A close-up photograph of a person's hands writing on a scroll with a quill pen. The person is wearing a brown, textured tunic. The scroll is filled with dense, handwritten text in a cursive script. The lighting is warm and focused on the hands and the scroll, with the background being dark and out of focus.

HEBREW'S

By
Dr. Charles Stoner

Study Charts Explained in Steps:

- 1. Look at the chart. The text of the passage being studied is written in the text box and divided into paragraphs showing the exact content of the segment as it appears in the NIV. Words may be omitted in this re-creation of the text (...), but none added; some words are capitalized for effect.
- 2. In the upper right corner of each paragraph is a small box with a one or two word paragraph title or name taken from the text which identifies the paragraph at a glance.
- 3. Now note in one of the paragraphs, a highlighted, underlined key center, comprised of a key phrase or sentence chosen as the basis for the main topical study of the whole segment.
- 4. Follow the two arrows to the top of chart to find the master title of the topical study chosen, a short phrase in one's own words of the key center of the text phrase below, Step 3.
- 5. On the left side of the chart are smaller boxes, one for each paragraph, containing the paragraph points which tie together the topical study derived from the master title and key phrase/sentence being studied. These are usually connected by lines or arrows to show the unity of the topical study based on the Scriptural segment.
- 6. In the margins are other studies recorded: observations that emphasize, compare or list items of interest found in the text. These are called supplementary studies which can add interest to this inductive approach to Bible study. Below the main chart box are more observations & implications numbered in a sizable text box which conclude the study.

*This method of Bible study using analytical charts is based on Irvin L. Jensen's book, Acts: An Inductive Study, pages 59-64.

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. Acts 17:11

Hebrews

Lesson 1

Greatness of our Salvation

Today we begin a study in the **Book of Hebrews**, again following the vertical study chart method.

We do not know who wrote Hebrews, but with refreshing directness the author gets right to the point: *Jesus Christ, the glorious Son of God, is second to none and superior to all!* His initial example to prove his thesis is to show how **Christ is superior to the angels** (See attached chart for 1:1-14). Though angels are important, Jesus Christ is far superior to them in *word, position, name, origin, authority, power, duration, and function*

The perspective of this passage goes far beyond earth. Jesus Christ is described here as glorified in Heaven, seated at God's right hand after having completed His redemptive work on earth. The eternal, profound truth of these verses describing the rule, glory and universal superiority of Christ is truly remarkable. Because of His purification for sins, all who believe in Him can have full assurance of their salvation. Our grateful hearts can only respond in sincere worship, holy living and faithful ministry!

In the Superior Son,

Charlie Stoner

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Crossworld: All Professions. One Mission.

Temple Bible Church: Surrender, Community, Mission



JESUS CHRIST, GLORIOUS SON OF GOD

Jesus Christ is...

Heb. 1:1-14

Through Him he made the Universe	1:1—In the past GOD SPOKE to our ANCESTORS through the PROPHETS at many TIMES and in VARIOUS WAYS, ² but in these LAST DAYS he has SPOKEN to us by HIS SON, whom he appointed HEIR of ALL THINGS, and THROUGH whom ALSO he MADE the UNIVERSE. ³ The SON is the RADIANCE of GOD'S GLORY and the exact REPRESENTATION of his BEING, SUSTAINING all THINGS by his POWERFUL WORD. After he had provided PURIFICATION for SINS, he SAT DOWN at the RIGHT HAND of the MAJESTY in HEAVEN. ⁴ So HE became as MUCH SUPERIOR to the ANGELS as the NAME he has INHERITED is SUPERIOR to THEIRS.	Spoken Heir, Creator, Sustainer, Purifier
Let Angels worship Him	5—For to WHICH of the ANGELS did GOD ever say, "YOU are MY SON; today I have BECOME your FATHER?" Or again, "I will be HIS FATHER and HE will be MY SON?" ⁶ And again, when GOD brings his FIRSTBORN into the WORLD, he says, "Let all GOD'S ANGELS WORSHIP him." ⁷ In speaking of the ANGELS he says, "He MAKES his ANGELS SPIRITS and his SERVANTS FLAMES of FIRE."	Angels God's Firstborn in world
Above your companions, you remain	8—BUT about the SON he says, "Your THRONE, O GOD, will LAST for EVER and EVER; a SCEPTER of JUSTICE will be the SCEPTER of your KINGDOM. You have LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS and HATED WICKEDNESS; therefore GOD; YOUR GOD, has SET you ABOVE your COMPANIONS by ANOINTING you with the OIL of JOY." ¹⁰ He also says, "In the beginning, LORD, you LAID the FOUNDATIONS of the EARTH, and the HEAVENS are the WORK of your HANDS. They will PERISH, but you REMAIN; they will all WEAR OUT like a GARMENT. You will ROLL them UP like a ROBE; like a GARMENT they will be CHANGED. BUT you REMAIN the SAME, and your YEARS will NEVER END."	The Son Eternal, Exalted, Creator, Paramount
Sit at my right	13—To WHICH of the ANGELS did GOD ever say, "SIT at my RIGHT HAND until I MAKE your ENEMIES a FOOTSTOOL for your FEET?" ¹⁴ Are not ALL ANGELS MINISTERING SPIRITS sent to SERVE those who will INHERIT SALVATION?	Serve Sovereign Lord

Appointed Heir & Creator of All

Worshipped by the Angels of God

Set Above & Anointed by God

Sitting at Right Hand of God

The Son is Superior to the Angels in...

- >Word >Glory
- >Power >Name
- >Nature >Origin
- >Work
- >Designation
- >Relationship
- >Essence
- >Authority
- >Duration
- >Position & Function

OT Scripture references:

- >Ps. 2:7.
- >2 Sam. 7:14;
- >2 Chron. 17:13.
- >Deut. 32:43.
- >Ps. 104:4.
- >Ps. 45:6,7.
- >Ps. 102:25-27.
- >Ps. 110:1.



