

Beginning Tuesday June 15th 2020

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Hebrews The author is uncertain. **Christ is supreme, over angels, Moses, OT Priests & OT Covenant – yet He's fully human so identifies with our struggles. Jesus work is sufficient for all.**

Chapter 1 Jesus - God's Final And Supreme Messenger.

1-3 Jesus – Son, Prophet, Priest, King, Creator, Sole heir, the shining out of God's glory, God's exact imprint (the printing tile that perfectly copies itself, the RNA of God), Divine. Reflect on all this.

These are the verses that blew my mind when I first studied the Greek. Now read Gen 1:27

5-14 His superiority to angels. Angels are created beings Servants of God (not pretty little children) Jesus is the 'only begotten' of the Father, as uncreated God he exists before creation.

Jesus is unchanging, the beginning and end. Does that impact on your life today...? (Not yes/no!!)

Chapter 2 1-4 "Therefore" – don't ignore or belittle who Jesus is or what He's done! He's not just a good man or brilliant teacher - He makes Gen 1:27 a possibility for all of us. Forget this and like a loose ring your salvation might well drift away (see also 3:12-19, 6:4-8, 10:26-31, 12:25-29).

5-18 Moving from Christ's Divinity to Jesus' humanity. i) He died for us ii) He's the path finder of our salvation iii) He's our present help. To restore us to Gen 1:28. What might have been, if only... What might be, if only... No longer "without hope and without God in this world" (Eph 2:12). Let's thank God for such a great salvation, and live out what He has worked in us (Phil 2:12,13)

Chapter 3 - It is not enough to *begin* the Christian race; we must hold fast our confidence and hope to the end. "Therefore" fix your thoughts on **Jesus** (v1) (the builder is more important than the house). How? "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth." See Col 3 **7-11** "We learn from history that we do not learn from history." Georg Hegel.

Are our hearts stone or flesh? And see Jn 15:7. Let's not presume our membership of a church or our doing of good things guarantees our salvation. It's what goes on in our hearts that counts -being responsive to God.

Chapter 4 Today is what counts. Not yesterday, nor tomorrow. NOW is the time for obedience.

To hear God's word is one thing, to accept it by faith and act is another (Mt 7:24ff; Jms 2:18,26)

The Exodus generation didn't enter the rest of the Promised land. Arrogance says, 'We're OK'.

We can rest now if we appropriate the, 'It is finished' of the cross. There our place is secured... **IF**

v 12 When we read Scripture it reads us. Dare we read it with open hearts? See Jms 1:22-25

But don't panic **14-16** Jesus knows, understands, doesn't excuse but dies so we can receive mercy.