

JESUS IS GREATER

A STUDY IN HEBREWS



Week Ten / Chapter Four / Verses 11-16

Before you begin: Any good study in the word of God should begin with prayer. Ask God to settle your heart and allow you to see the things that He would have you to learn and that those things would change your life and spiritual walk. Next read over the text several times. As you read, those things that God wants you to learn will begin to stand out to you. The questions below will help guide you through the study.

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. The early church fathers didn't know 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 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 and everyone 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 Him. (studyhebrews.com)

His Word Exposes Our Condition/ Our Loving High Priest!

Study Questions

1. What type of “rest” is being referred to in verses 9 and 10?
2. The author encourages his Hebrew Christian readers to “be diligent to enter” God’s rest in vs. 11. The KJV reads, “labour therefore to enter” God’s rest. What does this mean?
3. What warning is given in vs. 11, and what is the consequence(s) of not being “diligent to enter His rest”?
4. In what three ways is the Word of God described? What role does the Word of God play in the life of the believer and the unbeliever?
5. In light of vs. 12, the Word of God clearly exposes all of our secrets. Be prepared to expound on vs. 13 with biblical or personal examples.
6. What does it mean that Jesus “passed through the heavens”? How does the earthly priests’ duties in the tabernacle compare?
7. Why is Jesus Christ able to sympathize with our weaknesses? In what way does this bless you?
8. In light of what our great High Priest, Christ, has done for us, how are we encouraged to approach God?