(1) The perspective of the Book of Hebrews is of Christ the Son glorified in the Heavens seated at the right hand of the Father after completing His work of redemption on earth. (2) Christ is declared as superior to all, specifically to angels in this passage, and as such He merits worship and complete obedience. (3) The author's purpose was to help the Hebrew Christian believers to recognize and accept the superiority of Jesus Christ over everyone and everything. (4) He will warn them not to return to the practices and traditions of Judaism, thus attempting to create an impossible syncretism between Christianity and Judaism which would negate the Person, work and power of the glorified, ascended Son. (5) The angels have an important ministry of service to God and believers, but they are inferior to the Son in every way. (6) Noteworthy areas of theology: Christology, Soteriology, Angelology and Eschatology. (7) The truth in these verses declaring the rule, glory and superiority of Christ at the right hand of the Father gives me assurance of my salvation and a grateful heart!

Hebrews

Lesson 2

Greatness of our Salvation 2:1-18

pay attention!

You can probably remember when your teacher would say to you, *pay attention!* Perhaps it was in reference to important subject matter that was going to be included on the midterm exam

The author of the book of Hebrews began chapter 2 this way: "We must *pay the most careful attention*, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."

He then went on to compare the law of Moses spoken through angels to the message of salvation in Christ Jesus announced by the Lord, Heb. 2:1-4. Disobedience to the mosaic law brought severe punishment. Ignoring our salvation in Christ brings serious consequences as well.

See the attached study chart and discover the Greatness of our Salvation--its biblical proclamation, high price, eternal purpose & death-defying power. The superiority of Jesus Christ to the angels through His suffering and priestly work now qualifies Him to help those who are being tempted, 2:16-18.

Are we truly appreciating, living and faithfully sharing the great salvation we have in Christ?

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SO GREAT A SALVATION

Jesus here:

The Proclamation of Salvation

The Price of Salvation

The Purpose of Salvation

The Power of Salvation

Announced & confirmed	2:1—We must pay the most careful ATTENTION, Attention therefore, to what we have HEARD, so that we do not DRIFT AWAY. 2 For since the MESSAGE spoken through ANGELS was BINDING, and every violation and disobedience received its just PUNISHMENT, 3 how shall we ESCAPE if we IGNORE so GREAT a SALVATION? This SALVATION, which was first announced by the LORD, was CONFIRMED to us by those who HEARD him. 4 GOD also TESTIFIED to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT distributed according to his will.	His great salvation
Jesus suffered death for everyone	5—It is NOT to ANGELS that he has SUBJECTED the Lower WORLD to come, about which we are speaking. 6 But there is a place where someone has TESTIFIED: "What is MANKIND that you are MINDFUL of them, a SON of MAN that you care for HIM? 7 You made them a LITTLE LOWER than the ANGELS; you crowned them with GLORY and HONOR 8 and put everything UNDER their FEET." In putting everything under them, GOD left nothing that is not SUBJECT to them. 9 BUT we do SEE JESUS, who was made LOWER than the ANGELS for a LITTLE while, now CROWNED with GLORY and HONOR because he suffered DEATH, so that by the GRACE of GOD he might TASTE DEATH for EVERYONE.	His temporary subjection
Bring many children to glory	10— In bringing MANY sons and daughters to GLORY, it was FITTING that GOD, for whom and through whom everything EXISTS, should make the PIONEER of their SALVATION PERFECT through what he SUFFERED. 11 BOTH the one who makes people HOLY and those who are made HOLY are of the SAME family. So JESUS is not ashamed to call them BROTHERS and SISTERS. 12 He says, "I will DECLARE your NAME to my brothers and sisters; in the ASSEMBLY I will sing your PRAISES." 13 And again, "I will put my TRUST in HIM." And again he says, "HERE am I, and the CHILDREN GOD has GIVEN me."	His full sanctification
Break the power of death, to free	14—Since the CHILDREN have flesh and blood, he too ABLE SHARED in their HUMANITY so that by his DEATH he might BREAK the POWER of him who holds the POWER of DEATH—that is, the DEVIL— 15 and FREE those who all their lives were HELD in SLAVERY by their FEAR of DEATH. 16 For surely it is NOT ANGELS he helps, but ABRAHAM'S descendants. 17 For this reason he HAD to be made LIKE them, FULLY HUMAN in EVERY way, in order that he might BECOME a MERCIFUL and FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST in service to GOD, and that he might make ATONEMENT for the SINS of the PEOPLE. 18 Because HE himself SUFFERED when he was TEMPTED, HE is ABLE to HELP those who are BEING TEMPTED.	His effective priesthood

Salvation & the Trinity:
 > Announced by the Lord.
 > Confirmed by those who heard.
 > Testified to by God & Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 > Perfected by suffering.



Angels & Christ:
 > message through angels.
 > not subjected to angels.
 > lower than angels.
 > not angels He helps.

Death & Christ:
 > death suffered.
 > tasted death
 > breaking death's power.
 > fear of death.

(1) Old Testament quotations—Ps. 8:4-6 > Heb. 2:5-8; Ps. 22:22 > Heb. 2:12; Is. 8:17,18 > Heb. 2:13. (2) We cannot ignore our great salvation because of its biblical proclamation, high price, eternal purpose, and its death-defying power! (3) The angels observed but did not directly participate in man's great salvation (1 Peter 1:12). (4) Reasons for Christ's incarnation are shown in 2:17 & 18—complete identification with mankind in our sin and weakness, being qualified to make priestly atonement for our sin, and helping us when we face temptation. (5) Do I truly believe, live, and consistently share this so great salvation?

