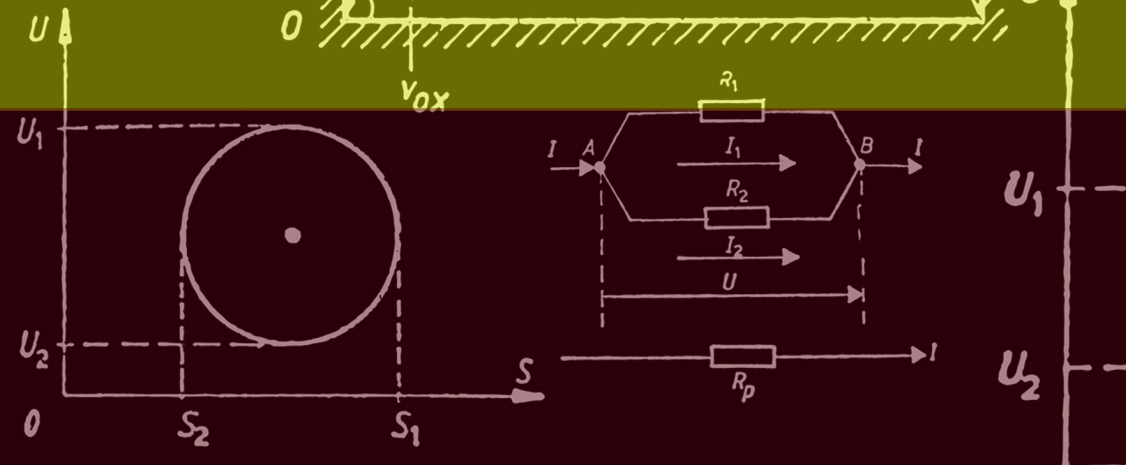
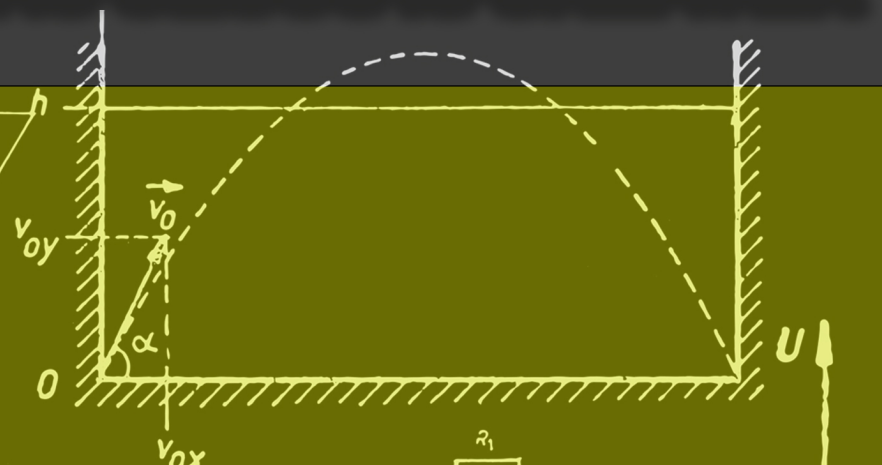


$$l_2 = \frac{2mg}{k} = \frac{2 \cdot 0,1 \cdot 10}{40} = 0,2 \text{ m.}$$

Hebrews

PROVING JESUS IS GREATER



Hebrews – Proving Jesus is Greater

Hebrews 1:1–2a Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,

**Given: The words of God through the Prophets
Prove: Jesus is God's Son**

Week 1	Hebrews 1:1-3	Exact Imprint	pg. 3
Week 2	Hebrews 1:4-14	Superior to the Angels	pg. 10
Week 3	Hebrews 2:1-4	Pay Attention	pg. 18
Week 4	Hebrews 2:5-18	Humanity of Jesus	pg. 24
Week 5	Hebrews 3:1-14	Greater than Moses	pg. 33
Week 6	Hebrews 3:15-4:13	Entering Rest	pg. 42
Week 7	Hebrews 4:14-5:10	Great High Priest	pg. 51
Week 8	Hebrews 5:11-6:8	Can I lose my Salvation?	pg. 58
Week 9	Hebrews 6:9-20	Certain of God's Promises	pg. 66
Week 10	Hebrews 7:1-28	Meet Melchizedek	pg. 74



Week 1 ...

Exact

Imprint



SERMON NOTES - WEEK 1

WEEK 1 ... Exact Imprint

Hebrews 1

[1] Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 1?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

How do these verses point to the deity of Christ?

LESSON:

Given: The words of God through the Prophets Prove: Jesus is God's Son

Welcome to our first lesson in the *Hebrews: Proving Jesus is Greater* series. Each week, we will be building off the knowledge from the previous week to construct a proof of the supremacy of Christ. Let's start our journey with some background information.

Who is our proof writer or author? The author of Hebrews is unknown but that does not stop people from speculating. Here are some of the most popular theories:

Candidate #1: Paul

For: Early church tradition undoubtedly says Paul

For: Pauline Theology

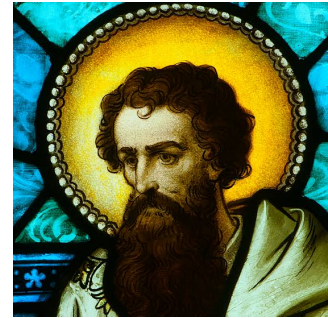
- Salvation through grace by faith alone

For: Salutation same as all other letters

- [Hebrews 13:25](#) Grace be with all of you.
- [1 Corinthians 16:23](#) The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you,

For: Peter, minister to the Hebrew people, possibly refers to this letter by Paul

- [2 Peter 3:15](#) And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,



Candidate #2: Luke

For: The book of Hebrews is full of Old Testament quotes, yet, Paul quotes the Masoretic text (original Hebrew) in his epistles while the quotes in the book of Hebrews are from the Septuagint (Greek Old Testament). This points to Luke recording a teaching or sermon of Paul in Greek.



For: [Hebrews 2:3](#) how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard. This verse points to the author having been taught by an apostle. Paul was taught by God himself. [Galatians 1:12](#) For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Other Candidates: Barnabas or Apollos

For: They were well educated disciples of Paul's teaching either directly or through others.

Who do you think wrote the book of Hebrews?

Paul

Luke

Apollos

Barnabas

WHY A PROOF AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Proofs are a way to build a case for something starting from one agreed upon truth. From that truth, we can construct a proof using definitions, theorems and facts.

In this letter, we are given (as truth) in verse 1: **Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets.** We can use any Old Testament Scripture to advance our position in proving that Jesus is the Son of God. Now let's begin with some definitions.

PROOF DEFINITIONS: SON

What does it mean to be a SON?

Sonship is a unique position in Jewish history. Here is a list of the descriptions of Jesus as the son found in Hebrews 1:2–3.

- Heir of all things
- creator of the world
- the radiance of the glory of God
- the exact imprint of his nature
- upholds the universe by the word of his power
- makes purification for sins
- sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Which of the above descriptions is most interesting to you? Why?

CONCLUSIONS:

Jesus is the exact imprint of His nature. What are some of the attributes that make up the nature of God? List them below.

