that is what the Hebrew term translated “offerings” literally means – “draw near.” You will recall that there was only a partial drawing near in the tabernacle and Temple. But now that Jesus has come, all that Leviticus pointed to – fully drawing near to our Creator without being burned to a crisp! - comes to pass)

I. 1:1-4 The Father’s Final Word - The Bright and Shining Son

- To whom is Jesus compared to in this first section (to prophets, and angels)
- What offices of Jesus are mentioned in this section? (priest, king, prophet)
- What is the connection between this first section of Hebrews and the first day of creation?(Day 1 – Light - Jesus is the bright and shining Son/Sun)
- What verse links this section of Hebrews to the next one? (LINK TO II. – 1:4 “having become so much better than the **angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**)

II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than Angels - Son of God and Son of Man

- To whom is Jesus compared with in this section of Hebrews? (Angels)
- What name is Jesus given in Hebrews 1:5-14 that shows that He is greater than the angels? (Son of God)
- What name is Jesus given in Hebrews 2:5-18 that shows that He is greater than the angels? (Son of Man)
- What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the second day of creation? (Day 2 – Firmament - Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, is the true firmament, linking heaven and earth, God and men.)
- What verse links this section of Hebrews to the next one? (LINK TO III. – 2:17 “that He might be a **merciful and faithful High Priest** in things pertaining to God”)

III. 3:1-5:10 A Better High-Priest: Source of Faithfulness, Rest, Compassion

- To whom is Jesus compared with in this section of Hebrews? (High Priest)
- What two qualities of Jesus are described in this section of Hebrews (Merciful and faithful)
- Which of these qualities is described in 3:1-6? (Faithful – Bring back to the students’ minds that in 3:7-4:14, the author of Hebrews exhorts these Jewish Christians to live lives of faithfulness as well...or else!)
- Which of these qualities is described in 5:1-10? (Merciful – Bring back to the students’ minds that in 4:15,16, the author of Hebrews exhorts the Jewish Christians to find their mercy in Jesus)
- How is Jesus better than the priests? (Priests had to offer sacrifices year after year – Jesus’ sacrifice was once for all; priests had to offer sacrifices for themselves as well – Jesus was sinless and needed no offering for Himself.)

- What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the third day of creation? (Day 3 – Firstfruits - Jesus is the Firstfruits, the beginning and source of faithfulness, rest, compassion)
- What verse links this section of Hebrews to the next one? (LINK TO IV. – 5:9,10 “And having been **perfected**, He became the **author of eternal salvation** to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of **Melchizedek**,”)

IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A Priest Like Melchizedek, High Priest of Good Things to Come

- What does the author of Hebrews chastise the Jewish Christians for in 5:12-14 (Their immaturity; they should be teachers by now! They are in danger of God’s judgment)
- How did Hebrews prove that Melchizedek was a greater high priest than the Levitical high priests? (Abraham (Levi) paid tithes to Melchizedek; Melchizedek blessed Abraham (Levi))
- How were Jesus and Melchizedek alike? (Both were kings and priests)
- If Jesus is the better High Priest (like Melchizedek), with a better offering (Himself), what is he bringing to us as a result? (Read 8:6-13- A better covenant with God; a better opportunity for His people to draw near to Him)
- What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the fourth day of creation? (Day 4 – Sun, Moon, Stars (ruling lights) – Jesus is the Priest-King, the ruler of all things. He is the focal point.)
- What verse links this section of Hebrews to the next one? (Link to V – 10: 10:36-39 “You have need of **endurance**... the just shall live by **faith**”)

V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with Faith and Endurance.

- Look at Hebrews 10:19-25. What shift in the book of Hebrews do these verses represent? (A change from “credenda” (things to be believed) to “agenda” (things to be done))
- What chapter of Hebrews is called the “Hall of Faith”? (Hebrews 11)
- What does Hebrews 11 exhort the Jewish Christians to do? (Live lives of faith)
- What does Hebrews 12:1-13 exhort the Jewish Christians to do? (Live lives of endurance)
- What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the fifth day of creation? (Day 5 – Birds and fish (swarming creatures) - Like the “swarm” of faithful believers who have gone before us, we are to be like Jesus, living lives of faithfulness, compassion and endurance)
- What verse links this section of Hebrews to the next one? (Link to VI – 12:13 “Make Straight Paths”)

VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong Hands, Straight Paths - Living in Heavenly Community on Earth

- What shift takes place in the book of Hebrews in 12:14? (Shift from talking about individuals living lives of faith and endurance, to talking about living in harmony with other Christians in the church)
- What does 12:14 instruct us to do in order to live in harmony with other Christians? (Pursue 1. peace with all people and 2. holiness)
- What were the differences between tabernacle (Mt. Sinai) worship and tabernacle of David (Mt Zion) worship? (Tabernacle – Animal (bloody) sacrifices, no musical instruments, no Gentiles, no access to Holy Place/Holy of Holies for any but the priest/high priest. Tabernacle of David – No animal sacrifices, musical instruments, Gentiles present, no veil)
- Look at chapter 13:1-6. According to these verses, how can you “let brotherly love continue”? (Entertain strangers, remember those in prison for their faith, conduct yourself with holiness both before and after marriage)
- According to Hebrews 13:1-17, who are we supposed to remember and obey? (Those who rule over us (pastors))
- What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the sixth day of creation? (Day 6 – Men - We are little mediators between God and men (the image bearers of God), living heavenly lives on earth, in community.)

VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every Good Work

What is the purpose of our salvation according to 13:21? (That we might be complete in Christ in order to do good works...to live lives of faith and endurance)

What is the connection between this section of Hebrews and the seventh day of creation? (Day 7 – Rest – see 13:20 - Peace, rest)

❖ Homework

Study the chart reviewing Leviticus 1-4 as it relates to Lord’s Day worship and the previous Leviticus test including the outline of Leviticus and the connection between the Jewish feasts and the seven days of creation. Final exam in two weeks!

❖ Pray (Prep for worship)

Leviticus / Hebrews – Lesson 47

Leviticus Review

Objective: To review the book of Leviticus with emphasis on the outline, the first four chapters as they relate to Lord’s Day worship and the seven feasts of Israel as they relate to the seven days of creation.

❖ **Greeting**

❖ **Attendance and Accountability** – Did you get a good sleep, bring your Bible, and something to write with? Did you review the Hebrews outline and the Leviticus review chart and test?

❖ **Scripture Memorization**

Hebrews 13:1-8

¹ Let **brotherly love** continue.

² Do not forget to entertain **strangers**, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. ³ Remember the **prisoners** as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

⁴ **Marriage** is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

⁵ Let your **conduct** be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁶ So we may boldly say: “The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

⁷ Remember **those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

⁸ *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

❖ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**

❖ **Lesson – Review of Leviticus – (Note – There is no “Student Handout” this week)**

The teacher will use the chart entitled *Summary of the Offerings of Leviticus 1-4 as Related to Lord’s Day Worship* and the previous test on Leviticus to review the outline, the first four chapters as they relate to Lord’s Day worship and the seven feasts of Israel as they relate to the seven days of creation.

Use a question and answer format to facilitate participation

❖ **Homework**

Study the previous Leviticus test as well as the outline of Hebrews for final test next week

Student Handout For Leviticus-Hebrews Class

Objective: Evaluate the students knowledge of Leviticus and Hebrews

Name _____

1-14. Write out our seven part outline for Hebrews. Make sure you put in chapter breaks.

15-20. Write out Hebrews. 13:1-8, or recite it to Mr. Wilson

Name _____

21. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?
22. What is another name for this offering?
23. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?
24. What is another name for this offering?
25. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?
26. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?
27. What is another name for this offering?
28. What does the word translated “offering” literally mean?
- 29-32. List these four offerings in the order in which they would have been performed:
33. What is distinctive about the offering in Chapter 3?
34. Which offering was focused on reminding us about the holiness of our work?
35. According to Leviticus 9:22 what did the priest do after the four offerings were all done?

Name _____

Leviticus - Final Test

Complete the following outline for Leviticus:

1. _____ Through the _____ Chapters ____ - ____
2. _____ the _____ Chapters ____ - ____
3. _____ for the _____ Chapters ____ - ____
4. _____ for the _____ Chapter ____
5. The _____ Chapters ____ - ____

1. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

2. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank Offering

3. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

4. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank Offering

5. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

6. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank Offering

7. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

8. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank Offering

9. In Leviticus, what does the Hebrew word translated “offering” literally mean?

10-13. List these four offerings **in the order** in which they would have been performed by the priests (Hint: Think about the RCC Order of Worship or Leviticus 9:22):

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

14. Which is the only offering that the offerer got to eat some of along with God and the priest?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

15. Which offering was not bloody?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

16. What did you have to do to the offering in Leviticus 2?

- a. Lift it up
- b. Grind and cook the grain
- c. Remove the skin of the animal
- d. Burn all of the animal up

17. Which offering stressed the changing or transformation of the old man into a new man?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
18. Which offering was focused on reminding about the holiness of our work?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
19. Which offering cleansed the worship pace and the worshipper?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
20. According to Leviticus 9:22 what did the priest do after the four offerings were all done? He lifted his hands toward the people and _____ them.
21. Which offering corresponds with the bringing of our tithes and offerings in our worship service after the word is preached?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
22. Which offering corresponds with the Lord's Supper (Communion)?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
23. Which offering stressed cleansing from sin?
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
24. Which offering answered the question "Can I become a new man, a better man?"
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering
25. Which offering answered the question "Can I live in fellowship with other people?"
- Purification Offering
 - Peace Offering
 - Tribute Offering
 - Ascension Offering