Hebrews

Lesson 3

Firmly Committed to Serving Christ 3:1-19

THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN

These days many believers do not take seriously the claims of Christ for a life of dedication to Him. In our churches we emphasize the blessings and joy that Christ offers His followers. A life of faith, self-denial and sacrifice is commendable for others, but often not for us personally. Professional and social success is more valued than faithfulness and suffering that accompany a life surrendered to God. We prefer a path of comfort more than the way of the Cross

The Israelite nation began well. They passed through the Red Sea as the redeemed people of God. But in the wilderness things soon changed. **According to Hebrews 3 (see the study chart)**, they hardened their hearts through the deceitfulness of sin. During 40 years that generation rebelled, tempted God, and strayed from His ways. They were perverse, unbelieving, and disobedient. Because of their unbelief, they were not allowed to enter the promised land. They were deceived by sin.

The author of Hebrews gave a solution, a way his readers could protect themselves from the deceitfulness of sin. As participants of God's heavenly calling, they were reminded to fix their thoughts on Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest whom they had acknowledged. Looking to Him, they could persevere when tested and not fall into a state of rebellion and unbelief. Instead of going astray, they would keep their confidence and encourage one another in the Body of Christ. Fixing their attention only on Christ, they would learn not to follow the negative example of their unfaithful ancestors!

Today the deception of sin seems stronger than ever, but there is hope! The way to resist spiritual compromise is to fix our attention on our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. As a result, He will faithfully protect our hearts from becoming selfish and hardened. "See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God."

Charlie Stoner

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FIRMLY COMMITTED TO SHARING IN CHRIST

GOD:



By Thinking on Jesus

By Persevering under Testing

By Encouraging One Another

By Avoiding Unbelief

Our Apostle, High Priest, Christ, Son	<p>3:1—Therefore, HOLY BROTHERS and SISTERS, who SHARE Faithful in the HEAVENLY CALLING, FIX your THOUGHTS on JESUS, whom we ACKNOWLEDGE as our APOSTLE and HIGH PRIEST. He was FAITHFUL to the ONE who APPOINTED him, just as MOSES was FAITHFUL in all GOD'S HOUSE. JESUS has been found WORTHY of GREATER HONOR than MOSES, just as the BUILDER of a HOUSE has GREATER HONOR than the HOUSE ITSELF. For EVERY house is built by SOMEONE but GOD is the BUILDER of EVERYTHING. "MOSES was FAITHFUL as a SERVANT in ALL GOD'S HOUSE," bearing WITNESS to what would be SPOKEN by GOD in the FUTURE. But CHRIST is FAITHFUL as the SON over GOD'S HOUSE. And WE are HIS HOUSE, if indeed we HOLD FIRMLY to our CONFIDENCE and the HOPE in which we GLORY.</p>	God's House / God, the Builder
In wilderness 40 years	<p>7--So, as the HOLY SPIRIT says: "TODAY, if you HEAR his Testing VOICE, do NOT HARDEN your HEARTS as you DID in the REBELLION during the TIME of TESTING in the WILDERNESS, where your ANCESTORS TESTED and TRIED me, though for FORTY YEARS they SAW what I DID. That is WHY I was ANGRY with THAT GENERATION; I said, 'Their HEARTS are ALWAYS going ASTRAY, and they have NOT KNOWN my WAYS.' So I DECLARED on OATH in my ANGER, 'They shall NEVER ENTER my REST.'</p>	God's Spirit angered
Daily, while called today	<p>12--SEE to it, BROTHERS and SISTERS, that NONE of you Conviction has a SINFUL, UNBELIEVING HEART that turns AWAY from the LIVING GOD. But ENCOURAGE one ANOTHER DAILY, as LONG as it is CALLED "TODAY," so that NONE of you may be HARDENED by SIN'S DECEITFULNESS. We have come to SHARE in CHRIST, if indeed we HOLD our original CONVICTION FIRMLY to the very END. As has just been SAID: "TODAY, if you HEAR his VOICE, do NOT HARDEN your HEARTS as you DID in the REBELLION."</p>	The Living God
Heard & rebelled	<p>16--WHO were they who HEARD and REBELLED? Were they Unbelief not ALL those MOSES led OUT of EGYPT? And with WHOM was he ANGRY for FORTY YEARS? Was it not with THOSE who SINNED, whose BODIES PERISHED in the WILDERNESS? And to whom did GOD SWEAR that they would NEVER ENTER his REST if not to THOSE who DISOBEYED? So we SEE that THEY were NOT ABLE to ENTER, because of their UNBELIEF.</p>	God was angry

Examples of Faithfulness: Moses & Christ

Warning of Scripture: Ps 95:7-11

Exhortation against Sin: See to it...

Result of Unbelief: Bodies perished

(1) As a privileged participant in God's heavenly calling, my thoughts should be fixed on Jesus Christ so I can persevere in trials, encourage others, and learn important lessons from the past. (2) The main warning here is that believers must keep themselves from having a hardened heart caused by the deceitfulness of sin, especially unbelief. (3) This chapter lists negative experiences of the Israelites: spiritual hardening, rebellion, tempting God, leaving the ways of God, perversity, unbelief, sin and disobedience. (4) The passage also promotes positive concepts of Christian living: obedience to God, faithfulness, confidence, hope, the glory of Jesus, mutual encouragement, and the search for spiritual rest. (5) May the Lord always guard me from having a hardened, fickle, straying, perverse or unbelieving heart! ❤️ (6) *May we indeed hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory. Amen!*

Hebrews

Lesson 4

Greatness of our Salvation 4:1-16

The Rest of God

Hebrews 4 recorded how the people of God in the desert failed to enter His **rest**, the promised land. (see attached study chart) The message they heard didn't do them any good. That generation rebelled and did not believe the promise that God had given them. Only Caleb and Joshua and their families escaped God's judgment. All the others died off in the wilderness journey over the next 40 years. In their older age, these two were finally allowed to possess their inheritance and enjoy God's promised **rest**.

Since the time of Moses and Joshua until today, there remains a spiritual **rest** for each generation of God's people. This is symbolized by the promise of the land of Canaan for the people of God traced throughout the Old Testament. People today have the opportunity to receive enduring spiritual **rest** by saving faith in Christ, by accepting His completed work on the Cross. It is not possible by human effort. Instead, we enjoy enduring spiritual **rest** by receiving Jesus Christ as our Savior, Lord and High Priest.