How do the verses below echo this idea of exact imprint and nature.

- **Colossians 2:9** For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
- **Colossians 1:16** For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.
- **1 John 4:16** So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

DISCUSSION:

We are called to “Be like Jesus!” How can we be an adequate imprint of His nature? By living a life worthy of the calling of Christ and by the fruit of the Spirit.

Read Galatians 5:22-23 and list the fruit below. Which of this fruit is the easiest for you to live and which do you tend to quench and is more difficult for you to live out?

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1. | 4. | 7. |
| 2. | 5. | 8. |
| 3. | 6. | 9. |

Easiest: _____

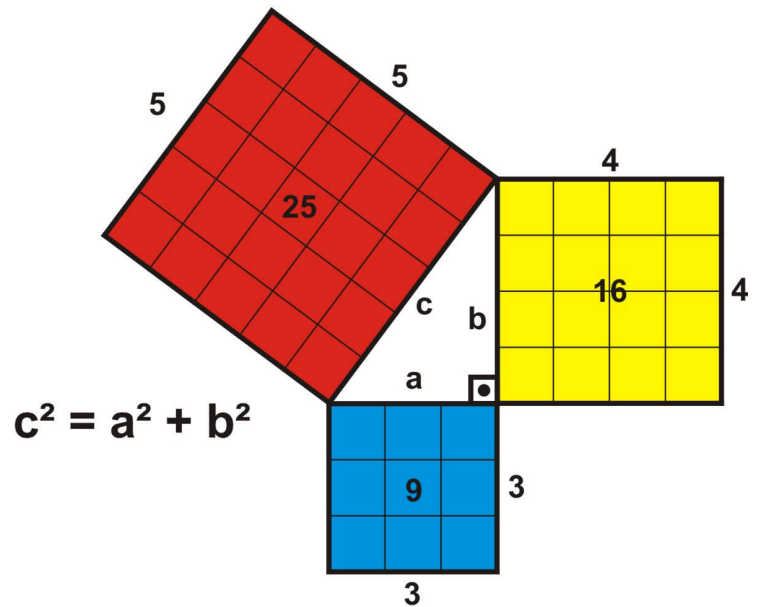
Difficult: _____

What does it take to “prove something” to you personally?

The most famous of mathematical proofs is the Pythagorean Theorem.

Given: A Right Triangle

Prove that the square area of the longest side (the hypotenuse) is equal to the square area of the two smaller sides (the legs).



I am sorry if any of you had a flashback to Geometry. Logic, pictures, and evidence are key components in proving something in the real world.

What is most convincing to you in an argument of these three: Logic, Pictures, Evidence?

Throughout Hebrews, I hope to show you the logical explanation of Jesus from the Old Testament, the pictures or what we will call TYPES of Jesus that were embedded in the Scriptures and the eye witness verbal evidence for Jesus as the Christ. It will be a fun journey!

How can we pray for you this week?



Week 2 ...

Superior to the Angels

SERMON NOTES - WEEK 2

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 1:4-14?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

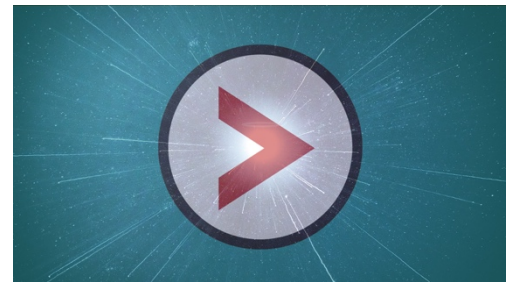
LESSON:

Given: The words of God through the Prophets
Prove: Jesus is God's Son

Welcome to Week 2 of the Hebrews bible study. We begin today to construct our proof. Here is our first proof step:

PROOF STEP #1: CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS

The first question would be, if the author is trying to prove that Jesus is superior to EVERYTHING why would he start with angels? Why do you think he started here?



Angels played a major role in Jewish thinking during the 1st century AD. Look at Stephen's quote in [Acts 7:53](#) *you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.*" The rabbis believed that angels delivered the law, spoke in the burning bush, spoke to Daniel over the river in Daniel 10 and more.

In the book of Jubilees (this is an extra biblical book that gives insight into Jewish thought but is not considered the word of God) they even believed that angels had written the Torah!

- Jubilees 1:27-28 And He said to the angel of the presence: 'Write for Moses from the beginning of creation till My sanctuary has been built among them for all eternity.' (Charles)

Jewish thinking might come to the wrong conclusion that Jesus was an angel. (Interestingly enough, this is the Jehovah Witness position on Jesus. He was Michael the arch angel in human form.) The author felt the need to clarify that Jesus is greater than the angels because He was the Word become flesh.

Here is the proof: CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS

Hebrews 1:4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs

Logic 1-1: His Name is superior to the angels

a. The Name of Son given to Jesus



[5] For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

Old Testament Quotes:

- **Psalm 2:7** I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- **2 Samuel 7:14** I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,
- **Psalm 89:26–27** He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.' And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

Which verse is most clear about Jesus being a son? Why?

b. Jesus is greater because angels worship Him

[6] And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." [7] Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." [8] But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. [9] You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."



Deuteronomy 32:43 "Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods, for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries. He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land."

Logic 1-2: Jesus is greater in the comparison of purpose and nature (Jesus' divinity compared to angelic service to the saved)

[10] And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; [11] they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, [12] like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end." [13] And to which of the angels has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?

a. Angels

Psalms 104:4 he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.

b. Jesus

Psalms 45:6-7 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

Psalms 102:25-28 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

Psalms 110:1 The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

[14] Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

CONCLUSIONS:

There are 2 logical conclusions to these verses that we have looked at this week.

Jesus

#1 There is no other name like Jesus!

Philippians 2:10–11 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#2 Jesus is worthy of more praise than the angels!

Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

DISCUSSION:

Which one of the above conclusions jumps out at you? Why?

Are you interested in angels and spiritual warfare? Yes No Maybe a little

What do you know about angels from your studies? Here are some verses to help.

- **Psalm 91:11** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
- **Hebrews 13:2** Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.
- **Psalm 34:7** The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- **Psalm 103:20** Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!
- **Isaiah 6:2** Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.
- **Revelation 19:10** Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- **Luke 15:10** Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Key Observations:

Angels do not accept worship, they give worship. Jesus is worthy of worship!
Angels serve, rejoice, encamp, guard, obey and more.

Have you ever interacted with spiritual things like angels, fallen angels or demons?

Thinking about angels and demons can sometimes cause fear but remember what Jesus said in [John 16:33](#) I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Why is it comforting to know that Jesus is greater than angels and demons?

Read and discuss the following verses:

- [Ephesians 6:11-12](#) Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
- [2 Corinthians 10:3-5](#) For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

How can we pray for you this week?

www.2020-

\$100

Week 3 ...

Day Attention

**GOOD
NEWS
IS COMING**

SERMON NOTES - WEEK 3

WEEK 3 . . . Pay Attention

Hebrews 2

Warning Against Neglecting Salvation

[1] Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. [2] For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, [4] while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Week 3 above?

