

JESUS IS GREATER

A STUDY IN HEBREWS



Week Eight / Chapter Three / Verses 12-19

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)

Stand Firm in Obedience and Faith

Study Questions

1. A warning is given in vs. 13, based on the OT scripture quoted in verses 7-11. What is the warning and who is it for? What will be the outcome of not heeding this warning?
2. How does the author describe sin in vs. 13? Explain. (Rom. 7:11; 2, 2 Thess.2:10, James 1:14-16)
3. In what ways might an unbelieving heart manifest itself?
4. What is one antidote for a hardened heart? (Ps. 95:1-6)
5. How can we secure our belief/faith in God? How can we help/encourage others to stay the course, and not “drift away”, in their faith?
6. According to vs. 6 and 14, how is being steadfast in our belief/faith relative to not having a hardened heart?
7. Explain what it means to be partakers with Christ.