God's work in creation and human redemption is complete, even for our sanctification. All that lacks is for us to join God in this **rest** by faith. This was God's message to the faith-wavering Hebrews. It is also God's message to us in our world of restlessness and chaos. Are you experiencing the **rest** of God daily?

Thought of the day: Jesus our compassionate High Priest is in Heaven and always ready to give us mercy and grace to aid us in time of need!

Charlie Stoner

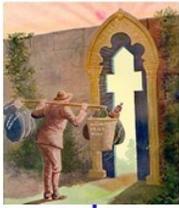
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ENTERING THE REST OF GOD BY FAITH

God:



A Problem in the Past

The message heard was of no value
 4:1—Therefore, since the PROMISE of entering his **REST** still STANDS, let us be CAREFUL that NONE of you be found to have FALLEN SHORT of it. 2 For WE ALSO have had the GOOD NEWS proclaimed to us, just as THEY DID; but the MESSAGE they HEARD was of NO VALUE to them, because they did NOT SHARE **the FAITH** of those who OBEYED. 3 Now WE who have BELIEVED ENTER that **REST**, just as **GOD** has said, “So I declared on OATH in my ANGER, ‘They shall NEVER ENTER my **REST**.’” And yet his WORKS have been FINISHED since the CREATION of the WORLD. 4 For somewhere he has SPOKEN about the SEVENTH DAY in these words: “On the SEVENTH day **GOD RESTED** from ALL his WORKS.” 5 And AGAIN in the passage above he says, “THEY shall NEVER ENTER my **REST**.”

God's rest, His oath, His anger & works



A Promise for the Present

Remains a sabbath-rest for God's people
 6—THEREFORE since it still REMAINS for some to **Disobedience** ENTER that **REST**, and since those who FORMERLY had the GOOD NEWS proclaimed to them did NOT go in because of their DISOBEDIENCE, 7 **GOD** again SET a certain DAY, calling it “TODAY.” This he did when a long time LATER he SPOKE through DAVID, as in the PASSAGE 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 LATER about ANOTHER DAY. 9 **There REMAINS, then, a SABBATH-REST for the PEOPLE of GOD**; 10 for ANYONE who ENTERS **GOD'S REST**; also **RESTS** from their WORKS, just as **GOD** did from his. 11 LET US, therefore, make EVERY EFFORT to ENTER that **REST**, so that NO ONE will PERISH by FOLLOWING their EXAMPLE of DISOBEDIENCE.

God's day, His people & His rest

Four Strong Exhortations:

- >Do not harden your hearts, v. 7.
- >Make every effort to enter that rest, v. 11.
- >Hold firmly to the faith, v. 14.
- >Approach God's Throne of Grace, v. 16.

The Word, Alive & Active

It Penetrates & Judges
 12—For **the WORD of GOD** is ALIVE and ACTIVE. **Word of God** SHARPER than any double-edged SWORD, it PENETRATES even to DIVIDING SOUL and SPIRIT, JOINTS and MARROW; it JUDGES the THOUGHTS and ATTITUDES of the HEART. 13 NOTHING in all CREATION is HIDDEN from **GOD'S SIGHT**. EVERYTHING is UNCOVERED and laid BARE before the EYES of HIM to whom we must GIVE ACCOUNT.

God's Word & His Eyes



Our Compassionate High Priest

Let us approach God
 14—Therefore, since we have a GREAT HIGH PRIEST **High Priest** who has ASCENDED into HEAVEN, JESUS the SON of GOD, let us HOLD FIRMLY to **the FAITH** we PROFESS. 15 For we do NOT have a HIGH PRIEST who is unable to EMPATHIZE with our WEAKNESSES, but we have ONE...TEMPTED in EVERY way, just AS WE—yet HE did NOT SIN. 16 Let US then APPROACH **GOD'S THRONE of GRACE** with CONFIDENCE, so that we may RECEIVE MERCY and find GRACE to HELP us in our time of NEED. 16

God's Son & Throne



(1) Am I taking advantage of the rest of God today? (2) There are decisive moments in the Christian life when we choose to believe or not to believe God's promises, as seen in the negative experiences of Israel in the desert, v. 2. (3) Even if wanting to, mankind cannot escape the penetrating power of the Word of God when He moves in hearts, v. 12. (4) The rest of God was pictured by the political peace and rest Israel reached in conquering the promised land. (5) Since then, God's people of every generation are promised a spiritual rest by believing and obeying His Word (there remains then a sabbath-rest, v. 9). (6) This spiritual rest is not by personal effort but only possible through our High Priest who already conquered this victory for us. (7) The warning to the Hebrews was this: if they rejected God's rest through unbelief, they would be severely judged, just as the rebellious generation in the wilderness was judged. (8) The author of Hebrews is saying: Pay attention! Cease from your useless works! Enter the rest of God by faith! If you do not obey and believe, the Word of God with its relentless power will judge you! (v. 12) (9) The author invited the Hebrew believers to approach the Throne of Grace boldly by faith to receive all they needed for their arduous earthly pilgrimage, v. 16. (10) Jesus, our compassionate High Priest in Heaven is always ready to hear our prayers and help us as well!

Hebrews

Lesson 5

CHRIST, MELCHIZEDEK HIGH PRIEST 5:1-14

ADULT OR CHILD?

What an interesting question, especially when evaluating one's spiritual life.

In Hebrews 5:1-14, the writer presented teaching about the High Priest of the Jews. He begins by explaining how Israel's high priests were chosen and appointed, how they qualified for this office. In 5:5 he declared that Christ was also chosen by God to be High Priest. However, there was a problem. Jesus Christ was not born into the tribe of Levi where all other high priests came from! Christ was from the tribe of Judah which qualified Him to be King, not a priest.