26. Which offering answered the question “Can I be forgiven?”

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

27. Which offering answered the question “Is my work important?”

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

28-30. List the offerings that the priest got to eat some of:

31. Which part of the so-called “whole burnt offering” (the ascension offering) was not burned?

32. Which offering corresponds to the Sursum Corda (“Lift up your hearts”) in our worship?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

33. Which offering corresponds to our confession of sin and assurance of forgiveness in our worship?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

34. True or False In our worship service we should have communion before we confess our sins?

35. In the Tribute Offering, the cooked grain is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit
- b. Prayer
- c. Our works

36. In the Tribute Offering, the oil is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit
- b. Prayer
- c. Our works

37. In the Tribute Offering, the frankincense is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit
- b. Prayer
- c. Our works

Match the day of creation with the appropriate feast from Leviticus 23:

_____ Day 1 - Light

A. Pentecost

_____ Day 2 – Firmament

B. Firstfruits

_____ Day 3 – Grain Plants and
Fruit Trees

C. Day of Atonement

_____ Day 4 – Sun, Moon and Stars

D. Sabbath

_____ Day 5 – Fish and Birds

E. Tabernacles

_____ Day 6 – Man and Land Animals

F. Passover / Unleavened Bread

_____ Day 7 – Sabbath (Rest)

G. Trumpets

Name _____

Leviticus – Final Test (Answer Key)

Complete the following outline for Leviticus:

1. **Drawing Near** Through the **Second Adam** Chapters 1 - 10
2. **Rolling Back** the **Curse** Chapters 11 - 16
3. **New Laws** for the **New Man** Chapters 17 - 22
4. **New Time** for the **New Man** Chapter 23
5. The **New Man Looks Ahead** Chapters 24 - 27

1. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering**

2. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering**
- d. Thank / Votive Offering

3. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering**
- d. Ascension Offering

4. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?

- a. Grain Offering**
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank / Votive Offering

5. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering**
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

6. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank / Votive Offering**

7. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?

- a. Purification Offering**
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

8. What is another name for this offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?

- a. Grain Offering
- b. Sin Offering**
- c. Whole Burnt Offering
- d. Thank / Votive Offering

9. In Leviticus, what does the Hebrew word translated “offering” literally mean?

drawing near

10-13. List these four offerings **in the order** in which they would have been performed by the priests (Hint: Think about the RCC Order of Worship or Leviticus 9:22):

- a. Purification Offering

- b. Ascension Offering

- c. Tribute Offering

- d. Peace Offering

14. Which is the only offering that the offerer got to eat some of along with God and the priest?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering**
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

15. Which offering was not bloody?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering**
- d. Ascension Offering

16. What did you have to do to the offering in Leviticus 2?

- a. Lift it up
- b. Grind and cook the grain**
- c. Remove the skin of the animal
- d. Burn all of the animal up

17. Which offering stressed the changing or transformation of the old man into a new man?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering**

18. Which offering was focused on reminding about the holiness of our work?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering**
- d. Ascension Offering

19. Which offering cleansed the worship place and the worshipper?

- a. Purification Offering**
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

20. According to Leviticus 9:22 what did the priest do after the four offerings were all done? He lifted his hands toward the people and blessed them.

21. Which offering corresponds with the bringing of our tithes and offerings in our worship service after the word is preached?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering**
- d. Ascension Offering

22. Which offering corresponds with the Lord's Supper (Communion) in our worship service?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering**
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

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- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
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24. Which offering answered the question "Can I become a new man, a better man?"

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering**

25. Which offering answered the question "Can I live in fellowship with other people?"

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering**
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

26. Which offering answered the question “Can I be forgiven?”

a. Purification Offering

- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

27. Which offering answered the question “Is my work important?”

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering**
- d. Ascension Offering

28-30. List the offerings that the priest got to eat some of:

Purification

Tribute

Peace

31 Which part of the so-called “whole burnt offering” (the ascension offering) was not burned?

Skin / Hide

32 Which offering corresponds to the Sursum Corda (“Lift up your hearts”) in our worship?

- a. Purification Offering
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering**

33. Which offering corresponds to our confession of sin and assurance of forgiveness in our worship?

- a. Purification Offering**
- b. Peace Offering
- c. Tribute Offering
- d. Ascension Offering

34. True or **False** In our worship service we should have communion before we confess our sins?

35. In the Tribute Offering, the cooked grain is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit
- b. Prayer
- c. Our works**

36. In the Tribute Offering, the oil is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit**
- b. Prayer
- c. Our works

37. In the Tribute Offering, the frankincense is a picture of

- a. the Holy Spirit
- b. Prayer**
- c. Our works

Match the day of creation with the appropriate feast from Leviticus 23:

