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"THE SUPERIOR BLOOD OF CHRIST"

BIBLE SRVEY, PT 12-NT (THE EPISTLES Hebrews)-~~"The Superiority of Christ"~~

>>>> We're in a "Bible Survey" series
 > We've covered OT/4 Gspels/ Bk of Acts
 > & now—we're taking a wk each to look at all the major "letters" of the NT...
 > So far--we've covered Rmns/ 1&2 Cor's / Galatians/Eph's/Philip's/Col's

[ENHANCED CD OR WEBSITE]

> Tdy—ready to take on the ltr to Heb's
I-BACKGROUND RE: LTR TO HEBREWS

A. There're only 4 thngs abt Bk of Heb's tht pple disagree about:

- #1. WHO the recipients were
- #2. WIEN it was written
- #3. WHO wrote it
- #4. WHY he wrote it

SAY: "Tht covers pretty much evrythng!"

A: "Yea it does. But nonetheless—I bleve we can come up w/good A's to all Q's

B. Q# 1-**"WHO WERE THE RECIPIENTS?"**

1. It's obvious frm both the title of ltr
 * & subject matter of the letter...

* Tht the recipients were Jwsh pple

2. Over & over—ltr refers to the sac's

& rituals surrounding Tem in Jer
 *Things only Jwsh pple wld know

3. Recip's=not jst ANY Jsh ple-**Jsh bly'rs**

4. Hb 3:12-"brthru"/Hb 6:9-"loved"

Hb 3:1-"Partakrs of the hvnly calling

5. **SO—recipients = Jwsh blyrs—**

most likely living in & arnd Jer

C. Q# 2- **WHEN WAS IT WRITTEN?**

1. Well—**certainly BEFORE 70 AD**

*Bec Jer & Tem destroyd in **70AD**

*Yet writer of Heb's speaks of Tem
& its rituals in "present tense"

*Indicating tht these rituals were
stillgoing on whn he wrote ltr

2. Moreovr--since so much of the ltr's
content centers arnd Tem & its rituals

*Thre's no doubt the writer wlda
mentioned the Tem's destruction

***IF**—indeed—it had alrdy hppned

3. **ON OTIIR END**—Iib 13:23 mentions

Tim-who didn't bcome a well-kwn
person in early chch til after **55AD**

4. **SO DATE = C. 55-70 AD**

D. # 3- **WHO WROTE BK OF HEB'S?**

1. **I am totally convinced tht AP did**

[FIVE PRIMARY REASONS]

2. 1st- ANCIENT TRADITION

***KJV: "The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Hebrews"**

***This superscription--attributing this ltr to AP--goes bck to the earliest days of NT mss trad'n**

***Granted: these superscriptions are not part of the inspired txt**

***But they reflect old & well-est'd chrch trad'n tht shld be heard**

***INTRESTINGLY: in Eastern Chr'ty**
****Gk/Syrian/Russian/Armen'n**
****The Pauline authrshp of Hb's**
****Has nvr been questioned**

3. 2nd-WRITR WAS(had been)IN JAIL

***Heb 10:34--"Fr U had compassion on me in my chains"**

***As we know, P was in jail 3x's**

****2 yrs in Israel (**58-59AD**)**

****2 yrs in 1st Rmn (**61-62AD**)**

****1 yr in 2nd Rmn (**66AD**)**

No othr early church ldr was in jail like this betw **55-70AD*

4. 3rd- P's PROXIMITY TO TIMOTHY

4

*Heb 13:23-“Take note tht our brother Timothy has been released, with whom, if he comes shortly, I hope to see U”

*We knw tht P & Tim were almost inseparable btw 55-66AD(mrtyr) was with P in all 3 of P’s imprisonments

*So the mention of Tim as being present with the writer of Hb’s fits well w/P’s authorship