How is it possible, then, that Christ was qualified to serve as High Priest when He hadn't come from the tribe of Levi? The writer clarified: In His office of High Priest, Jesus Christ originated from, and still serves, through another priesthood, that of the Melchizedek order, not of the Levitical order! In the commentary section of the attached study chart, you will find several Bible references outlining the characteristics and superiority of the Melchizedek priesthood.

It seems that in 5:11-14, the author is very disappointed with his readers! It was not possible to teach them about Melchizedek like he wanted to. They were no longer trying to understand deeper knowledge. Spiritually they were like infants, only drinking milk and not eating solid food. They were not capable of eating solid spiritual food including the important teaching about Melchizedek

I ask myself then, am I an infant or an adult? Slow or apt? Beginner or maturing in my understanding of the Word of God? By God's grace and constant use, may you and I train ourselves better to distinguish good and evil in our spiritual pilgrimage with Christ, our glorious High Priest (5:14).

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CHRIST, MELCHIZEDEK HIGH PRIEST

When:

<p>You are my Son...I became your Father</p>	<p>5:1—Every HIGH PRIEST is SELECTED from among High Priest the PEOPLE and is APPOINTED to REPRESENT the PEOPLE in matters related to GOD, to OFFER GIFTS, and SACRIFICES for SINS. ² He is ABLE to DEAL gently with those who are IGNORANT and are going ASTRAY, since HE HIMSELF is SUBJECT to WEAKNESS. ³ This is WHY he has to OFFER SACRIFICES for his OWN SINS, as well as for the SINS of the PEOPLE. ⁴ And NO ONE takes this HONOR on HIMSELF, but he RECEIVES it when CALLED by GOD, just as AARON was. ⁵ In the SAME way, CHRIST did NOT take on HIMSELF the GLORY of becoming a HIGH PRIEST. But GOD said to him, “YOU are my SON; today I have BECOME your FATHER.” ⁶ And he SAYS in another place, “YOU are a PRIEST FOREVER in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK.”</p>	<p>The time of the Law and before</p>
<p>Son who learned Obedience</p>	<p>7—During the DAYS of JESUS’ LIFE on EARTH, he Jesus OFFERED up PRAYERS and PETITIONS with fervent CRIES and TEARS to the ONE who could SAVE him from DEATH, and he was HEARD because of his REVERENT SUBMISSION. ⁸ SON though he was, he LEARNED OBEDIENCE from what he SUFFERED ⁹ and, once made PERFECT, he became the SOURCE of ETERNAL SALVATION for all who OBEY him ¹⁰ and was DESIGNATED by GOD to be HIGH PRIEST in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK.</p>	<p>The days of Jesus</p>
<p>Solid food is for the Mature</p>	<p>11—We have MUCH to SAY about THIS, but it is HARD Infant to make it CLEAR to YOU because you NO LONGER TRY to UNDERSTAND. ¹² In fact, THOUGH by this time you OUGHT to BE TEACHERS, you NEED SOMEONE to TEACH you the ELEMENTARY TRUTHS of GOD’S WORD all over AGAIN. You need MILK, not SOLID FOOD! ¹³ Anyone who LIVES on MILK, being STILL an INFANT, is NOT ACQUAINTED with the TEACHING about RIGHTEOUSNESS. ¹⁴ But SOLID FOOD is for the MATURE, who by constant USE have TRAINED themselves to DISTINGUISH GOOD from EVIL. 14</p>	<p>The time of the Hebrews</p>

GOD:
 >Matters related to God.
 >The Call of God.
 >The Son of God.
 >The High Priest of God.
 >Designations by God.
 >The Word of God.

Contrasts:
 -milk<>solid food.
 -infant<>mature.
 -evil<>good.
 -need teaching<>be teachers.
 -unclear<>clear.
 -elementary<>teaching about righteousness.

Jesus Christ:
 >No priest-glory for Himself.
 >Declared to be High Priest.
 >Offered up prayers & petitions.
 >Was heard by God.
 >Learned obedience through suffering.
 >Became the Source of eternal salvation.

Selected & Called by God

Heard by God & Obedient to Him

Is the Solid Food of God’s Word

(1) Christ met all the requirements to serve as an Aaronic High Priest, but actually served through another priestly order, that of the superior order of Melchizedek. (2) Christ was born into the tribe of Judah, not Levi, yet was qualified to be God’s eternal High Priest by divine appointment to the superior priestly order of Melchizedek. (3) Christ is both divine—you are my Son, and human—he learned obedience (5:8). (4) Christ is the fountain of eternal salvation because he met mankind’s greatest need by dying as the Lamb of God, thus providing salvation from eternal death, the final penalty for sin. (5) The author of Hebrews wanted to explain more about the significance of Christ’s priesthood according to the order of Melchizedek, but his readers could not understand this teaching because of gross spiritual immaturity. (6) Melchizedek is presented in Scripture as an historical person (Gen. 14:17-20), as a prophetic promise (Ps. 110:4-7), and as fulfilled prophecy in the Person of Christ (Heb. 5:5-10; 6:19-20; 7:1-22). (7) Eternal salvation provided by Christ’s sacrifice of Himself indicates that a true believer is secure forever in his relationship with God (5:9). (8) Further study could be to identify the elementary truths of God’s Word (5:12)...

Hebrews

Lesson 6

Advancing to Spiritual Maturity 6:1-20

LET US MOVE ON TO MATURITY!

How can believers in Jesus Christ advance to spiritual maturity?

Hebrews 6 shows how this can occur.

See outline below & take a look at the attached study chart.