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Welcome to Week 3 of the *Hebrews: Proving Jesus is Greater* series. Some weeks, like last week, are very technical and nuanced. The author, at times, pauses the proof to make a life applications section. That is where we will be today. Let's jump straight in!

Hebrews 2:1-4 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.



Brain Logic:

If God spoke through Jesus, then we need to pay close attention.
If we pay attention to what he says, then we will not drift away.

Why is it so hard to pay attention in today's world?

There are a few basic types of attention according to psychology. Please do your best to define each term below.

Sustained Attention: _____

Divided Attention: _____

Selective Attention: _____

Which of these describes your typical attention?



Some of the greatest threats to our attention span are only growing in influence. Stress, social media and societal division are actually creating what is called attention bias. What do I mean by that? Attention bias is when you weaponize your sustained attention to fix on something with negative consequences. For example, you come to church on a Sunday morning to worship the Lord. The first song in the set list is too loud. You fix your sustained attention on the fact that the first song was too loud. This sustained attention causes you to “tune out” of the rest of the songs. During the sermon, you write a note to complain on the communication card instead of notes on the sermon. You have let one thing dominate your attention.

Have you ever had attention bias? Describe a time where one thing just dominated your attention?

CONCLUSIONS:

We all need a Savior!

Hebrews 2:2–4 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,

- **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[4] while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

DISCUSSION:

How did Jesus fulfil verse 4 above?

Even the apostles performed miracles like the healing of the lame in Acts 3 at the gate Beautiful to show the work of the Spirit. John and Peter were arrested for healing this man and then God gave a powerful word to Peter in front of the Jewish Council. Read it below.

Acts 4:7–13 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” [8] Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, [9] if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, [10] let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. [11] This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. [12] And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” [13] Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

What jumps out to you from the Acts 4 passage?



Pay attention is the theme of this week. What do you need to pay more attention to in your personal life? What do you need to pay LESS attention to in your life?

What does it look like to pay attention in your marriage or friend relationships?

One thing that we need to pay attention to is the gospel message. We need the gospel in every area of our lives. How would you summarize the gospel in 10 words?

The author of Hebrews mentions spiritual gifts in verse 4. What do we learn about gifts in that verse?

God gives us gifts according to His will. Thank you, Lord.



How can we pray for you this week?



Week 4 ...

Humanity of Jesus

SERMON NOTES - WEEK 4

WEEK 4 . . . Humanity of Jesus

Hebrews 2:5-18

[5] For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. [6] It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? [7] You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, [8] putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. [9] But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

[10] For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. [11] For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, [12] saying,

"I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation, I will sing your praise." [13] And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me."

[14] Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, [15] and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. [16] For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. [17] Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. [18] For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 2:5-18?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

LESSON:

Given: The words of God through the Prophets Prove: Jesus is God's Son

Welcome to Week 4 of the Hebrews study. This week is going to be intense. I hope you are ready to dive in deep! We are finishing our proof step #1. Here is a review of where we are.

PROOF STEP #1: CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS

Logic 1-1: His Name, Jesus, is superior

- a. The Name of Son given to Jesus
- b. Angels worship Jesus

Logic 1-2: Jesus is God and angels are ministering spirits

Let's look at three more indicators that Jesus is superior to angels.

Logic 1-3: The Humanity of Jesus leads to everything being under His control.

Hebrews 2:5-18 For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking.

The author is saying that angels are out of touch with humanity because they were not subjected to the same world. They get to see the glory of God directly while we see God through Jesus and the things that have been made (Romans 1).



a. Subjected to humanity and yet without sin

[6] It has been testified somewhere, “What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? [7] You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, [8] putting everything in subjection under his feet.” Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

The quote in this passage is from Psalm 8. It is a beautiful Psalm and specifically here is the quote: **Psalm 8:4–6** what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,

What do you think it means that Jesus was made a little lower than the angels?

What we are discussing is the INCARNATION of Jesus. Where Jesus becomes fully human with its limitations and yet does not surrender His divinity, remaining fully God.

Why do you think it was important for Jesus to become human?

b. Conquered death for everyone

[9] But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Praise Jesus for conquering death in the flesh for everyone. How does this verse from John encourage you?

- **John 8:52** The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’”

Logic 1-4: Creator of all things

[10] For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Psalms 102:25–28 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

Hebrews 1:10 And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

Jesus is the Creator by whom everything and everyone exists, but He was also the founder of salvation. What a name!

Logic 1-5: Founder of Salvation

[10] For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. [11] For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, [12] saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation, I will sing your praise.” [13] And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

Look at the breakdown of these verses below and highlight the one that is the most impactful to you.

a. Perfect through suffering

Isaiah 53:3–6 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Psalms 22:16–18 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

b. Through sanctification work in believers

Hebrews 2:11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

c. One source of salvation

Hebrews 2:11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Isaiah 12:2 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

d. Adoption

Psalm 22:22 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

CONCLUSIONS:

We see the author summarize his work here in verses 14-18.

Hebrews 2:14-18 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, [15] and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. [16] For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. [17] Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. [18] For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

How would you breakdown these verses about Jesus?

Read the verses below that I think summarize this section well. Write below each verse what these verses show us about Jesus?

- **Philippians 2:5–8** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- **John 1:1–3** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

- **Hebrews 2:17** Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

DISCUSSION:

Wow! That was a lot of verses and logic this week. Let's slow down a little and get personal. What is something you learned about Jesus in this week's lesson?

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus loved you enough to come in the flesh to suffer and die once for all?

Jesus came and suffered for our sin. That statement blows me away! When is a time that you have suffered for or because of someone else?

How did you handle that suffering? With grace and joy or with some other emotion/attitude?

Lord, thank you for the perfect example of Jesus Christ, who willingly suffered and died for our sin. Help us to live a life of grace, love and sacrifice for you.

You made it through! Great job!

How can we pray for you this week?



Note: Throughout the study I will be giving you summaries of our proof. For a complete look at the proof, look in Appendix A at the end of this book.

Summary of Proof Statement #1

Proof Statement #1 Christ is superior to the angels

Hebrews 1:4

Summary Statement: Angels are not like men, they desire salvation, redemption and sonship with God. Jesus, the Name above all names, became man, who knew no sin although tempted in every way we were, and became the author of salvation for us.

Summary of Logic Argument of Point 1:

Logic 1-1: His Name, Jesus is superior

- a. The Name of Son given to Jesus
- b. Angels worship Jesus

Logic 1-2: Jesus is God and Angels are ministering spirits

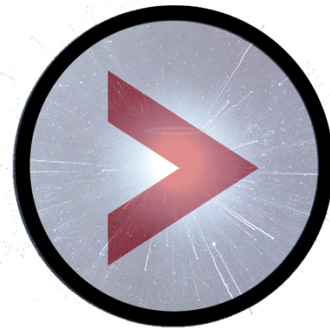
Logic 1-3: The Humanity of Jesus

- c. Subjected to humanity and yet without sin
- d. Conquered death for everyone

Logic 1-4: Jesus is the Creator of all things

Logic 1-5: Jesus is the Founder of Salvation

- a. Perfect through suffering
- b. Through sanctification work in believers
- c. One source of salvation
- d. Adoption
- e. Humanity of Jesus (see Logic 1-3 for more background)



Given: The words of God through the Prophets

Proof Statement #1 According to the prophets, Christ is superior to the angels

Hebrews 1:4

Prove: Jesus is God's Son

A close-up photograph of a fire burning in a hearth. The foreground is filled with glowing orange and red embers. A large, dark log is positioned on the right side, with bright white and yellow flames rising from it. The background is dark, with numerous out-of-focus light spots, creating a bokeh effect. The overall atmosphere is warm and cozy.

