## OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

A Book Outline

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#### I. JESUS IS BETTER THAN THE PROPHETS (1:1-4).

- A. God spoke to the patriarchs in time passed through the prophets (1:1).
- B. God has spoken to us through His Son who is superior to the prophets (1:2).
  - 1. God has made His Son heir over all things (1:2).
  - 2. God made the world by His Son.
- C. Jesus is the brightness of God's glory far above the prophets (1:3).
  - 1. He is the express image of God.
  - 2. He was sacrifice for our sins.
  - 3. He sits at the right-hand side of God the father who is the Majesty on High.

## II. JESUS IS BETTER THAN THE ANGELS (1:5-2:18).

- A. Jesus is exalted above angles (1:4-5).
  - 1. He has obtained a more excellent name.
  - 2. He is the begotten Son of God (1:5).
- B. The angels of God worship Him therefore He is superior to angels (1:6).

- C. Jesus is deity but angels are created from frames of fire to minister (1:7).
- D. Jesus is King and rules forever (1:9)
- E. Jesus is God (1:9).
  - 1. God the Father calls Him Lord (1:10).
  - 2. He laid the foundation of the earth and the heavens (1:10).
  - 3. All His creations shall perish but He lives forever (1:11-12).
  - 4. Jesus will "remain", be the "same", and "not fail" (13:8).
- F. No Angel has been invited to sit at God's right hand.
  - 1. Jesus is sovereign and His Messianic reign began when He sat at the right hand (cf. Heb 1:3; Acts 2:34-36; 1 Pet. 3:22).
  - 2. Only Jesus has been given that invitation (1:13)
  - Jesus is indeed better than angels because He made the angels as His ministering spirits to those who have been saved (1:14).
    - a. They have certainly ministered in the past (cf. Luke 1:11-38)
    - b. They will certainly minister at the time of Christ's return (cf. Mat. 13:36-43).

- G. Warning about the danger of drifting away and exhortation to remain faithful.
  - 1. It is possible for us to "drift away" from our salvation! (2:1).
    - a. We can certainly neglect our salvation (Heb. 2:3).
    - b. We can "depart" from God (cf. Heb. 3:12-14).
    - c. One can so fall away" that it becomes impossible to renew them to repentance! (cf. Heb. 6:4-6).
    - d. People can reach a point where the sacrifice of Christ is no longer available for their sins! (cf. Heb. 10:26-27).
  - Punishment to disobedient and transgressors under the covenant of the Son of God will be fiercer (2:3-8).
  - 3. Jesus lowered Himself to be able to calls us brethren and tasted death for all (2:9-13).
  - 4. Jesus is the merciful and faithful High Priest who can reconcile sinners to God.
    - a. He is able to destroy the devil who has the power of death (2:14-15).
    - b. He is merciful to them who are His brethren, the church as a High Priest.

c. He suffered temptation; therefore, he is able to support those who are tempted (2:17-18).

### III. JESUS IS BETTER THAN MOSES (3:1-4:16).

A. Jesus is the Son in God's house, but Moses is a servant.

- 1. Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest was faithful to God (3:1-2).
- 2. Moses was also faithful in God's house (3:2).
- 3. But Jesus has more glorify than Moses because He as the Son of the house owner has more glory than a servant (3:3).
- 4. Moses was faithful as a servant to God (3:4)
- 5. However, Jesus Christ is Son over His own house, and we are His house (3:6).
- B. Warning against hardening of heart.
  - 1. If we hear the voice of the Son, we should not harden our heart.
  - We should not provoke and tempt God as the people of Israel did in the wilderness (3:9-11).
  - 3. They grieved the Lord in the generation and sinned not walking on the path of God (3:10).
  - 4. God did not allow them to enter His rest (3:11).

- C. Exhortation to not depart from the living God (3:12-19)
  - 1. The people of Israel in the wilderness had evil heart of unbelief.
  - 2. They departed from the living God and were hardened through deceitful of heart (3:12,13).
  - 3. Exhort one another daily to remain faithful to God (3:14-15).
  - Almost all the people who came out of Egypt died in the wilderness because they provoked the Lord and did not hear His voice (3:15-17).
  - 5. We are not to be like them because they did not make it to the promised land as a result of unbelief (3:18-19).
- D. Admonition to enter into His rest (4:1-11).
  - 1. Let us fear lest we come short of entering into God's rest (4:1).
  - 2. They heard the message but did not believe and so they perished
  - 3. We must believe the gospel message in order to profit from it (4:2)
  - 4. We will enter into the rest of God which has been prepared from the foundation of the earth (4:3).
  - God rested on the seventh day after six days of His creation (4:4-5; Gen. 1:2,3; Exo. 20:8-11).

