

Hebrews Introduction, Bible Devotions

☐ Monday - Real Food for Your Soul.

In the Book of Hebrews we behold Jesus in all of His glory. He is: [1] “the radiance of [God’s] glory and the exact representation of His nature” (1:3); [2] “the Author of [our] salvation” (2:10); [3] “a merciful and faithful High Priest” (2:17); [4] “the Apostle and High priest of our confession” (3:1); [5] “the guarantee of a better covenant” (7:22); [6] “the Mediator of a better covenant” (8:6); [7] “the Author and Perfector of faith (12:2); and [8] “the great Shepherd of the sheep” (13:20). Hebrews is real food for the soul, for here the reader may feast upon the boundless glories of Christ’s majesty. So bon appetite, dig in and enjoy! Look up the verses above

☐ Tuesday - The Alpha & Omega.

Jesus said, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end” (Rev. 22:13). In Colossians 1, for example, Jesus is Alpha, the first: the Creator of all things (v. 16); “before all things” (v. 17); “the beginning, the firstborn from the dead” (v. 18). In Hebrews, however, Jesus is the last, the end, the final Word and revelation of God (1:1-2), the final priest (7:11-28), and the final sacrifice for sin (7:27; 9:12; 10:10,12,14). Jesus is both the Alpha and Omega. To God’s people that is more than just a fancy title. To them Christ has become first and last in all of their personal affairs and daily considerations. Look up the verses above

☐ Wednesday - Better than the Best.

The Book of Hebrews is a book of contrasts and one of the keywords is “better” (13x). Hebrews explains that Jesus is better than: [1] the prophets (1:1-3); [2] the angels (1:4-14); [3] Moses (3:1-6); [4] the Old Testament high priest (4:14-5:10, chap. 7); for “He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a *better* covenant, which has been enacted on *better* promises” (Heb. 8:6); and He is better than [5] the Old Testament sacrifices for sin (chap. 9). Friend, don’t settle for anything less than Jesus. He is better than everything else. Look up the verses above

☐ Thursday - Draw Near to God.

If the New Covenant truly is a “*better* covenant, which has been enacted on *better* promises,” as the Book of Hebrews boasts (Heb. 8:6), then it ought to produce a better, closer walk with God, than the Old Covenant, and this is exactly what we see. Whereas closeness to God spelled danger under the Old Covenant (Ex. 19:9-25, Heb. 12:18-24), it is actually the highlight of the New Covenant. And so, the writer of Hebrews exhorts his New Covenant readers: “Let us therefore *draw near* with confidence to the throne of grace (4:16); for “there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we *draw near* to God” (7:19); and “He is able to save forever those who *draw near* to God through Him” (Heb. 7:25); therefore, “let us *draw near* with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith” (10:22). Christian, “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (James 4:8). Look up the verses above

☐ Friday - Five Warning Passages.

Five warning passages in the book of Hebrews warrant our attention: [1] Hebrews 2:1-3 warns against *drifting* away from God’s Word through neglect; [2] Hebrews 3:6-4:2 alerts us against *doubting* God’s Word brought on by the deceitfulness of sin; [3] Hebrews 5:11-6:8 admonishes us against spiritual *deadness* which is the inevitable result of falling away from a daily diet of God’s Word; [4] Hebrews 10:26-31 reveals that *despising* God’s Word is the next ugly by-product, brought on by willful disobedience; and [5] Hebrews 12:25 warns against *defying* God’s Word by refusing to read and heed what it says. Think of these passages as guard rails on the narrow road that leads to eternal life, keeping the true believer on course and out of danger. Look up the verses above