Week 5 ...

Greater than Moses

SERMON NOTES - WEEK 5

WEEK 5 . . . Greater than Moses

Hebrews 3

[1] Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, [2] who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. [3] For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. [4] (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) [5] Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, [6] but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

[7] Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, [8] do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, [9] where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. [10] Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ [11] As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’”

[12] Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. [13] But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. [14] For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 3:1-14?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

LESSON:

We are back for another week in the book of Hebrews. I hope that you are learning more and more about our incredible Jesus each week. Here is what we know so far.

Given: The words of God through the Prophets

Proof Statement #1 According to the prophets, Christ is superior to the angels

Hebrews 1:4

Prove: Jesus is God's Son

Having established Christ's superiority over the angels, God's messengers, the author creates a new assertion.

Hebrews 3 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,

Consider Jesus! This phrase is a call out to the audience to think of Jesus as more than a mere man as established in the humanity of Christ section. Consider Jesus the Ultimate High priest.

Proof Statement #2 Jesus is the Ultimate High Priest

Hebrews 3:1

In order for Jesus to be the ultimate high priest, He would have to be greater than all the prophets and priest that have come before. The author is going to begin this journey with the Jewish readers with the pinnacle prophet. Moses!

Deuteronomy 34:10-12 There has never again been a prophet in Israel like Moses. The Lord spoke face to face with him 11 and sent him to perform powerful miracles in the presence of the king of Egypt and his entire nation. 12 No one else has ever had the power to do such great things as Moses did for everyone to see.

Logic 2-1: Jesus is greater than Moses

[2] who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. [3] For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. [4] (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) [5] Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, [6] but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

One of the cool things about this section is that the author does not try to diminish the reputation of Moses in any way. **He just thinks Jesus is better!** Have you ever been in a situation where someone was cutting someone down to make themselves look better? How did you or how should you have handled that?

Here are the three reasons the author thinks Jesus is superior to Moses.

a. Jesus has more glory than Moses (Creator Argument Logic 1-4)

- a. The Builder deserves more glory than the house that was built. Hebrews 3:3
Hebrews 3:3 For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.
 - **Exodus 25:9** Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.
- b. Jesus is the Creator and the builder of all things Hebrews 3:4
Hebrews 3:4 (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)
- c. We are his house Hebrews 3:6
Hebrews 3:6 but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.
 - **Exodus 29:45** I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God.
 - **1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?



b. Jesus is faithful as a Son, Moses is faithful as a servant

Hebrews 3:5-6

Hebrews 3:5-6 Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, [6] but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

This is the Sonship Argument from **Logic 1-1. His Name, Jesus is superior**. This is how our proof will work throughout our study. Once a logic step is established, we can build off of it. For example, A house has a foundation. Then the cornerstone is laid to establish the building point from which the rest of the bricks are aligned and stacked upon. This is what we are doing in regard to Jesus being Gpd's son.

c. Entering His rest signifies completion for the people of God

[7] Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, [8] do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, [9] where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. [10] Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.' [11] As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'"

a. Moses did not lead the people to rest

This point is a stark reminder that Moses failed in his quest to bring the people into the promised land. He fell short. Jesus will usher believers in Him into a final rest in heaven on his second return, but He has fully rescued them from sin in this life.

CONCLUSIONS:

We see a long quote from Psalm 95 in the passage. Let's finish our time reading the whole chapter and writing down our conclusions.

Psalm 95 Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! [2] Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! [3] For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. [4] In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. [5] The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. [6] Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! [7] For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, [8] do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, [9] when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. [10] For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways." [11] Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."

DISCUSSION:

The author uses Moses' care over the house of God as a comparison to Jesus' care over His people. How does this compare to pastoring, marriage, fatherhood and life?

Remember the book of Exodus! How did the exodus of the Israelites reflect our Christian walk?

We are challenged to "not harden our hearts." What do you think that means?

In the final few verses of our passage, the author helps warn us against hardening our hearts.

[12] Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. [13] But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. [14] For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

How can we guard ourselves from an unbelieving heart?

Community is so important to the Christian walk. You need to have truth tellers in your life that are willing to “exhort” you and keep you in line with Christ. Who are those people in your life?

Do they know that they can speak honestly (yet gentle) into your life? Yes No

PATH group is a great time to build community and to share life together but it often takes more time and trust to build truth tellers. How do these verses encourage you to dive deeper with your community?

- **Hebrews 10:24-25** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- **Galatians 6:2** Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Let's do it. Let's build deep community together!



How can we pray for you this week?

Week 6 ...

Entering Rest



SERMON NOTES - WEEK 6

WEEK 6 . . . Entering Rest

Hebrews 3:15-4:13

[15] As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." [16] For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? [17] And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? [18] And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? [19] So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Hebrews 4

[1] Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. [2] For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. [3] For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said, "As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest,'" although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. [4] For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." [5] And again in this passage he said, "They shall not enter my rest."

[6] Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, [7] again he appoints a certain day, "Today," saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

[8] For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. [9] So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, [10] for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

[11] Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. [12] For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. [13] And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Week 6?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

What are your views on Sabbath rest?

LESSON:

Week 6 is here! I really enjoyed our Discussion section last week. We are continuing this week on proof statement #2 and the concept of Jesus being superior to Moses.

Proof Statement #2 Jesus is the Ultimate High Priest

Hebrews 3:1

Here is a quick review of last week.

Logic 2-1: Jesus is greater than Moses

- a. **Jesus has more glory than Moses** (Creator Argument Logic 1-4)
- b. **Jesus is faithful as a Son, Moses is faithful as a servant** (Sonship Argument Logic 1-1)
- c. **Entering His rest signifies completion for the people of God**

Today, we are going to step into this concept of rest and what it means for those of us who believe. Before we completely do that, we need to finish this thought about Jesus being better than Moses!

Here we go!

a. **Moses did not lead the people to rest**

b. **Moses led a rebellious people in the wilderness**

Hebrews 3:16

[15] As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” [16] For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? [17] And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

- **Numbers 14:2** And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!
- **Deuteronomy 1:35** ‘Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers,

The Israelites continually grumbled and complained in the wilderness. What were some of the things they complained about?

c. **For those who do not believe, they feel God’s wrath and harden their hearts**

[18] And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? [19] So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

- **Psalms 95:11** Therefore I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.”

What were some of the consequences for the grumbling of the people?

d. **God has made his offer of rest to those who believe**

Hebrews 4:1

Hebrews 4:1 Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

This is the result of eternal life in Jesus. We get to finally rest in Him in heaven.

a. **God showed his offer of rest through creation**

Hebrews 4:4

Hebrews 4:4 For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” [5] And again in this passage he said, “They shall not enter my rest.”

