

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR A NEW GENERATION

Survey of Hebrews

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. The dilemma of the recipients:
 - 1. Second generation of believers:
 - 2. Intense suffering in identifying with Christ:
- B. The author: (*II Tim. 3:16*)
- C. Unique facts concerning the letter:
 - 1. Uniqueness:
 - 2. Priority:
 - 3. Timing:
 - 4. Purpose:
 - 5. Key words:
- D. Filled with life-changing topics (most in depth counseling manual in the Bible):

II. EXHORTATIONS FOR BATTLING DISCOURAGEMENT AND DEPRESSION:

- A. Five warnings regarding the slide into discouragement:
 - 1. Drifting from the Word: *2:1-4*
 - 2. Doubting the Word (hardening the heart): *3:7-4:13*
 - 3. Dullness (sluggishness) toward the Word: *5:11-6:20*
 - 4. Despising (willfully) the Word: *10:26-39*
 - 5. Defying (refusing to listen) the Word: *12:14-29*
- B. Two profound reasons:
 - 1. Christ's superiority: *Chapters 1-10*
 - a. His person: *Chapters 1-4*
 - b. His priesthood: *Chapters 5-10*
 - 2. Christ's sufficiency: *Chapters 11-13*
 - a. Faith – "let us": *Chapter 11*
 - b. Hope - to endure:
 - c. Love – to encourage:

V. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY FROM THE LIFE OF ELIJAH: (Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A. Being encouraged demands some decisions on my part. (*The epidemic today*)
- B. Being encouraged demands the support of a local church. (*isolation*)
- C. Being encouraged demands putting my present situation, into perspective.