

JESUS IS GREATER

A STUDY IN HEBREWS



Week One / Chapter One / Verses 1 - 3

Background:

This is the only New Testament book which we don't know the author of. There have been many attempts to deduce the author of this book, yet nothing definitive. Paul, Barnabas, Silas, Peter, Apollos, and others have been proposed. There early church fathers did't now who wrote this book and at the end of the day we have to admit as well that we just don't know. In reality, it doesn't matter so much because the Holy Spirit is the ultimate author. 2 Peter 1:21.

The book was written to the Hebrews. Gentiles are not mentioned at all within the book of Hebrews. Neither is the conflict between Gentiles and Jews which occurred so often in many of the early churches. The book includes many reference s to the Old Testament which Jews would have been familiar with as well as many references to priesthood, ceremonial laws, and the Levitical Priesthood

The chief underlying theme is the superiority and pre-eminence of Christ. It is rather fitting that the author is anonymous because the book is all about how ***Christ is greater than*** everything else and everyone else in glory and power. While there are many deep doctrines in the book recognizing Christ's supreme position is of vital importance. It also will have a deep impact on our lives if we live our life with Christ on His throne and submit our will to Hm.

Christ, God's revelation to the world (1-4) Study Questions

1. In your opinion, why is it significant that the physical author of this book is unknown?
2. According to chapter 1, verse 1, in times past God spoke to His people exclusively by the prophets. Explain how God did this and give Old Testament examples.
3. According to verse 2, in these last days God speaks to us by His Son, our Lord. How does God speak to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Give examples.
4. Compare and contrast God's two communication methods described in verses 1 & 2. Give the limitations and / or benefits of each?
5. Notice the sevenfold description of Christ in verses 2 & 3. Be prepared to discuss each one.
 1. Heir of all things: "*whom He has appointed heir of all things*"
 2. Creator of all things "*through whom also He made the worlds;*"
 3. The Radiance of God's Glory "*who being the brightness of His glory*"
 4. The Physical Manifestation of God "*the express image of His person*"
 5. God's Sustaining Power "*upholding all things by the word of His power*"
 6. The Purger of Sin "*when He had by Himself purged our sins*"
 7. Seated At The Right Hand of God "*sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high*"