D Day 1 - Light

A. Pentecost

F Day 2 – Firmament

B. Firstfruits

B Day 3 – Grain Plants and
Fruit Trees

C. Day of Atonement

A Day 4 – Sun, Moon and Stars

D. Sabbath

G Day 5 – Fish and Birds

E. Tabernacles

C Day 6 – Man and Land Animals

F. Passover / Unleavened Bread

E Day 7 – Sabbath (Rest)

G. Trumpets

Name _____

Hebrews - Outline

I. 1: ___ - ___ The Father's Final _____ - The _____ and
_____ Son

II. 1:5-___:18 A Better Name Than _____ - Son of _____ and Son of

III. 3: ___-5:10 A Better _____ - _____ : Source of Faithfulness, Rest,

IV. 5:11-10: ___ - Christ, A _____ Like Melchizedek, High Priest of
_____ Things to _____

V. ___:1-12: ___ - We Should Live with _____ and
_____.

VI. 12: ___-13:19 - Strong _____, Straight _____ -
Living in _____ Community on _____

VII. 13:20-___ - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every _____

Name _____

Hebrews - Outline

- I. 1:1 - 4 The Father's Final **Word** - The **Bright** and **Shining** Son
- II. 1:5-2:18 A Better Name Than **Angels** - Son of **God** and Son of **Man**
- III. 3:1-5:10 A Better **High - Priest** : Source of Faithfulness, Rest, **Compassion**
- IV. 5:11-10:39 - Christ, A **Priest** Like Melchizedek, High Priest of **Good** Things to **Come**
- V. 11:1-12:13 - We Should Live with **Faith** and **Endurance**.
- VI. 12:14-13:19 - Strong **Hands**, Straight **Paths** - Living in **Heavenly** Community on **Earth**
- VII. 13:20-25 - Benediction: Completeness Unto Every **Good Work**

Notes From Leviticus Test

1. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 1?

Ascension

2. What is another name for this offering?

Whole Burnt

3. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 2?

Tribute

4. What is another name for this offering?

Grain or Cereal

5. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 3?

Peace

6. What is another name for this offering?

Thank or Votive

7. What is our name for the offering in Leviticus Chapter 4?

Purification

8. What is another name for this offering?

Sin

9. What does the word translated “offering” literally mean?

Draw Near

10-13. List these four offerings in the order in which they would have been performed:

a. Purification

b. Ascension

c. Tribute

d. Peace

14. What is distinctive about the offering in Chapter 3?

Offeror and family ate part of it.

15. Which offering was not bloody?

Tribute

16. What did you have to do to the offering in Leviticus 2?

Cook it.

17. Which offering stressed the changing of the old man into a new man?

Ascension

18. Which offering was focused on reminding us about the holiness of our work?

Tribute

19. Which offering cleansed the worship place and the worshipper?

Purification

20. According to Leviticus 9:22 what did the priest do after the four offerings were all done?

Blessed the people

21. Which offering corresponds with the offering in our worship after the word is preached?

5. The New Man Looks Ahead

Chapters 24-27

56-69. List the seven feasts of Leviticus 23, and the seven days of creation.

Light Sabbath

Firmament – Passover

First Vegetation – Firstfruits

Sun, moons and stars – Pentecost

Swarming Things – Trumpets

Man – Atonement

Sabbath – Tabernacles

Summary of the Offerings of Leviticus 1-4 as Related to Lord's Day Worship

RCC Name		Purification Offering	Ascension Offering	Tribute Offering	Peace Offering	
Another Name		Sin Offering	Whole Burnt Offering	Grain/Cereal Offering	Thank/Votive Offering	
Leviticus Chapter		Leviticus 4	Leviticus 1	Leviticus 2	Leviticus 3	
Levitical Order		1 st	2 nd	3rd	4th	
Type of Sacrifice		Animal	Animal	Grain / Oil / Incense	Animal	
Who ate?		God / Priest	God	God / Priest	God / Priest / Offerer	
Five C's of Worship	Call	Cleanse	Consecrate		Commune	Commission
Reformation Covenant Church Order of Worship	Call to Worship - Processional - Salutation	Confession of Sin - Absolution - Hallelujah	Sursum Corda - Sanctus - Psalms/Hymns of Praise - Responsive (Psalm) Reading - Sermon	Tithes and Offerings - Pastoral Prayer	Recitation of Creed or Song of Preparation for Communion - Communion	Final Scripture Reading - Commissioning Song - Benediction - Nunc Dimitus or other Recessional
Question Answered		Can I be forgiven?	Can I become a new/better man?	Is my work important?	Can I live in fellowship with other people?	
Gift		Glory	Knowledge		Life	
Member of Trinity		Father	Jesus		Holy Spirit	