Spiritual maturity is possible by:

- (1) Leaving elementary teachings, 6.1-3.
- (2) Heeding scriptural warnings, 4-8.
- (3) Being diligent in helping others, 9-12.
- (4) Believing & receiving God's promises, 13-15.
- (5) Taking hold of the hope set before us, 16-20

Hebrews 6:4-8 is difficult to understand. See my suggestions and observations concerning these verses and others on the study chart. God bless you in your study of His Word

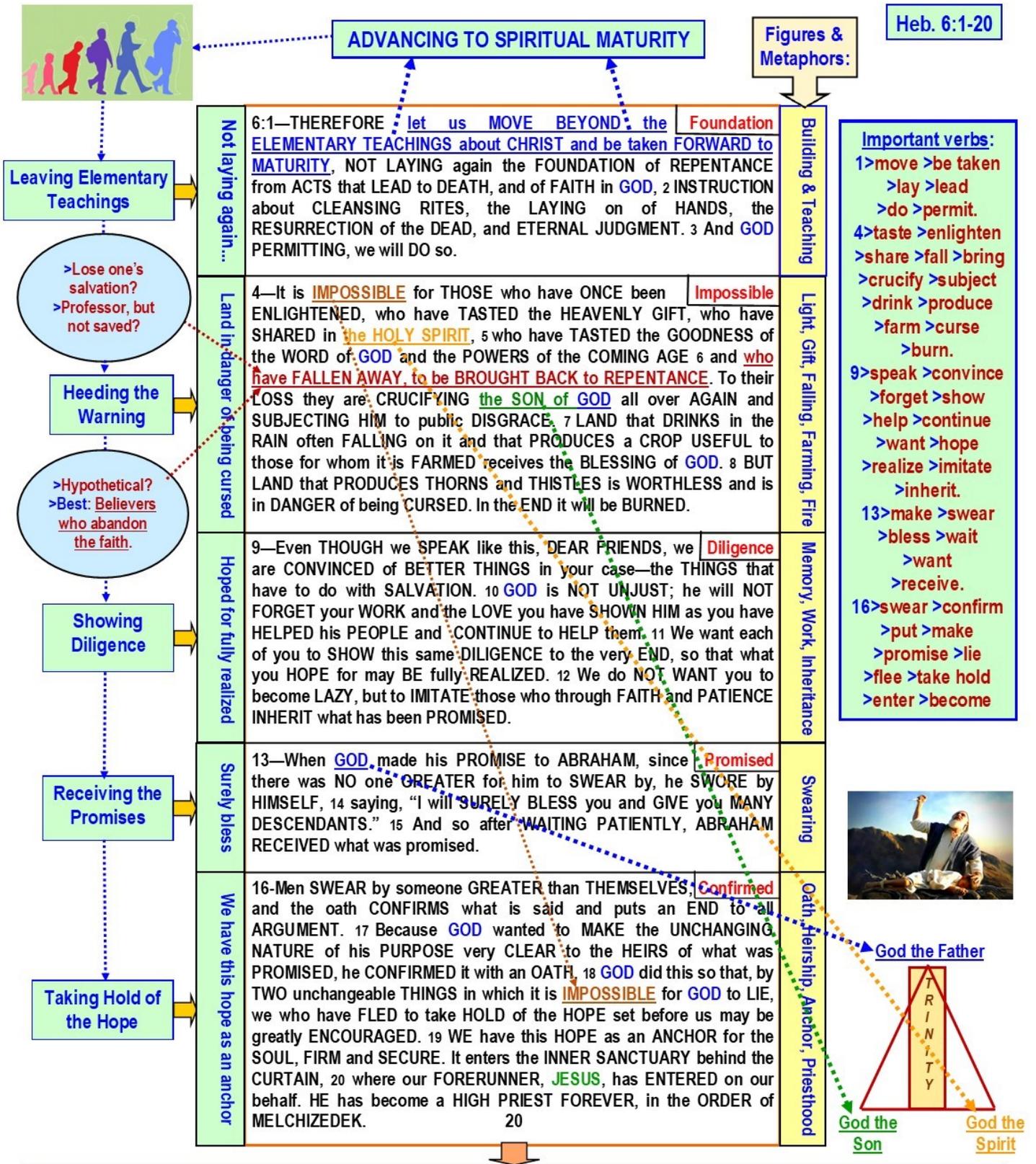
Help me, Heavenly Father, not to neglect my life of faith, but to imitate those who have gone before and have inherited what was promised. Anchor my soul, firm and secure in the hope set before us in Your eternal presence. Amen

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Crossworld: All Professions. One Mission.

Temple Bible Church: Surrender, Community, Mission



(1) Hebrews 6 shows how a believer can advance to spiritual maturity by leaving elementary teachings, heeding warnings, helping the saints, receiving God's promises & by exercising hope. (2) The warning of 6:4-8 is against complacency that can move a believer toward unbelief and apostasy. (3) The best interpretation of 6:4-8 is that if a believer comes to the place of abandoning his position as a true Christian by showing an unrepentant, hardened heart, he will be reprov'd and disqualified for participation in Christian ministry and lose his rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ. (4) It is not a question of eternal security but rather of one's advancement and consecration toward Christian maturity and obedience to the Word of God to avoid the danger of a spiritually useless, perpetual existence, and though saved, will finally result in one's loss of God's blessing and future reward. (5) Concerned about this possibility, Paul in 1 Cor. 9:27 made his body his slave to avoid such a harsh disqualification. (6) Interesting to note that despite the strong warning of 6:4-8, the author was optimistic: we are confident of better things in your case—things that accompany salvation (6:9). (7) Father in Heaven, help me not to neglect my life of faith, but to imitate those who have gone before and have inherited what was promised them. Amen

Hebrews

Lesson 7

Christ's Priesthood According to Melchizedek 7:1-28

Jesus Christ is Superior!