- 6. God's rest still remains for us if we would believe what is preached to us and do not harden our hearts (4:6-7).
- There would have been no rest remaining for the people of God if Joshua (Jesus) gave them rest (4:8-9).
- 8. Let us labor with faith to enter into the rest of God that we may cease from working (4:10-11).
- E. The power and insight of the Word of G0d (4:12-13).
  - 1. The word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword (4:12; Eph. 6:17).
  - 2. The word of God is able to divide the soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow.
  - 3. The word of God is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
  - 4. All things are opened unto God's eyes, and He is the One we have to give account (4:13).
- F. Invitation to come to the throne of grace (4:14-16).
  - 1. We have a great High Priest who has passed into the heavens (4:14).
  - 2. That High Priest is Jesus the Son of God (4:14).

- 3. We do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our infirmities (4:15).
- 4. Our High Priest was tempted in all angles yet without sin (4:15).
- 5. Let's us come before the throne of God with confidence in Christ.
- 6. That we may receive mercy and grace from the presence of God's throne (4:16).
- G. Jesus is the Son of God and the heavenly High Priest therefore He is better than Moses.

## IV. JESUS IS BETTER THAN AARON AND THE HIGH PRIESTS (5:1-7:28).

## A. The qualities required in a High Priest.

- 1. Must be divinely appointed (5:1-3).
  - a. Be ordained or selected by God (Exo. 28:29, Lev.8,9; Num. 16-18).
  - b. The work involves things pertaining to God (5:1; 2:17).
  - c. He must offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins (8:3).
- 2. Must have human sympathy (5:1-4).
  - a. The high priest must be taken from among men (5:1).

- b. Being human helps to ensure a spirit of compassion (5:2).
- c. He must have compassion for those who are ignorant and going astray (Heb. 5:2).
- d. The high priest was to make a distinction between sins of ignorance and sins of rebellion (Num 15:22-31).
- e. He was to sacrifice for his own weaknesses and sins (5:3; Lev. 16:11).
- B. Jesus Christ's qualification as High Priest.
  - 1. He was divinely appointed (5:4-6).
    - a. He was called to serve as High Priest just as Aaron was appointed.
    - b. He was called by an oath through prophecy (Psa. 2:7;110:4).
    - c. He was chosen as Son of God (5:5; Psa. 2:7).
    - d. He was appointed priest after the order of Melchisedec (Psa. 110:1-4).
    - e. He was called of God to be High Priest (5:10).
  - He was sympathetic because He was the Son of man and suffered as all.

- a. He was in the flesh although He was divine (5:7).
- b. He offered prayers and supplication and cried to Him who was able to save Him from death (5:7).
- c. He suffered as all men do but learned obedience (5:8).
- 3. He has become the author of eternal salvation unto all who obey Him (5:9).
- C. Rebuking and encouragement to the readers (5:11-14).
  - The writer had many things to say but the readers ears were dull (5:11).
  - 2. They ought to grow to be teachers and not learners always (5:12).
  - 3. They should have known the basic principles of God's word.
  - 4. But they were still in the state of new Christians needing elementary teachings instead of deep understanding of the Word.
  - They were babies and hence unskilled in the Word of God (5:12-13).
  - 6. They were encouraged to be strong and grow (5:14).
  - 7. They were encouraged to exercise to discern good and evil (5:14).
- D. Admonition to pursue perfection (6:1-3).
  - 1. Leave the principles of the doctrine of Christ (6:1).

- 2. Strive unto perfection and not to continue in the elementary teachings (6:1-2).
  - a. Doctrine of Baptism.
  - b. Laying on of hand.
  - c. Repentance.
  - d. Resurrection.
  - e. Judgement.
- 3. If God permit, that should be the target to achieve (6:3).
- E. Danger Signal: Threat of departing (6:4-8).
  - 1. It is possible for the saved to fall into apostasy (6:4).
  - 2. It is impossible for backsliders who do not repent to receive the heavenly gift.
  - 3. The marks of the saved (6:4-5).
    - a. Once enlightened.
    - b. Tasted of the heavenly gift.
    - c. Partakers of the Holy Spirit.
    - d. Tasted the good word of God.
    - e. Tasted the powers of the age to come.
  - Beware of the possibility of not repenting and returning to Christ (6:6; Luke 3:8).