- **Genesis 2:2** And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done

Others tried to offer rest to God’s people but fell short. Look at a couple of other great men who tried.

b. **David offered rest**

Hebrews 4:7

Hebrews 4:6-7 Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, [7] again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

c. **Joshua offered rest in the promised land**

Hebrews 4:8

Hebrews 4:8 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on.

CONCLUSIONS:

We should strive for heavenly things!

Hebrews 4:11 Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Colossians 3:1–4 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. [3] For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. [4] When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

How do the verses above encourage you in your personal walk?

DISCUSSION:

Hebrews 4 gives us the highpoint verse of this week. Read it below and highlight what it teaches you about the Word.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Solution: The Word of God

Hebrews 4:12–13 For the word of God is:

- living and active,
- sharper than any two-edged sword,
- piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and
- discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

How would you teach people about the authority of the Bible? Which text would you use?

Below is a list of verses I would use. The Word interpreting the Word. Below each of the verses emphasize what it teaches us about the Bible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.



Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Joshua 1:8-9 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

I LOVE THE WORD OF GOD!! What does the Word mean to you?

What does this verse below teach us about Jesus' life on earth?

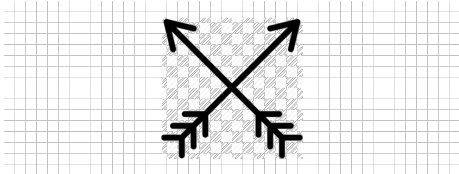
Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Why is Hebrews 4:15 so comforting to a believer?

God gave us the word, the Bible, and the Word became flesh, Jesus! What an amazing God!

Take a few minutes to write down your favorite paragraph of Scripture below. Take your time and finish by praying what comes to mind when you are done.

How can we pray for you this week?



Week 7 ...

Great High Priest



SERMON NOTES - WEEK 7

WEEK 7 . . . Great High Priest

Hebrews 4:14-5:10

[14] Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. [15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 5

[1] For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. [2] He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. [3] Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. [4] And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

[5] So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

[6] as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

[7] In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. [8] Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. [9] And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, [10] being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Week 7?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

LESSON:

Welcome to Week 7 of the Hebrews series. Today, we dive a little deeper into the priesthood and it will teach us more about Jesus and his purposes on earth.

Proof Statement #2 Jesus is the Ultimate High Priest

Hebrews 3:1

The next statement might seem like a no brainer but we want to discover the why behind it.

Logic 2-2: Jesus is a better high priest than an appointed man

Here are some details to why.

a. **Jesus has passed through the heavens**

Hebrews 4:14

Hebrews 4:14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Psalm 68:18 You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.

Jesus, although fully human, has experienced more than we could ever know in heaven.

b. Jesus was tempted as a man but without sin

Hebrews 4:15

[15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

c. Jesus is better because priests must sacrifice for themselves first then on behalf of the nation

Hebrews 5:1

Hebrews 5:1-3 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2] He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. [3] Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people.

This is a key point in the passage. Jesus was the perfect high priest because he did not sin.

d. Jesus was called and appointed by God

Hebrews 5:4-10 And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.[5] So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; [6] as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

[7] In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. [8] Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. [9] And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, [10] being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

This chapter deals with the priesthood of Israel. Remember the priests were appointed by God starting with Aaron in the book of Exodus.

When you hear the word priest what comes to mind?

The priesthood began with Moses and Aaron in Exodus 28.

Exodus 28:1–3 “Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron’s sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. [2] And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. [3] You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him for my priesthood.

The priests were set apart to do the work of God in the tabernacle and eventual the temple. God held the priests to the most stringent standards of behavior and ritual purity (Leviticus 21).

The Priesthood had many purposes, but a couple are highlighted here in Hebrews. For example, what job did the priests have according to Hebrews 5:1?

Hebrews 5:1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

CONCLUSIONS:

Jesus was a better high priest because He was without sin!

Hebrews 5:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin

What part of this verse is most important to you?

Read 1 Peter 2:9 below and answer the question on the next page.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

How are we called to live like a priest in our walk with Christ?

DISCUSSION:

One way to be like the priesthood, is to rightly handle the Word. How does this verse from 2 Timothy reinforce to that idea?

2 Timothy 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

What does it mean practically for you to rightly handle the word of truth?

Take a moment to look back at Week 6 about Hebrews 4:12 and the word of truth. Which verse from the list that starts on page 48 do you remember most.

How can we pray for you this week?

Week 8 ...

*Can I Lose my
Salvation?*

SERMON NOTES - WEEK 8

WEEK 8 . . . Can I Lose my Salvation?

Hebrews 5

[11] About this we have much to say, and it is 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 basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, [13] for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. [14] But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 6

[1] Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, [2] and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. [3] And this we will do if God permits. [4] For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, [5] and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, [6] and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. [7] For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. [8] But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

[9] Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation. [10] For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Week 8?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

LESSON:

Welcome to Week 8. Some people say that Hebrews 6 is one of the most challenging passages in Scripture to understand. In that case, we better dive in! Our passage starts with a rebuke.

Rebuke of the Hebrews! Hebrews 5:11-6:3

Hebrews 5 About this we have much to say, and it is 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 basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, [13] for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. [14] But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Who are the dull of hearing in verse 11?

- a. Christians who are not listening to the Lord
- b. The lost Hebrews who read the prophets but missed Jesus as Messiah
- c. Lost Gentiles who reject the word of God as truth
- d. Christian Gentiles who are ignorant of the Old Testament

Answer

Your answer to this question will determine your lens for interpreting the passage below in chapter 6.

The Dull of Hearing = Lost Hebrews

Hebrews 5:12

If you remember, the audience for this letter is the Hebrews whose misreading of the Old Testament led to them missing Jesus and becoming unskilled in the words of righteousness that they hold to for salvation.

Have you ever been dull of hearing from God?

The author tells them to leave behind elemental teaching in Hebrews 6:1--2. Then, he lists those teachings for us.

Hebrews 6 Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, [2] and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. [3] And this we will do if God permits

- repentance from dead works
- faith in God
- instructions on washing
- laying on of hands
- resurrection
- eternal judgement



Something is missing from these teachings: Namely, anything about Jesus!

All of these elemental things are the Jewish traditions from this time. They are meant to point to Jesus but the Pharisees missed it. **John 5:39–40** You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, [40] yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

How does John 5:39-40 stand as a stark reminder about how we read Scripture?

Mature – The Saved

Progress in the Lord is sign of maturity.

Hebrews 5:14

Signs of Growth: Discernment, distinguishing good and evil, knowledge of the Scriptures

The above highlights the misconception causing the muddle in the next question. Most people believe the dull of hearing are saved and then “it is impossible” applies to them. This is incorrect. The dull of hearing are the Hebrews who are lost because they read the Scripture and miss Jesus.

Can I Lose my Salvation?

Hebrews 6:4-10 For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, [5] and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, [6] and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

No!

How do I know? Here are a couple reasons.