The Hebrews venerated angels, Moses, the Law and the levitical priesthood. In the days of the early church Jewish believers had to learn that Jesus Christ was not just One among others whom they should respect. In His ascended, glorified position in Heaven. Jesus had become the Central Person of their Christian worldview. He was superior to all as the Son of God. That's why Hebrews was written, to convince the Jewish believers to move on to maturity in their faith, worship and practice Spiritual maturity is possible by:

In Chapter 7, the author carefully showed how Jesus Christ, by fulfilling the Melchizedek priesthood, was superior to the levitical priesthood. See the main points of the outline: **(1) The Encounter of Melchizedek with Abraham, 7.1-10; (2) The Explanation of the Superior Melchizedek Priesthood, 7.11-19 & (3) The Permanent Priesthood of Jesus, 7.20-28.**

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Let 's praise our Savior and High Priest Jesus Christ for His finished work on the Cross for our salvation! And thank Him for His ongoing intercession on our behalf! He is whom we need: our holy, blameless, pure, separate from sinners, exalted, perfect Son! (7:26-28)

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CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD ACCORDING TO MELCHIZEDEK

THE LAW:



Encounter of Melchizedek with Abraham

Melchizedek:
 >King of Salem.
 >priest of God Most High.
 >blessed Abraham who gave him a tenth of all.
 >King of Righteousness & Peace.
 >without father or mother.

Explanation of Melchizedek Priesthood

Melchizedek, 2-4:
 >without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life.
 >resembling the Son of God.
 >remains a priest forever.
 >Abraham gave him a tenth of all.

The Permanent Priesthood of Jesus

>Greater Blessor, 7.
 >Better Hope, 19.
 >Better Covenant, 22.

Met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings

7:1— This MELCHIZEDEK was KING of SALEM and PRIEST of GOD. A Tenth MOST HIGH. He met ABRAHAM returning from the DEFEAT of the KINGS and BLESSED him, 2 and ABRAHAM gave him A TENTH of everything. First, the name MELCHIZEDEK means "KING of RIGHTEOUSNESS"; then also, "KING of SALEM" means "KING of PEACE." 3 Without FATHER or MOTHER, without GENEALOGY, without BEGINNING of DAYS or END of LIFE, resembling the SON of GOD, he remains a PRIEST FOREVER. 4 Just think how GREAT he was: Even the PATRIARCH ABRAHAM gave him A TENTH of the PLUNDER! 5 Now the LAW requires the DESCENDANTS of LEVI who become PRIESTS to COLLECT A TENTH from the PEOPLE—that is, from their FELLOW ISRAELITES—even though they also are descended from ABRAHAM. 6 THIS man, however, did NOT trace his descent from LEVI, YET he COLLECTED a TENTH from ABRAHAM and BLESSED him who had the PROMISES. 7 And without doubt the LESSER is BLESSED by the GREATER. 8 In the ONE case, the TENTH is collected by people who DIE; but in the OTHER case, by him who is DECLARED to be LIVING. 9 One might even say that LEVI, who COLLECTS the tenth, PAID the TENTH THROUGH ABRAHAM, 10 because when MELCHIZEDEK met ABRAHAM, LEVI was still IN the BODY of his ANCESTOR.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW

Melchizedek in Scripture:

- >the historical person—Gen. 14:17-20.
- >the prophetic promise—Ps. 110:4-7.
- >the prophecy fulfilled in Christ—Heb. 5:5-10; 6:19-20; 7:1-22.



In the Order of Melchizedek

11—IF PERFECTION could have been ATTAINED through the Priesthood LEVITICAL priesthood (for on the basis of it the LAW was given to the people), WHY was there still need for ANOTHER PRIEST to come, one in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK, NOT in the ORDER of AARON? 12 For when the PRIESTHOOD is CHANGED, the LAW must be CHANGED ALSO. 13 He of whom these things are said belonged to a DIFFERENT TRIBE, and NO ONE from THAT TRIBE has ever served at the ALTAR. 14 For it is CLEAR that our LORD descended from JUDAH, and in regard to THAT tribe MOSES said NOTHING about PRIESTS! 15 And what we have said is even MORE CLEAR if another priest like MELCHIZEDEK appears, 16 one who has BECOME a PRIEST not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the BASIS of the POWER of an INDESTRUCTIBLE LIFE. 17 For it is declared: "You are a PRIEST FOREVER, in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK". 18 The FORMER regulation is SET ASIDE because it was WEAK and USELESS 19 (for the LAW made NOTHING PERFECT); and a BETTER HOPE is INTRODUCED, by which we draw NEAR to GOD.

THE CHANGE OF THE LAW

References to Jesus:

- >belonged to a different tribe.
- >our Lord descended from Judah.
- >has become a priest in order of Melchizedek.
- >became a Priest with an oath.
- >"You are a Priest forever."
- >Jesus became Guarantee of a better Covenant.
- >Jesus lives for ever, leads permanent priesthood.
- >able to save completely & lives to intercede for His.
- >is holy, blameless, pure, set apart, exalted.
- >offered Himself & is Son made perfect forever.

Jesus, Guarantee of a Better Covenant

20—And it was NOT without an OATH! OTHERS became PRIESTS High Priest without any OATH, 21 but he became a PRIEST with an OATH when GOD said to him: "The LORD has SWORN and will NOT change his mind: 'You are a PRIEST FOREVER.'" 22 Because of this OATH, JESUS has become the GUARANTEE of a BETTER COVENANT. 23 Now there have been MANY of those PRIESTS, since DEATH PREVENTED them from continuing in office; 24 but because JESUS LIVES FOREVER, he has a PERMANENT PRIESTHOOD. 25 Therefore HE is ABLE to SAVE completely those who COME to GOD through HIM, because he ALWAYS LIVES to INTERCEDE for them. 26 Such a HIGH PRIEST truly MEETS our NEED—ONE who is HOLY, BLAMELESS, PURE, SET APART from SINNERS, exalted ABOVE the HEAVENS. 27 UNLIKE the OTHER HIGH PRIESTS, he does NOT need to OFFER SACRIFICES day after day, first for his OWN SINS, and then for the SINS of the PEOPLE. He SACRIFICED for their sins ONCE for ALL when he OFFERED HIMSELF. 28 For the LAW appoints as HIGH PRIESTS men who are WEAK; but the OATH, which came AFTER the LAW, appointed the SON, who has been MADE PERFECT FOREVER.