5. #4-LTR OF HEB FILLED WITH MANY OF P’S CMMON THEMES

*Heb 1 almost identical to Col 1-2

*Heb 2 almost identical to Phil 2

*Heb 8 almost identical to 2 Cor 3

*Heb 11 almst identical to Rom 4

*So unless someone *plagiarized* P on a wholesale level—then Paul wrote Hb jst lke these othr bks

6. #5-PHENOMENAL GRASP THE WRITER HAD OF OT...& OPERAT OF TEM...JEWISH RELIG RITUALS

*Hb’s has over 86 direct ref’s to over100 diff OT passages

5

- * & the theolog'1 arguments the writer uses are masterful
- * No **Gentile** cld've wrttn this
- * The othr apstles cldn't've--they = *theolg'ly-untrained* fishermen
- * Only a *brilliant mind*—with a *superlative knowledge of Judaism & OT*--cld've wrttn it
- * **PAUL**-Acts 22:3-"I am a Jew ... brot up in Jeru, & strictly educated under Gamaliel, acc to the all the laws of our fthrs
- ** **Rabbi Gamaliel II**=greatest Rabbinic scholar of his day
- ** To be educated under him = "post-dctoral studies" in Ju
- * **THIS** is the most *compeling rsn* why I belve P wrote Bk of Hb's
- ** **BEC**—thre's not *a single blvr mentioned in NT...*
- ** Who had the tholg'1 training
- ** & the grasp of *Jdaism & the Tem ritual & OT...*
- ** **Needed** to write this Bk
- ** **EXCEPT THE APOSTLE PAUL!**

E. # 4-“WHY DID PAUL WRITE IT?”

1. Bc these Jsh blr's="babes"(Hb 5:13)
 *& thy were *waverng* in their faith
 *& *thnkng of returning* to Jdaism
2. Heb 4:14-“Seeing thn tht we hve a great HP, Jesus the Sn of Gd, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess
3. Heb 10:23-“Let us hold fast to our confession without wavering.”
4. So P writes them to remind thm of the superiority of **Jesus...& His Hprstly work..& His plan of salv**
 *As opposed to **OT Judaism**

F. SUMMARIZE:

1. **Recipients** = Jwsh blvrs arnd Jeru
2. **Date** = c. 55-70AD
3. **Author** = Apostle-Paul
4. **Subject matter**=the **superiority** of Jesus versus Jdaism—or *any othr religious system* for tht mtr

II-P says J is SUPERIOR in 3 ways

A. #1-In J--we hve a superior cov w/Gd

1. Heb 9:15-“He(J) is the mediator of a new covenant”

[& WHT'S THIS “NEW” COV ALL ABT??

2. Heb 8:8-“Fr the days are coming,’
says the Lord, ‘when I will make a
NEW covenant with Israel” **WHY?**
3. Heb 8:7-“Now, if the 1st covenant
(Mosaic cov/ Mt. Sinai/ Jws flwing
with all their Temple sac’s, rituals)
had been sufficient, there wld’ve
been no reason for a 2nd one”
***BUT IT WASN’T SUFFICIENT!**
***IT WAS DEFICIENT!**
***WHICH IS WHY J PROVIDED US**
WITH A “NEW” ONE
***A “SUPERIOR” ONE**
***WITH “SUPERIOR” PROVISIONS**
for us as sinners
3. Heb 8:10-“& this is the covenant I
will make with them, says the Lrd”
LJST LOOK AT THESE GREAT PRVISIONS
- *Indweling HS(V.10)**-“I will put My
laws into their minds, & I will
write thm on their hearts
- *Members of Gd’s family(V.10)**-
“& I will be their Gd & they
shall be ***MY PEOPLE***”
- *PERS RELAT W/GD SELF(V.11)**-

“& thy shall not teach evryone his fellow man, saying, ‘Know the Lrd,’ fr they shall all know Me, frm the least to the greatest
 †**PRMANENT ETRNAL FRGIVENESS**

(V12)-“Fr I will be mrciful to their iniquities & their sins I will remember [say] **NO MORE!**”

4. Heb 8:6-“J is the mediator of a **superior** cov (thn Mosaic) tht has been est’d on **superior** promises

B. # 2-In J—we have a **SUPERIOR HP**

1. Heb 7:23-(In Judaism)”The priests are many in number, bec they’re prevented by death from continuing in office”

2. Heb 7:24-“But Jesus holds His priesthood **permanently**, bec he lives forever...& is seated at Gd’s right hand ”(Heb 8:1)

3. Heb 7:25-“Cosequently [LOVE] **He is able** to save to the **uttermost** those who come to Gd by Him, since He lives forever to make intercession for them.”