- 5. They crucify the Son of God again and put Him to shame when they return to Judaism (6:6).
- F. Bear fruits because trees that do not bear fruit shall be cut off and burned (Heb. 6:7-8; John15:5,6).
- G. Confidence in God's faithfulness (6:9-15).
  - 1. There are better things that accompany salvation (6:9).
  - 2. God will not forget your labor and He shall reward (6:10).
  - 3. Show diligence to the full assurance of hope (6:11).
  - 4. Be followers of those who through faith and patience inherited the promises (6:12).
  - 5. God swore by Himself to Abraham concerning His promise because there is no one greater than Him (6:13).
  - God promised to bless and multiply Abraham and He fulfilled His promise to Abraham (6:14-15).
- H. The Immutability of God's Promise (6:16-20).
  - 1. Men make promises and swear an oath by someone greater (6:16).
  - 2. But God though unchanging yet confirmed His promise with an oath by Himself (6:17).

- 3. There are two immutable things in which it is impossible for God to lie (6:18).
- 4. We have an anchor that keeps the soul (6:19).
- 5. Jesus Christ our High Priest is the forerunner (6:20).
- I. Christ is the King of Righteousness (7:1-10).
  - 1. Melchisedec was king of Salem and a priest who met Abraham when he was returning from a war (7:1).
  - Abraham gave tithe of spoils from the war to Melchisedec who was described as the King of righteousness and King of Salem (Peace) (7:2, 4)
  - 3. Unknown facts of Melchisedec (7:3).
    - a. His father
    - b. His mother
    - c. His descent
    - d. His beginning
    - e. His end of life.
  - 4. Melchisedec life was made like the Son of God.
  - 5. His priesthood abides continually.
  - 6. The sons of Levi received the office of the priesthood (7:5).

- 7. These sons of Levi also received a commandment to take tithe from the people of Israel (7:5).
- 8. These sons of Levi paid tithe to a priest greater than them because Abraham their patriarch paid tithe to Melchisedec when they were still in Abraham's loins (7:6,8,9).
- 9. Melchisedec being greater than Abraham blessed him (7:6-7).
- 10. These Levitical priests do not live forever but Christ, the anti-type of Melchisedec, lives forever (7:8).
- J. Hence Christ is superior to the Levites.
- K. Christ gives us a surety of a Better Testament (7:11-22).
  - Christ's priesthood shows the Old Testament law needed a change.
  - 2. The Levitical priesthood did not bring perfection (7:11).
  - Christ brings a new priesthood, not mentioned by Moses (7:12-14).
  - 4. Jesus Christ is from the tribe of Judah hence have not law allowing Him to be priest on earth (7:14).
  - 5. This priesthood is not based on physical requirement (7:15-17).
  - Christ has been called to be a Priest according to the order of Melchisedec (7:17).

- 7. The former law has been revoked because it unprofitable (7:18).
- 8. The Old Covenant law made nothing perfect (7:19).
- 9. The New Covenant with the heavenly High Priest brings a better hope and by Him we draw near to God (7:19).
- 10. Our High Priest was chosen with an oath (7:20).
- 11. God will not change His mind on this for He chose Him by an oath to be priest after the order of Melchisedec (7:21).
- 12. For this reason, Jesus Christ is the guarantee of a better covenant (7:22).
- L. Christ has an unchangeable priesthood in Heavenly sanctuary (7:23-28).
  - In the Old Covenant, there were many High Priest coming in once incumbent died (7:23).
  - 2. But Christ lives forever so His priesthood changes not (7:24).
  - 3. He is able to save those who go to God through Him since He is a perpetual High Priest (7:25).
  - 4. He is a better High Priest because He is Holy and dwells in the presence of God in Heaven (7:26).
  - 5. He does not sacrifice repeatedly because He offered Himself (7:27).
  - 6. He was made a High Priest not by law but by an oath of God (7:28).