THE OATH OF THE SON AFTER THE LAW

(1) Melchizedek's priesthood was shown to be superior to the Levitical by the payment of tithes by Abraham, father of the Jews, to Melchizedek, as described in Gen. 14. (2) "And without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater." (7:7) (3) Advantages of Melchizedek's priesthood: It is permanent, indestructible, heavenly, perfect, complete, powerful, effective and efficient. (4) Heb. 7:3 says that Melchizedek appeared and like the Son of God, he remains a priest forever. (5) Perhaps in heaven today there exists a version of Melchizedek's priesthood alongside the pattern of the Levitical tabernacle as described in Hebrews. (6) There are several contrasts and comparisons in this passage: the two priesthoods; the tribe of Levi and of Judah; the old and new covenants, etc.

Hebrews

Lesson 8

Christ's Priesthood According to Melchizedek 7:1-28

New & Better Things!

Who doesn't like new things? Perhaps it's a comfortable pair of new shoes, moving into your dream home, or the prospect of a new and better paying job. Better still, what about a new and better way to be related to the God of the universe? :

Hebrews 8:1-13 presents new and better things related to the present ministry of Jesus Christ. (**see attached chart**) Note the following notable blessings made possible by Christ's redemptive work on the Cross:

1. The true heavenly sanctuary where He now ministers on our behalf is far superior to the earthly (8:1-3).
2. Christ's new covenant was established on a better sacrifice and promises (8:4-6).
3. The new covenant itself is superior to the first covenant of Moses (8:7-9).
4. Spiritual knowledge is now far superior since it's written on believers' hearts, much more accessible than the stone tablets of the first covenant (8:10-13)!

As we enter the fall season, let's remember what the new covenant affirms, that we are saved only by grace through faith in Christ. The old covenant of works has already disappeared. Only the new covenant in Christ is now in effect.

That's the message the Hebrew believers needed to understand and believe. And that's what you and I must affirm and share with unbelievers in our homes, churches, community and around the world.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. (Heb. 8:10b)

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THE SUPERIOR MINISTRY OF JESUS

Christ:

In Heaven	8.1— Now the MAIN POINT of what we are saying is THIS: We do HAVE such a HIGH PRIEST , who SAT DOWN at the RIGHT HAND of the THRONE of the MAJESTY in HEAVEN, and who SERVES in the SANCTUARY, the TRUE TABERNACLE set up by the LORD; NOT by a MERE HUMAN being.	High Priest Sanctuary Priest
Established on better promises	3—Every HIGH PRIEST is APPOINTED to offer both Superior GIFTS and SACRIFICES, and so it was NECESSARY for THIS ONE also to have something to OFFER. 4IF he were on EARTH, he would NOT be a PRIEST , for there are ALREADY PRIESTS who offer the GIFTS prescribed by the LAW. 5THEY serve at a SANCTUARY that is a COPY and SHADOW of what is IN HEAVEN. This is why MOSES was WARNED when he was about to BUILD the TABERNACLE: “See to it that you make EVERYTHING according to the PATTERN shown you on the MOUNTAIN.” 6BUT in fact the MINISTRY JESUS has received is AS SUPERIOR to theirs AS the COVENANT of which HE is MEDIATOR is SUPERIOR to the OLD one, since the NEW COVENANT is ESTABLISHED on BETTER PROMISES.	High Priest & Mediator
I will make a new covenant	7—For IF there had been NOTHING WRONG with the FIRST COVENANT, NO place would have been SOUGHT for ANOTHER. 8BUT GOD found FAULT with the PEOPLE and said: “The TIME is COMING, declares the LORD, when I will MAKE a NEW COVENANT with the HOUSE of ISRAEL and with the HOUSE of JUDAH. 9 It will NOT be LIKE the COVENANT I made with their FOREFATHERS when I TOOK them by the HAND to LEAD them OUT of EGYPT, BECAUSE they did NOT remain FAITHFUL to my COVENANT, and I TURNED AWAY from them, declares the LORD.	Examiner of covenants
They will all know me	10—THIS is the COVENANT I will MAKE with the HOUSE of ISRAEL after that time, declares the LORD. I will PUT my LAWS IN their MINDS and WRITE them ON their HEARTS: I will be THEIR GOD, and THEY will be MY PEOPLE. 11NO longer will a MAN TEACH his NEIGHBOR, or a MAN his BROTHER, saying, ‘KNOW the LORD,’ because they will ALL KNOW me, even the LEAST of them to the GREATEST. 12For I will FORGIVE their WICKEDNESS and will REMEMBER their SINS NO MORE.” 13By CALLING this COVENANT “NEW,” he has made the FIRST one OBSOLETE: and what is OBSOLETE and AGING will soon DISAPPEAR. 13	Maker of the New Covenant

Superior Sanctuary

Superior Promises

Superior Covenant



Superior Knowledge

- Locations:
- >in heaven.
 - >on earth.
 - >in heaven.
 - >on the mountain.
 - >out of Egypt.
 - >in their minds.
 - >on their hearts.



<p>THE FIRST COVENANT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >Made with their forefathers. >Based on copy & shadow of true tabernacle. >When I led them by my hand out of Egypt. >Law written on stone tablets. >Man taught his neighbor & brother. >Sins remembered & repeated. >Aging, made obsolete, disappearing. 	<p>↔</p> <p>THE NEW COVENANT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >Made with the house of Israel & Judah. >Based on the true tabernacle in Heaven. >The time is coming, after that time. >Laws put in their minds & written on their hearts. >No longer will teach, all will know me. >Will forgive their wickedness & remember sins no more. >Called new, based on better promises.
<p>(1) The New Covenant was established by the death of Christ and serves as the foundation of the Church. (2) It will also be valid for the remnant of believing Israel at the Second Coming of Christ and during His millennial reign. (3) Hebrew believers needed to understand the superiority of Jesus Christ and of the New Covenant, and that the first covenant was already obsolete. (4) Today many depend upon good works to obtain salvation—they too must understand the basic message of the gospel, that only by grace through faith is anyone saved, not by any human merit!</p>	