4. A HP seated at Gd's right hand/who lives forever/& saves sinners to the *uttermost* = SUPERIOR HP
- C. # 3-In J-SUPERIOR frgvnss of our sins
1. Heb 10:11-"& every (Jwsh) priest stands daily, & offers the same sac's again & again, which can NEVER take away sins"
 2. Heb 10:12-"But J, having offered one sac for sins for all time, sat dwn at the right hand of Gd...for by one sac, He PRFECTED FREVER those who come to Gd by Him"
 3. REM—we just saw this—Heb 8:12-"For their sins I will remember NO MORE!"
 4. Heb10:18-"Now, where there is forgiveness like THIS (total/ full/ frever/ *amnesia frgivenss*) LOOK no furthr ofrngs fr sin are needed
 5. Forgiveness for sin tht's permanent & prfect & frevr= **SUP'R FRGVNSS**
- D. SUMARIZE: P says to these Jwsh blvrs: "WHY IN THE WRLD...wld U want to leave Jesus & go bck to Jud'sm?"

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1. In J—we hve a superior cov w/Gd
2. In J—we hve a superior IIP
3. In J--we hve superior fgvnss fr sin

Q: “Why can J give us all these SUP thngs

A: “Bc J’s blood is SUPRIOR blood- LOOK

1. Heb 10:1-“The Law can never, by the same sac’s, whch’re offerd up cntinually yr by yr, make perfect those who draw near this way”
2. Hb 10:4-“Fr it is impos fr the blood of bulls/goats(**blood used in Tem sac’s**) to take away sins”
3. Hb 9:11-“**BUT CHRIST...**entered the Holy Place, **NOT** with the blood of bulls&goats, but w/His own blood ...& thereby secured eternal redemption for us once & for all”

G.**BTMLNE**: The rsn J’s frgvnss/HP’hood /new cov w/sinnrs is **SUPERIOR ...**

1. Is bec **J’s BLOOD IS SUPERIOR!**

IL: Isaac Watts-Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Cld give my guilty conscience peace
Or wash away my stain.

11

But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
 Takes all our sins away;
 A sacrifice of nobler name
 And richer blood than they”

III- SO WHAT?

- A. There’s another verse to Isaac Watts’
 that it seems no one ever sings
- B. It says: “Believing, we rejoice
 To see the curse removed;
 We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice,
 And sing His bleeding love”
- C. Wht a great phrase: His bleedng love
- D. & I think we shld do exactly wht Isaac
 Watts exhorted us to do
- 1.& that is: “to rejoyce...& bless the
 Lamb with cheerful voice &
 sing His bleeding love”
- E. So sing with me---“What can wash
 away My sin, Nothing but the blood
1. “Thre is a fountain filled wth blood
2. [**BEC**] There is power, power,
 wonder-wrking pwr, In the preccius

CONCLUSION--PRAYER

>>Robert Murray McCheyne-“In yurself,
 U can nvr stand righteous bfore Gd...

Gd can see nothing in us but what He must condemn...

*"The real issue is, are U willing to see yourself as vile & hell-deserving in the sight of a holy Gd--& to let the blood of Gd's dear Son be yur only shield?"

>>>>A sinner uncoverd by the blood of J

*Simply will not survive the awesome holiness of Gd

>>>So let me ask U, my frnd—if U're absolutely sure tht U're washed/shielded/& covered by blood of J

>>>If not here's yur moment