## V. JESUS IS A MINISTER OF A BETTER SANCTUARY (8:1-9:15).

A. Proven by Location and Builder (8:1-6).

- 1. Christ is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty (8:1).
- Jesus is a minister of better sanctuary which the Lord built Himself (8:2).
- 3. Every high priest is chosen to offer sacrifices therefore Christ must also be able to offer sacrifices (8:3).
- 4. If Christ was on earth, He could not have been a priest because He was from the tribe of Judah (8:4).
- 5. Jesus serves in the heavenly sanctuary of which Moses made a copy of the pattern that was shown him (8:5).
- 6. Jesus has obtained a more excellent ministry (8:6).
- 7. He is a mediator of a better covenant with better promises (8:6).
- B. Based Upon a Better Covenant (8:7-13).
  - A second covenant was needed because the first covenant was not faultless (8:7).

- A new covenant was sought for as Jeremiah prophesied (Jer. 31:31-34).
- The people of Israel broke the covenant God made with their fathers (8:6-12, Jer. 11:10; 31:31-36).
- The nature of the new covenant was foretold (Jer. 31:31-36, 2 Cor. 3:1-18).
- 5. In the new covenant that Jesus is the Mediator, God will remember our sins no more (8:12).
- 6. Since Christ has established the New Covenant, the Old has become obsolete and has vanished away (8:13).
- C. The Symbolism of the Old (9:1-10)
  - The Old Covenant had ordinances of divine services and a physical sanctuary.
  - 2. There were sacred things in the first part of the tabernacle (9:3).
    - a. The candlesticks
    - b. The table.
    - c. The showbread.
  - 3. There were also sacred things in the second veil (9:4-5)
    - a. Golden censer.

- b. The ark of the covenant.
- c. The golden pot that had the manna.
- d. Aaron's rod that budded.
- e. The tablets of the covenant.
- 4. There was the Holiest place where the Mercy Seat was located (9:5).
- 5. The high priest went into the first part.
- The high priest went to the second (Most Holy Place) once a year not without blood (9:7).
- 7. The sacrifices and offering of gifts made which did not clean the consciences of the worshippers (9:8-10).
- D. Christ Accomplished Greater Work by the New Covenant (9:11-15).
  - Christ is the High Priest of good things to come which is the New Covenant (9:11).
  - Blood of animals could purify the flesh but could not take away sin (9:12-13).
  - 3. But Christ's blood can cleanse Christian's consciences (9:14).
  - 4. Jesus is the mediator for the New Covenant by means of His death (9:15).
  - 5. By Christ we have been promise eternal inheritance (9:15).

#### VI. JESUS OFFERED A BETTER SACRIFICE (9:16-10:18).

A. The Necessity of Death (9:16-22).

- 1. Where there is a testament there must be of necessity the death of the testator (9:16).
- 2. For a testament (will) is enforced when the testator dies (9:17).
- 3. The first covenant was dedicated with blood (9:18).
- 4. Moses sprinkled blood on the people when the covenant was established (9:19).
- 5. Jesus' blood has been sprinkled for our salvation (9:20-21).
- 6. Without shedding of blood there is no remission of sin (9:22).
- B. The Greatness of the Offering (9:23-28).
  - 1. Through the sacrifice of Himself, Christ entered the heavenly holy place (9:23).
  - 2. Christ entered the Holy place not made with hands but the true tabernacle (9:24-25).
  - Christ put away sin by offering the greatest sacrifice of Himself (9:26).

- Since it is appointed unto man to die once and after that Judgment, so Christ offered Himself for sins once (9:27-28).
- C. The Inability of the Old to deal with sin (10:1-4).
  - 1. The law was but a shadow of a future reality.
  - 2. The sacrifices made in the old covenant made no man perfect (10:1).
  - 3. It was not a perfect representation, for it was, they would have ceased sacrificing (10:2).
  - 4. It was not possible for blood of animals to take away sins (10:3-4).
- D. The Need for a body (10:5-10).
  - 1. God was dissatisfied with burnt offerings and sin offerings.
  - 2. To fulfill all that which was written of Him.
  - To perfectly submit to God, and to accomplish His will (John 6:38-40).
  - 4. Christ fully accomplished God's will in His life, death, and resurrection so then God canceled the first covenant and established the second.
  - God permanently sets us apart from our sins on the basis of offering the body of Christ.