1. This passage is talking about lost Hebrews who have the law, the prophets, miracles, Jesus in the flesh, Pentecost and more and still do not believe. Thus, the very purpose of the letter.
2. The rest of Scripture clearly teaches the perseverance of the people of God. We will research this more in our DISCUSSION section on the next page.

What is happening in these verses? The author is explaining the blaspheming of the Holy Spirit.

For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, [5] and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, [6] and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt

Those who have seen and experienced the movement of God but remain dull of hearing or even worse, give the credit to the enemy have sealed their eternity in their rejection.

CONCLUSIONS:

Here is the author's analogy to illustrate the point from Hebrews 6:7-8.

[7] For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. [8] But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

We do not know what kind of seed is under the surface in people's hearts, which is why we do not judge other people's salvation. We love and encourage even our enemies. When the rain comes, trials and tribulation, the true "fruit" will come to the surface. Suffering produces fruit that lines up with righteousness in those who believe.

DISCUSSION:

Since many people believe that this chapter teaches that you can lose your salvation, let's take a few minutes to search Scripture to get the whole counsel of Scripture on the subject.

Here are some other verses to consider. What are your thoughts on these verses?

Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 1:12 Which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me.

John 10:24–29 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” [25] Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, [26] but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. [27] My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. [28] I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

1 Peter 1:3–7 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5] who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (ESV)

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Romans 11:28–29 As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. [29] For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

You know my position. Which of the two views, #1 you can lose your salvation or #2 your salvation is irrevocable, is most convincing to you? Why?

Have you ever struggled with doubts about your salvation? When?

This section of Scripture started with a rebuke. How do you handle people telling you hard things?

How can we pray for you this week?

Week 9 ...

Certain of God's Promises



SERMON NOTES - WEEK 9

WEEK 9 . . . Certain of God's Promises

Hebrews 6

[11] And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, [12] so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

[13] For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, [14] saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." [15] And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. [16] For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. [17] So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, [18] so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

[19] We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, [20] where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 6:11-20?

What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?

LESSON:

Welcome to Week 9. We have made it so far on our journey into the depths of Hebrews. It has been a great journey. This week, we take a break from the logic and systems to spend some time focusing on the promises of God.

Hebrews 6:11-12 And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, [12] so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

The discussion from last week should spur us on to desire God more. These verses challenge us to live different. What is the message of these verses in Hebrews 6:11-12?

It is interesting how the end of chapter 6 gives us a discourse on the certainty of God's promises. If you remember, we discussed whether you could lose your salvation. If that was true, you would have no peace or certainty.

God, through the author, then points to His time with Abraham where Abraham's heart was for God more than for himself. "For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, 'Surely I will bless you and multiply you.'" This quote is from Genesis 22 and the story of Abraham and his willingness to sacrifice Isaac.

- **Genesis 22:16-17** and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, [17] I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,

Would you be able to trust God to that extent? Why or why not?

CONCLUSIONS:

When God speaks, it comes true.

At the end of our reading for today, the author gives these verses.

Hebrews 6:18–19 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. [19] We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,

How do these verses encourage you?

Truth and Hope! Two unchangeable things!

What does the phrase “anchor of the soul” mean to you?



Anchors are designed to hold something in place by attaching itself to something solid. Scripture mentions two things that are a “solid foundation” throughout Scripture:

#1 JESUS – 1 Corinthians 3:11 For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

#2 The Word - Luke 6:47–48 Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: [48] he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

How well do you anchor to the two things mentioned above? What make this difficult at times?

DISCUSSION:

For our discussion time today, I would like for us to look at ten of the promises of God. Remember, **Hebrews 6:15** And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

According to Hebrews 6:15, one of the keys to the promises of God is _____.

1. God promised salvation to all who believe in His Son.

Romans 1:16–17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

How is this verse uplifting to you?

2. God promised that all things will work out for good for His children.

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

What does this promise look like in the reality of daily living?

3. God promised comfort in our trials.

2 Corinthians 1:3–4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, [4] who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Has there been a time in your life where you felt the comfort of God? When?

4. God promised new life in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

What are the implications of this promise for those of us who believe and why is it so hard to believe this promise?

5. God promised every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

What are some of the spiritual blessings mentioned in the Bible?

6. God promised to finish the work He started in us.

Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

What work in you are you hoping God finishes in the near future?

7. God promised peace when we pray.

Philippians 4:6–7 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is a beautiful set of verses that we should all submit to memory. How do these verses inspire you?

8. God promised to supply our needs.

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

This is a challenging promise to hold onto because bills sometimes don't get paid and it can feel like God has let us down. How would you explain this verse to a new believer?

9. Jesus promised abundant life to those who follow Him.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Describe an abundant life below. What are some of the components in your opinion?

10. Jesus promised eternal life to those who trust Him.

John 4:14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

What does the reality of eternal life mean for those of us who believe?

Bonus Promise: #11 Jesus promised that He will return for us.

John 14:2–3 In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

Are you looking forward to the return of Jesus? Yes or No

What are you looking most forward to in heaven?

Are there any promises of God that you hold onto that were not on the list? If so, write the Scripture below.

We can trust in His promises for they are certain. Praise be to God!

How can we pray for you this week?



Week 10 ...

Meet Melchizedek



SERMON NOTES - WEEK 10

WEEK 10 . . . Meet Melchizedek

Hebrews 7

The Priestly Order of Melchizedek

[1] For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, [2] and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. [3] He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

[4] See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! [5] And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. [6] But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. [7] It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. [8] In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. [9] One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, [10] for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

Jesus Compared to Melchizedek

[11] Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? [12] For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. [13] For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. [14] For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

REFLECTION:

What was your favorite verse from Hebrews 7?

LESSON:

Welcome to Week 10 of the Hebrews Series. We have been searching the Word for evidence about the greatness of Jesus. Today, we meet another character in the Old Testament. Melchizedek. We meet the actual Melchizedek in Genesis 14. Read the story below.

Genesis 14:17–24 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley). [18] And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) [19] And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; [20] and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. [21] And the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself.” [22] But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have lifted my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, [23] that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich.’ [24] I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share.”

<p>Our goal for this week is to prove that Jesus is better than Melchizedek!</p>

Logic 2-3: Jesus is a better high priest than Melchizedek

Hebrews 7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

- a. **Melchizedek is the original priest of the Most High even before Aaron** Hebrews 7:1

[2] and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace.

- b. **Abraham testified of Melchizedek's greatness** Hebrews 7:2,4
 - a. Gave a tenth of everything
- c. **Melchizedek's names testify to his greatness** Hebrews 7:2
 - a. King of righteousness
 - b. King of Salem (peace)

Which of the indications above is most compelling to you?

[3] He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

What is happening in these verses is that the author is showing that Melchizedek was a TYPE of the coming Messiah. In other words, Melchizedek was a man who pointed everyone to attributes and characteristics of the coming Messiah, Jesus!

Melchizedek is such a mysterious figure that some people think was actually Jesus Himself. We do not know for sure who Melchizedek was, but he was an important figure to the author of Hebrews. Melchizedek is mentioned 8 times by name in the book of Hebrews and the entire chapter 7 is centered around his example.

