

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREWS

Read Hebrews 1-13

Introduction: This epistle was written to Hebrew Christians who were tempted to return to Judaism to avoid additional persecution and pressure from their fellow countrymen. The writer warns them not to go back to Judaism, but encourages them to listen to Jesus Christ, who is the Author and Finisher of their faith, and follow Him. He is better than the prophets, priesthood, covenant, sanctuary and sacrifices that they had in Judaism. The temptation of Gentile Christians is similar to that of the Hebrew Christians in that they are tempted to leave Christ and return to the world.

Aim of the Lesson: Forsake the world and be true to Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse: "Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 Jn 2:14)

Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer

"BETTER" - This is an important word in Hebrews. Fill in the blanks to identify what is better.

1:4 – Christ is better than _____.

7:19 – The new covenant brought in a better _____.

7:22 – Christ was made surety (the guarantee) of a better _____.

8:6 – Christ is the mediator of a better _____.

9:23 – The heavenly things were to be purified with better _____.

11:16 – Abraham and his descendants desired a better _____.

11:35 – Old Testament saints did not accept deliverance so they might have a better _____.

11:40 – God did not make Old Testament saints perfect so He might give to us some better _____.

12:24 – Jesus Christ's blood speaks of better _____ than Abel's blood.

FIVE WARNINGS – Put the warnings in the right order. When you connect these verse references to the right warnings, you find the right order of the warnings that God has given to His people: 2:1-4; 3:7-4:13; 5:11-6:8; 10:26-31; 12:18-29.

FIND THE RIGHT VERSE REFERENCE FOR EACH WARNING

DO NOT DENY (fall away) GOD'S WORD _____

DO NOT DISOWN (turn away) GOD'S WORD _____

DO NOT DRIFT (slip) FROM GOD'S WORD _____

DO NOT DETEST (sin willfully) GOD'S WORD _____

DO NOT DOUBT (disbelieve) GOD'S WORD _____

PUT THE WARNINGS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

1.

2.

3.

4.

5

GEMS OF TRUTH IN HEBREWS

Jesus is _____ (1:1-2; see Jn 1; Col 1). How should this truth affect the decisions we make in life (1 Cor 10:31)?

Jesus learned _____ by the things He suffered (5:8). What good can come from our suffering?

We are in a _____ (12:1-2). A good start is not enough; we must strive to the end to win a prize.

Milk is for _____; meat is for _____ (5:12-14). Milk is Christ's work to save us; meat is His work to perfect us and use us (13:20-21). What spiritual food are you eating?

BE DEAD TO THE WORLD AND ALIVE TO CHRIST

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