- E. The Perfection of His Sacrifice (10:11-18).
  - 1. The Levitical priests stood daily to sacrifice, and their work was never completed.
  - 2. They offered the same sacrifices daily which could never take away sins.
  - 3. But this Priest (Christ) offered one sacrifice for sins, He sat down perpetually at God's right hand signifying a completed work.
  - 4. He waits there until His coming in power and glory when His enemies will be made His footstool (Rev 19).
  - 5. By one offering He has perfected perpetually those being sanctified.

## VII. ADMONITION TO PERSEVERE (10:19-39)

- A. Our Response to what Christ has done (10:19-21).
  - 1. Boldness to enter the holiest by the blood of Jesus (10:19).
  - 2. A new and living way which He has consecrated for us, through the veil of His flesh (10:20).

- 3. The temple veil rent at the moment of His death signified the end of the old covenant (Jn 14:6, Matt 27:51).
- A High Priest over "the house of God" embraces all believers in Christ, but characteristically seen in a scriptural, local assembly (10:21).
- B. Five imperative exhortations to the readers (10:22-25).
  - Let us draw near characteristic of all who enter God's presence (10:22).
  - 2. Let us hold fast our confession of faith for He who promised is faithful (10:23).
  - 3. Let us consider one another to stimulate love and good works (10:24).
  - 4. Forsake not nor neglect the assembly meetings (10:25).
  - Exhort one another and more so because His Coming is imminent (10:25).
- C. Warning Against Willfully Sinning (10:26-31).
  - 1. Example of judgment under the law (10:26-28).

- a. This "willful sin" is deliberately turning away from the truth (10:26).
- b. God's judgement and fierceness of fire are sure consequences (10:27).
- c. Since the penalty for despising Moses law was death (10:28).
- d. Far greater punishment awaits those reject Christ (10:29).
- 2. Admonition to treat matters as sacred (10:29).
  - a. Trampling the Son of God renders the Blood of Christ as common.
  - b. Despises the Spirit of Grace is an insult.
- 3. Judgment of God on His people (10:30-31).
  - a. A God of Vengeance, Recompense and Judgment (Deut. 32:35, 1 Pet 4:17).
  - b. The most fearful destiny is to fall into the hands of the Living God.
- D. Final words of encouragement to persevere (10:32-39).
  - 1. Remember your courage in suffering when the Gospel first came.

- 2. The mockery reproach you personally endured and shared with others.
- 3. The deep sympathy you showed the writer while he was in prison: The plundering of your possessions which you endured with joy. Why? Confidence in a far more enduring possession in heaven.
- 4. Don't throw your confidence, it will result in a great heavenly reward.
- 5. The Promise of the Coming One will come soon and will not delay.
- 6. The just shall live by faith (Heb 2:4, Rom 1:17; Gal 3:11).

#### VIII. WE MUST LIVE BY FAITH UNDER A BETTER EXAMPLE (11:1-40)

A. Faith is the evidence of things not seen (11:1-3).

- 1. Faith is the substance of things for which we have hope (11:1).
- 2. By faith the elders obtained a good report.
- 3. By faith the world was framed by the Word of God (11:3).
- By faith the things which did not exist come into being from nothing (11:3).
- B. Without faith no one can please God (11:6).
  - 1. God wants man to believe and trust Him.

- 2. Jesus make that clear to us that we need to believe in God and Him (John 14:1-3).
- 3. Jesus made it clear that man will perish in sin if he does not believe (John 8:24, 3:16-18).
- 4. So, without faith no man can please God; if anyone wants to get closer to God the first criteria is to have faith.
- 5. God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
- C. Demonstration of Faith by Abel (11:4; Gen 4:10).
  - 1. By Faith he offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.
  - 2. By faith he obtained witness that he was righteous, and God testifies about his gift.
  - 3. By faith he was speaking being dead.
- D. Example of Enoch (11:5; Gen. 5:21-24).
  - 1. He walked with God (Gen. 5:21-22).
  - 2. He lived 365 years yet pleased God.
  - 3. He was a righteous man and walked with God (Gen. 5:24).
  - 4. By faith he did not die but was taken up by God (11:5).
- E. Putting faith into work, the example of Noah (11:7, Gen. 6-9).
  - Noah was warned of the flood coming on the wicked generation of his time (Gen. 6:1-13)