Was Melchizedek a Christophany (Jesus)? No.

He was intended to be a TYPE therefore the similarities would be the point.

But, in verse 3 for example, people sometimes assume that "He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life," means that Melchizedek is eternal. The author is simply saying, "We don't know anything about his family line like the Levites or His age or life that you consider so important." (remember our discussion about the Levites and house of Judah) Also, What is the next words after our quotes above. "but resembling the Son of God." This points to Melchizedek as a TYPE.

What are some of the attributes of Melchizedek in the verses above that were also true about Jesus?

Let's jump back into chapter 7.

[4] See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! [5] And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. [6] But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

d. Melchizedek is the model for the priesthood before Aaron

Hebrews 7:5-6

[7] It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. [8] In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. [9] One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, [10] for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. [11] Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

e. Perfection through the law is impossible even through the priesthood. Hebrews 7:11

f. To be better than Melchizedek one must arise that is from a different tribe than Levi in order to claim the name of king of righteousness and king of peace.

[12] For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. [13] For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. [14] For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

Which verse about Melchizedek above was most attention-grabbing to you?

- g. **The new high priest must be of the tribe of Judah, the tribe of David.** Hebrews 7:14
- h. **Jesus was both king and priest.**
 - a. King – **2 Samuel 7:12** When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
 - b. Priest – **Psalms 110:4** The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”

[22] This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. [23] The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, [24] but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. [25] Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

- i. **Every other priest, including Melchizedek had a weakness. DEATH!** Hebrews 7:23

CONCLUSIONS:

Abraham honored Melchizedek and Melchizedek honored God.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:7 It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior.

Jesus lived the indestructible life we couldn't live.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:15–16 This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, [16] who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.

Jesus is the guarantor of a better covenant.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:22 This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

Which conclusion above is most impactful for you?

The author decides at this point in the book of Hebrews to create his own summary statement in verses 26-28. You will find them at the top of the next page, then below the passage write your thoughts.

Summary Statement: Hebrews 7:26–28 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. [27] He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. [28] For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Thoughts on the summary?

DISCUSSION:

What are your thoughts about Melchizedek? Summarize them below.

What jumped out to you from the Genesis 14:17–24 passage about Melchizedek?

How would you describe Melchizedek to someone who had not heard about him?

REVIEW:

As we are closing out the first half of Hebrews, what has been most memorable to you?

Which week was your favorite week of study?

Have you seen any of your prayers answered over the last 10 weeks?

How can we pray for you this week?



APPENDIX A: The Proof of Jesus Christ

Given: God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,
Prove: but in these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son

Hebrews 1:1

Hebrews 1:2

Definition: Son - Hebrews 1:2-3

- Heir of all things
- creator of the world
- the radiance of the glory of God
- the exact imprint of his nature
- upholds the universe by the word of his power
- makes purification for sins
- sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Proof Statement #1 Christ is superior to the angels

Hebrews 1:4

Logic 1-1: His Name is superior to the angels

c. The Name of Son given to Jesus

Psalm 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

2 Samuel 7:14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,

Psalm 89:26-27 He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.' And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

d. Angels worship Jesus

Deuteronomy 32:43 "Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods, for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries. He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land."

NT Conclusion: Philippians 2:10-11 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Logic 1-2: Comparison of purpose and nature leads to Jesus' divinity and angelic service to the elect

c. Angels

Psalm 104:4 he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.

d. Jesus

Psalm 45:6-7 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

Psalm 102:25-28 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

Psalm 110:1 The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Personal Application: Hebrews 2:1-4

If God spoke through Jesus, then we need to pay close attention.
If we pay attention to what he says, then we will not drift away.

Logic:

Message of angels from Old Testament is reliable

Given

Sin/Disobedience resulted in death through sacrificial system

Moses Law

Romans 6:23

We need salvation

Declared by the Lord

Hebrews 2:3

Attested by signs, wonders, miracles and gifts of the Spirit

Hebrews 2:3-4

Logic 1-3: Humanity of Jesus

c. Subjected to humanity and yet without sin

Psalm 8:4–6 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,

Hebrews 2:8 putting everything in subjection under his feet.” Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

d. Conquered death for everyone

Hebrews 2:9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

John 8:52 The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’

NT Conclusion: Philippians 2:5–8 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Logic 1-4: Creator of all things

Psalm 102:25–28 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

Hebrews 1:10 And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

NT Conclusion: John 1:1–3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Logic 1-5: Founder of Salvation

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

e. Through perfect suffering

Isaiah 53:3–6 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Psalms 22:16–18 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

f. Through sanctification work in believers

Hebrews 2:11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

g. One source of salvation

Hebrews 2:11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

Psalms 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Isaiah 12:2 “Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

h. Adoption

Psalms 22:22 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

i. Humanity of Jesus (see Logic 1-3 for more background)

a. Jesus must suffer man’s fate death

Hebrews 2:14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

Hebrews 2:18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

b. Jesus must conquer death

Hebrews 2:14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

Hebrews 2:16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 2:17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

Summary of Proof Statement #1

Proof Statement #1 Christ is superior to the angels

Hebrews 1:4

Summary Statement: Angels are not like men, they desire salvation, redemption and sonship with God. Jesus, the Name above all names, became man, who knew no sin although tempted in every way we were, and became the author of salvation for us.

Summary of Argument of Point 1:

Logic 1-1: His Name, Jesus is superior

- e. The Name of Son given to Jesus
- f. Angels worship Jesus

Logic 1-2: Jesus is God and Angels are ministering spirits

Logic 1-3: The Humanity of Jesus

- g. Subjected to humanity and yet without sin
- h. Conquered death for everyone

Logic 1-4: Jesus is the Creator of all things

Logic 1-5: Jesus is the Founder of Salvation

- f. Through perfect suffering
- g. Through sanctification work in believers
- h. One source of salvation
- i. Adoption
- j. Humanity of Jesus (see Logic 1-3 for more background)

Logic 2-1: Jesus is greater than Moses

- d. Jesus has more glory
 - a. Builder more glory than the house Hebrews 3:4
Exodus 25:9 Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.
 - b. The builder of all things is God Hebrews 3:4
 - c. We are his house Hebrews 3:6
Exodus 29:45 I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God.
1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?
- e. Jesus is faithful as a Son, Moses is faithful as a servant Hebrews 3:5-6
- f. Entering His rest signifies completion for the people of God
 - a. Moses did not lead the people to rest
Psalm 95:7–11 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, “They are a people who go astray in their heart, they have not known my ways.” Therefore I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.”

Warning: Sin leads to an evil and unbelieving heart which causes us to fall away from God

Hebrews 3:12–14 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. [13] But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. [14] For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

- b. Moses led a rebellious people in the wilderness Hebrews 3:16
Numbers 14:2 And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!

Deuteronomy 1:35 ‘Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers,
- c. For those who do not believe, they feel God’s wrath and harden their hearts
Psalm 95:11 Therefore I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.”

