

HEBREWS

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INTRODUCTION

A. Circumstances of the Book:

1. The origin of the book itself is unknown.
2. Who Wrote it?
3. Where was it written from?
4. To whom was it originally addressed?
5. Who penned the Epistle? Only God knows certainly.

B. THEME:

1. "The incomparable excellence of Christ and His religion is the one prepossession of the author's mind, and in developing this theme the writer produces a work which is unquestionable the finest literary monument of the New Testament.

C. OBJECT:

1. It provides a beautiful statement of the exaltation Christ together with a forceful argument against forsaking Him and His way.

D. DIVISION OF THE BOOK:

1. The Supremacy of Christ Over All Other Beings (1;1-10:18).
 2. An Encouragement to Faithfulness and Warning Against Apostasy (10:19-13:25).
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Key Word "BETTER"

1. "So much **better** than the angels (1:4).
 2. We have a **better** hope (7:19).
 3. Jesus is the "surety of a **better** covenant, (7:22).
 4. He is the mediator of a "**better** covenant," enacted on "**better** promises (8:6)
 5. So we read of "**better** sacrifices" (9:23)
 6. Of a **better** possession (10;34).
 7. Of the blood of Jesus which speaks "**better** than that of Abel (12:24) etc.
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SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

A. CHRIST OVER THE PROPHETS (1:1-3).

1. In former times God has indeed revealed His will to the prophets, but only spasmodically and in fragmentary manner.
2. In contrast, the implication is that through the Son the divine revelation is complete and finale.

B. CHRIST OVER THE ANGELS (1:14).

1. "More excellent name than they (1:4,5).
2. To which of the angels did God ever say; "You are my Son; today have I begotten you?" (6).

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SUPREMACY OF CHRIST, cont.

3. Angels commanded to worship the Son (6). Etc.
 - C. CHRIST OVER MOSES (3:1-6).
 1. Moses was a great man...He was faithful as a servant.
 2. Christ was faithful as a SON.
 - D. CHRIST OVER JOSHUA (4:3-13).
 1. He led them in conquest of a land that flowed with milk and honey. But could not satisfy the innermost desire of man for rest.
 2. The rest, which satisfies yet remains (heaven), and it is offered to the Christian through Christ.
 - E. CHRIST OVER AARON (4:14-10:18).
 1. Great length in contrast between Christ and Aaron.
 2. Because Aaron was a figure representation of the high priestly office of Judaism:
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Main Points Of Comparison

- A. SACRIFICE:
 1. As a high priest Christ had to have something to offer.
 2. What was (is) His sacrifice?
 3. It was the “once for all” sacrifice of Himself which he offered up to God (7:27; 9:26).
 - B. SANCTUARY:
 1. Old Covenant had regulations for worship.
 2. Holy place; Most Holy place.
 3. Common people could not enter.
 4. Most Holy...only High Priest...once a year.
 5. On the other hand, Christ has entered into the greater and more perfect tabernacle made without hands, “into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf” (9:24; 10:11).
 - C. SERVICE:
 1. The high priest (which changed with death, etc.) Entered with the blood of animals.
 2. Christ entered heaven itself with His Own Blood to secure eternal redemption (9:12), and offering that is for all time a single sacrifice for sin (10:12).
 3. Illustrated by the example of Melchisedek: (see comparison)
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COMPARISON

<u>Melchisedek was:</u>	<u>So Christ Is:</u>
King	Royal
King of righteousness	Righteous
King of Peace	Peaceful
Not of earthly lineage	Personal
Without beginning or end	Eternal

CONCLUSION

A. EXHORTATION TO FAITHFULNESS (10:19-13:25).

1. Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith” (10:22).
2. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering” (10:23).
3. Stir up one another to love and good works” (10:24).
4. Let’s not shrink back but have faith like our immortal predecessor. (10:39-11:39).
5. Let us lay aside all hindrances and run with patience the race before us (12:1. Etc).

B. GOD IS NOW SPEAKING THROUGH HIS SON. He is exalted above prophets, angels, and all others. Moses could lead the people out, but he could not lead them in. Joshua could lead them in, but he could not give them rest. Aaron could offer a sacrifice, but it could not atone. But Jesus Christ has done what all the others could not do. His covenant is the better and the best. It is eternal. It is once for all time.