- 2. Noah believed God and put his faith into work by preparing the ark according to all that God had commanded him (Gen. 6:14-22).
- 3. By the work of his faith, he saved his own family, condemning the world (11:7).
- 4. Noah walked with God and lived righteously (11:7; Gen. 6:9).
- 5. His faith caused him to work (11:7).
- F. The example of the works and faith of Abraham (11:8, 17-19; Gen. 12-3).
  - By faith Abraham left his fathers house unto the land God showed him (11:8)
  - 2. Abraham obeyed God and journeyed to a strange land because he looked for a city whose builder is God (11:9-10).
  - 3. By faith, Abraham when tried offered up his son Isaac (11:17).
  - Abraham believed that God was able to raise the death, even if he had burned his son (11:19).
- G. The example of Sara (11:11-13; Gen. 22).
  - 1. By faith Sara journeyed with her husband Abraham to become mother of the promised seed.
  - 2. By faith she had strength to conceive and deliver a child at an old age (11:11).

- By faith, she became the mother of a nation of innumerable people like the sand of the sea shore (11:12).
- 4. By faith Sara and her husband saw the reward of heaven afar off and pilgrimed on the surface of the earth with hope (11:13).
- 5. They did not return to their home country but endured to the end, so God is not ashamed to be called their God (11:14-16).
- 6. Faith leads us on a pilgrimage (11:13-16).
- H. The Example of Isaac's faith (11:20).
- I. The example of Jacob (11:21).
  - 1. By faith Jacob knew that God would visit his family to take them back to the land of promise.
  - 2. By faith he blessed the two sons of Joseph to have inheritance in the land God gave them (11:21, Gen. 48:8-20).
- J. Example of the Faith of Joseph (11:22; Gen. 49:25).
  - Joseph by faith believed the promise of God to his great grandfather Abraham (Gen 15), his grandfather Isaac and his father Jacob.
  - By faith Joseph knew that God would redeem the people of Israel from Egypt, so he asked them to make an oath to carry his bones out to the promise land (Gen. 49:25; Exo. 13:19).

- Joseph's bones hence were buried on the promise land (Josh. 24:32-33).
- K. Example of faith of Moses' parents (11:23).
  - 1. The parent of Moses kept Moses by faith because they saw he was proper child (Exo. 2:1-11).
  - 2. By their faith in God, they did not fear the commands of Pharaoh.
- L. Example of faith of Moses (11:24-28).
  - By faith, Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter (11:24).
  - 2. By faith, Moses chose to suffer with the people of Israel than to enjoy the short pleasure of sin (11:25).
  - 3. By faith Moses esteemed the reproach of Christ greater than the riches in Egypt (11:26).
  - 4. By Mosses forsook Egypt not fearing the wrath of the king (11:27).
  - 5. Moses kept the Passover with the people of Israel and sprinkled blood on their doors because of his faith in God (Heb. 11:28).
- M. By faith the people of Israel exited the land of Egypt and overcame several nations (11:29,30).
  - 1. They passed through the red sea on dry land (11:29, Exo. 14:21-31).

- 2. By faith, the people of Israel orbited the walls of Jericho as God commanded them and they overcame the city (11:30, Josh. 6:20-27).
- N. By faith Rahab did not perish with the people of Jericho (11:31, Josh. 6:22,23).
- O. There are other people who are among the faith hall of fame who by faith accomplished a lot for God (11:32).
  - These people in addition to the above discussed personalities are Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets.
  - 2. These people by faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, fought enemies of God's people among others (11:33-38).
- P. The people of the faith hall of fame received a good report through faith (11:39).
- Q. However, they will not be made perfect without Christianity.
- R. By the sacrifice of Christ which brought out Christian faith, these people though were not in Christianity shall receive a heavenly reward (11:39-40).

# IX. WE MUST LOOK UP TO JESUS AND APPRECIATE THE NEW COVENANT 12:1-29

A. Fix your eyes on Jesus and run the race (12:1-4).

- There is a great cloud of witnesses so lay aside every weight and sin that ensnares us (12:1).
- 2. Run with endurance the race set before us (12:1).
- 3. Look up to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith (12:2).
- 4. Look up to Jesus who endured the cross because of the joy that was set ahead.
- 5. Look up to Jesus who despised the shame of crucifixion (12:2).
- 6. Look up to Jesus who received the reward of sitting at the right hand of the throne of God (12:2).
- B. Don't be discouraged at chastisement (12:5-13).
  - 1. Do not become weary and discourage but endure hostility from sinners (12:3).
  - 2. Do not be discourage because you have not resisted to bloodshed (12:4).
  - 3. Do not despise the chastening of the Lord (12:5).
  - 4. God chastise those He loves and scourges those He receives (12:5-6).
  - 5. Enduring chastening makes God deal with you as a son (12:7).
  - 6. If you are not chastised, you are not a legitimate child of God (12:8).