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 4:1 Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

- g. Others tried to lead God's people into His rest and failed Hebrews 4:1
- d. God showed his offer of rest through creation Hebrews 4:4
Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done
- e. David offered rest Hebrews 4:7
Psalm 95:7–11 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, they have not known my ways." Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."
- f. Joshua offered rest in the promised land Hebrews 4:8
Hebrews 4:8 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 4:11 Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Solution: The Word of God

Hebrews 4:12–13 For the word of God is:

- living and active,
- sharper than any two-edged sword,
- piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and
- discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Logic 2-2: Jesus is a better high priest than an appointed man

- a. Passed through the heavens Hebrews 4:14
Psalm 68:18 You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.
- b. Jesus was tempted as a man but without sin Hebrews 4:15
Hebrews 5:2 He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 4:15–16 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

c. Priests must sacrifice for themselves first then on behalf of men Hebrews 5:1
Hebrews 5:1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

d. Jesus was called and appointed by God
Hebrews 5:4-5 And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.)So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you";

Psalm 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

Psalm 110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 5:9-10 And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek. (ESV)

Rebuke of the Hebrews! Hebrews 5:11-6:3

Dull of Hearing – Lost Hebrews

Those whose negligence of the Old Testament leads to them missing Jesus and becoming unskilled in the words of righteousness that they hold to for salvation. Hebrews 5:12

Elemental Teaching: repentance from dead works, faith in God, instructions on washing, laying on of hands, resurrection, eternal judgement Hebrews 6:1--2

Something is missing from these teachings: Anything about Jesus!

All of these things are the Jewish traditions meant to point to Jesus but they missed him.

John 5:39–40 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, [40] yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

Mature – The Saved

Progress in the Lord is sign of maturity. Hebrews 5:14
Signs of Growth: Discernment, distinguishing good and evil, knowledge of the Scriptures

The above highlights the misconception causing the next question. Most people believe the dull of hearing are saved and then "it is impossible" applies to them. This is incorrect. The dull of hearing are the Hebrews who are lost because they read the Scripture and miss Jesus.

Can I Lose my Salvation? Hebrews 6:4-12
No, see Rebuke section above!

What is this then?

It is impossible ...

Hebrews 6:4-8

- in the case of those who have once been enlightened,
- who have tasted the heavenly gift,
- and have shared in the Holy Spirit,
- [5] and have tasted the goodness of the word of God
- and the powers of the age to come,

[6] and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

This is a definition of the Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. Those who have seen and experienced the movement of God but remain dull of hearing or even worse, give the credit to the enemy have sealed their eternity.

Here is an analogy to illustrate from Hebrews 6:7-8

[7] For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. [8] But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

We do not know what kind of seed is under the surface in people's hearts. When the rain comes, trials and tribulation, the true "fruit" will come to the surface.

Logic 2-3: Jesus is a better high priest than Melchizedek

Genesis 14:17-24 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). [18] And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) [19] And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; [20] and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. [21] And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." [22] But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, [23] that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' [24] I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share."

- j. Melchizedek is the original priest of the Most High even before Aaron Hebrews 7:1
- k. Abraham testified of Melchizedek's greatness Hebrews 7:2
 - c. Gave a tenth of everything
- l. Melchizedek's names testify to his greatness Hebrews 7:2

- d. King of righteousness
- e. King of Salem (peace)
- m. Melchizedek was a TYPE of the coming messiah Hebrews
7:3
- n. Melchizedek is the model for the priesthood Hebrews
7:5-6

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:7 It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior.

- o. Perfection through the law is impossible even through the priesthood. Hebrews
7:11
- p. To be better than Melchizedek one must arise that is from a different tribe than Levi in order to claim the name of king of righteousness and king of peace.
- q. The new high priest must be of the tribe of Judah, the tribe of David. Hebrews
7:14

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:15–16 This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, [16] who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.

- r. Jesus was both king and priest.
 - f. King – 2 Samuel 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
 - g. Priest – Psalm 110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”

NT Conclusion: Hebrews 7:22 This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

- s. Every other priest, including Melchizedek had a weakness. DEATH! Hebrews 7:23

NT Conclusion: Jesus rose from the grave and conquered death!

Summary Statement: Hebrews 7:26–28 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. [27] He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. [28] For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Summary of Proof Statement #2

Proof Statement #2 Jesus is the Ultimate High Priest

Hebrews 3:1

Summary Statement: Hebrews 7:26–28 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. [27] He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. [28] For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Logic 2-1: Jesus is greater than Moses

- a. Jesus has more glory
 - a. Builder more glory than the house Hebrews 3:4
 - b. The builder of all things is God Hebrews 3:4
 - c. We are his house Hebrews 3:6
- b. Jesus is faithful as a Son, Moses is faithful as a servant Hebrews 3:5-6
- c. Entering His rest signifies completion for the people of God
 - a. Moses did not lead the people to rest
 - b. Moses led a rebellious people in the wilderness Hebrews 3:16
 - c. For those who do not believe, they feel God's wrath and harden their hearts
- d. Others tried to lead God's people into His rest and failed Hebrews 4:1
 - g. God showed his offer of rest through creation Hebrews 4:4
 - h. David offered rest Hebrews 4:7
 - i. Joshua offered rest in the promised land Hebrews 4:8

Logic 2-2: Jesus is a better high priest than an appointed man

- a. Passed through the heavens Hebrews 4:14
- b. Jesus was tempted as a man but without sin Hebrews 4:15
- c. Priests must sacrifice for themselves first then on behalf of men Hebrews 5:1
- d. Jesus was called and appointed by God

Logic 2-3: Jesus is a better high priest than Melchizedek

- a. Melchizedek is the original priest of the Most High even before Aaron Hebrews 7:1
- b. Abraham testified of Melchizedek's greatness Hebrews 7:2
- c. Melchizedek's names testify to his greatness Hebrews 7:2
- d. Melchizedek was a TYPE of the coming messiah Hebrews 7:3
- e. Melchizedek is the model for the priesthood Hebrews 7:5-6
- f. Perfection through the law is impossible even through the priesthood. Hebrews 7:11
- g. To be better than Melchizedek one must arise that is from a different tribe than Levi in order to claim the name of king of righteousness and king of peace.
- h. The new high priest must be of the tribe of Judah, the tribe of David. Hebrews 7:14
- i. Jesus was both king and priest.
- j. Every other priest, including Melchizedek had a weakness. DEATH! Hebrews 7:23

Memory Verses from Hebrews

Week 1:

Week 2:

Week 3:

Week 4:

Week 5:

Week 6:



Memory Verses from Hebrews

Week 7:

Week 8:

Week 9:

Week 10:





Photography:

Cover Logo by Chris Smith

Cover Photo by Dan Cristian from Unsplash

Week 1 photo by Svitlana Rusak from Unsplash

Week 2 photo by Marek Studzinski from Unsplash

Week 3 photo by Jon Tyson from Unsplash

Week 4 photo by Tim Marshall from Unsplash

Week 5 photo by Joshua Newton from Unsplash

Week 6 photo by Jan Padilla from Unsplash

Week 7 photo by Ben Ostrower from Unsplash

Week 8 photo by Ian Schneider from Unsplash

Week 9 photo by Marcus Mayer from Unsplash

Week 10 photo by Ioana Cristiana from Unsplash