city CHURCH

LEADERS GUIDE



Hebrews: Jesus is Better

October 25
-
December 27

AN EXPOSITIONAL STUDY THROUGH THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

October 25 - December 27

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LEADERS GUIDE



Hebrews: Jesus is Better

October 25

"Better Messenger" - Hebrews 1:1-2:18

Sermon Series

October 25, 2026	Hebrews 1:1-2:18	The Promise That Cannot Fail
November 1, 2026	Hebrews 3:1-4:13	Peace through Judgment
November 8, 2026	Hebrews 4:14-7:28	Wisdom to Serve
November 15, 2026	Hebrews 8:1-10:18	God's House
November 22, 2026	Hebrews 10:19-39	Better Messenger
November 29, 2026	Hebrews 11:1-39	Better Moses
December 6, 2026	Hebrews 12:1-17	Better High Priest
December 13, 2026	Hebrews 12:18-24	Better Sacrifice
December 27, 2026	Hebrews 13:1-25	Better Life Now

Book Overview

There is no exact understanding of who the author of Hebrews was, due to the author not mentioning himself and not mentioning who he is writing to. The book is called “the book of Hebrews”, because it reflects the ancient assumption of who is tradition thinks it was written to. Some people think it was written by Barnabas, Paul Clement, Luke, or Apollos. But the early church father Origen says: “only God knows who wrote this book”.

From what we know, the author did know the recipient of the letter and longed to be with them (Hebrews 13:19). They even had a mutual friend – Timothy (13:23).

The book was probably written before 70 AD (destruction of the temple), as it speaks about the Jewish sacrificial system as one that is still present there.

The main theme of the book is just like our sermon title: that Christ is better then any sacrificial system, angel, priest, or old covenant institution. The book encourages believers to hold on through faith to rest in Christ and encourages other church members to persevere.

This is the only book that doesn’t have an introduction that any other epistles have. However, it does have greetings and blessings at the end, as well as author identification of writing to someone (13:22). Most of the scholars agrees that it is more of a sermon than of a letter.

The book encourages believers to endure and warns against leaving Christ by remaining faithful. The big part of the book shows that Jesus is superior to angels, Moses, the tabernacle sacrificial system, and priesthood. So it would be a failure for those who believe in Jesus to return to them. The author encourages believers to hold on to faith that is grounded in the most superior revelation.

This makes us think that the church was going through the persecution and trials of life (12), and needed to grow more attentive to the Christ instructions (5:11-14), as well as not to forget to meet with other believers (10:25). They are also encouraged to continue to love each other even in the midst of persecution (10:32-34).

Sermon Overview

This week we begin a nine-week sermon series in the book of Hebrews. The focus of the entire work is the superiority of Jesus to the systems established under the Old Covenant, the Law of Moses. This “word of exhortation” as the writer refers to his letter was meant to encourage early Jewish believers to hold fast to their faith in Jesus because of who he is and all that he has done.

This book is especially relevant for contemporary Christians as it assists us in understanding the relationship between the Old and the New Testaments. Yet, it is far more than academic or intellectual, replete with practical application that helps shape how we live today, transcending differences in time and culture.

Before plunging deeper into specifics in later chapters, the writer devotes his introduction to comparing Jesus with the angels. The angels were the messengers of the Old Covenant and Jesus is the messenger of the new. While this may be an overlooked element today, establishing the credibility of those whom God entrusts with his message for the world matters. God has sent his Son to both announce and execute his redemptive mission, a far greater hope for the people of God than the message declared by the angels at Mt. Sinai. We look forward to seeing you this Sunday as we reflect on the supremacy of God’s Son, the one through whom our great salvation comes.

Ps Zach Mazrim

Sermon Outline



Spoken to us by his Son

Text: Hebrews 1-2
Title: Better Messenger
Proppsition: Jesus is the supreme messenger of God, so we must reckon with who he is and what he has done.

1. Superior Name (1:1-14)
- **A. Identity (1:2,5)**
- **B. Status (1:3, 6)**
- **C. Essence (1:4, 7-14)**

2. Superior Message (2:1-4)
- **A. Content (2:1-3)**
- **B. Confirmation (2:3-4)**

3. Superior Mission (2:5-18)
- **A. Incarnate (2:5-8, 14, 17)**
- **B. Suffer (2: 9-10**
- **C. Help (2: 16-18)**

Sermon Notes

Sermon Applications

1. Pay Attention and Have Faith

2. Assess the Alternatives

3. Testify to Jesus' Supremacy



Discussion Questions

1. Which comment on Jesus' superiority from chapters 1 and 2 do you find most fascinating and why?

Note to a leader: Guide your group members to consider how Jesus is superior: He reveals God fully (1:1–3), is greater than angels (1:4–14), sustains creation (1:2–3), accomplished purification for sins (1:3), became human to defeat death (2:9–15), and serves as our merciful High Priest (2:17–18). Ask why this truth fascinates them.

2. The writer lists several aspects of Jesus' mission, including his incarnation, suffering, atonement, and ascension, among others. Which of these do you understand the best and which do you understand the least and perhaps would like to learn more about?

This is something you can research more, if you are not sure how to answer:

- *Incarnation: Jesus, the Son of God, became fully human (2:14). What does this teach us about God's love?*
- *Suffering: Jesus experienced suffering and death (2:9, 18). How does this help us trust Him in hardship?*
- *Atonement: Jesus died to deal with our sins and reconcile us to God (2:17). How does His sacrifice bring forgiveness?*
- *Ascension: Jesus returned to His heavenly glory and authority (1:3, 13). What does His reign mean for us?*

3. What types of circumstances in your life, or that you have seen in the lives of others, might lead to drifting away from faith in Jesus?

Encourage honest, nonjudgmental sharing. Possible circumstances include suffering, unanswered prayers, busyness, work pressure, disappointment with other Christians, isolation, temptation, or gradually neglecting prayer and fellowship. Invite members to share personal experiences or observations without pressure. Ask: "What makes these circumstances spiritually challenging, and how can we help one another remain faithful to Jesus?"

4. The encouragement here is to pay attention. Come up with at least three practical ways for you, both as an individual and as a community of believers, to pay closer attention to the gospel message that you have heard.

Encourage the group to suggest specific, realistic practices. Examples include daily reading and reflecting on Scripture, praying regularly, discussing the gospel in small groups, reminding one another of Jesus' promises, participating in church fellowship,



Discussion Questions

and applying God's Word in daily decisions. Ask each member to identify one personal action and one way the group can support one another.

5. In what specific ways has Jesus helped you when facing temptation? Who can you share this testimony with outside of your small group to also encourage during the coming week?

Encourage members to share how Jesus has helped them resist temptation, through Scripture, prayer, the Holy Spirit, or support from other believers. Remind them that sharing is voluntary and confidentiality matters. Ask whom they could encourage this week by sharing their testimony and reminding them that Jesus understands and helps us in temptation.



Prayer & Praise

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

Prayer Requests

Praise Reports