- 7. If we give respect to human fathers who chastise us then we should give more respect to our Spiritual Father in heaven (12:9).
- 8. God our Spiritual Father correct us for eternal benefit (12:10).
- 9. Chastening do not seem joyful for the present but yield righteousness in the future (12:11).
- C. Renew your spiritual vitality (12:12-17).
  - 1. Strengthen the hands which hang down and the feeble knees (12:12).
  - 2. Straighten what is lame so that they do not dislocate (12:13).
  - 3. Pursue peace and holiness in order to see the Lord (12:14, Mat. 5:8).
  - 4. Be careful that you do not fall short of the grace of God (12:15).
  - 5. Do not be defiled by letting any root of bitterness spring up.
  - 6. Do not follow the examples of Esau but exercise self-control (12:16).
  - 7. After Esau wanted the blessings of inheritance he did not have because he did not exercise self-control (12:17).
- D. The glorious company we join as Christians (12:18-24)
  - 1. Christians have not come to mount Sinai (12:18, Exo. 19:10-20).
  - The mountain which the people of Israel came for the Old Covenant but feared the voice of the one who spoke from it (12:19-20, Exo. 19, 20).
  - 3. Moses testify that he was exceedingly afraid and trembling (12:21).

- 4. But Christians have come to mount Zion which is the city of the living God (12:22).
- 5. Christians have come to the heavenly Jerusalem (12:22).
- 6. To the general assembly and the church of the first born who are registered in heaven (12:23).
- 7. To God the Judge of all and the spirit of just men made perfect (12:23).
- 8. To Jesus the Mediator of the New Covenant and the blood that speaks better than Abel (12:24).
- E. Exhortation to listen to the Heavenly voice (12:25-29).
  - 1. Refuse not to listen to Him who speaks (12:25).
  - 2. Those who did not listen to the earthly voice did not escape, how much will we escape He who spoke from heaven (12:25).
  - 3. His voice shook the earth and will shake heaven and earth (12:26).
  - 4. He will remove things that shake so that those things that cannot shake remain (12:27).
  - Christians have received the Kingdom of God (12:28, Dan. 2:45, 7:13-14, 2 Sam. 7).
  - 6. Let us therefore serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear (12:28).

7. For God is a consuming fire (12:29).

### X. WE MUST LIVE BY THE GODLY EXHORTATION (13:1-25).

- A. Live in Love (13:1-4).
  - 1. Let brotherly love continue (13:1).
  - 2. Remember to receive strangers because some people in the past received angels unawares by doing that (13:2).
  - 3. Remember those who are in prison and those who are suffering (13:3).
  - Marriage is honourable and the marriage bed should not be defiled (13:4).
  - 5. God will judge fornicators and adulterers (13:4).
- B. The Lord is our helper (12:5-6).
  - 1. Be content and let your life be without covetousness (13:5).
  - 2. God will not leave us or forsake us (13:5).
  - 3. God is our helper; we will not fear what man can do to us (13:6).
- C. Follow the exhortation of the Great Shepherd (13:7-17).
  - Remember your rulers (elders) in the church (13:7; Phil. 1:1-3, 1 Pet. 5:1-5, Acts 20:28).
  - 2. Jesus Christ remains unchangeable (13:8).

- 3. Do not be carried away by strange doctrines (13:9).
- 4. The right to eat meat (13:10).
- 5. The bodies of the animals were burnt outside the camp so did Christ suffer outside the gate (13:11-13).
- 6. Seek for the coming city (13:14).
- 7. Let us offer the sacrifice of praise continually to God (13:15-16).
- 8. Obey leaders of the church and submit to them (13:17).
- 9. Prayer request (13:18-19).
- D. Prayer for God of peace who raised up Jesus Christ to make you perfect (13:20-21).
- E. Accept the words of exhortation (13:22).
- F. Report on Timothy's freedom and planned visit (13:23).
- G. Salutation to the leaders and the brethren (13:24,25).