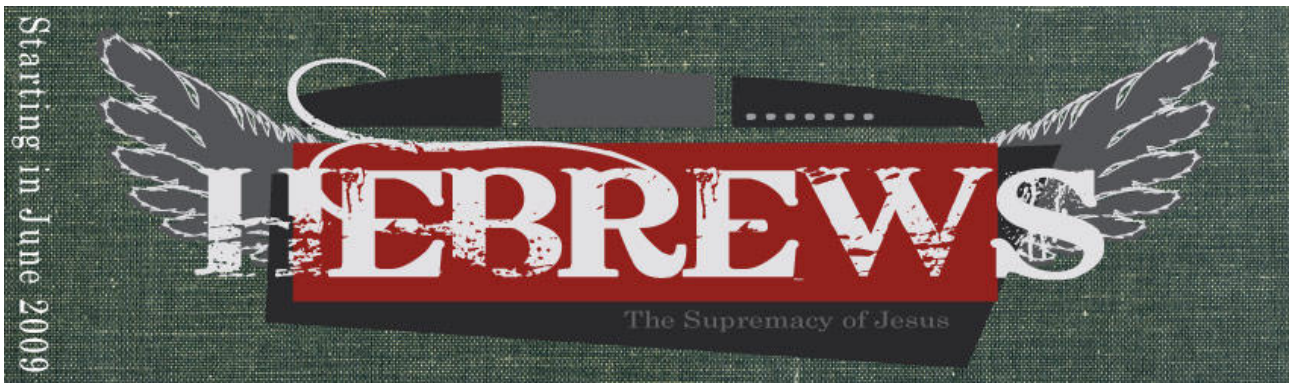


Daily Bible Reading Notes



Hebrews: Daily Reading Notes

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Jesus is greater than...

A Bit of Background on Hebrews

The writer in Hebrews 13:22 says this letter is a '**word exhortation**'.

How does writer 'exhort'?

1. Look to Jesus and who he is.
2. Warning of dangers of rejecting Jesus.

This letter is different to other letters in that we are not told who wrote the letter or who it is addressed to; where it is written from or when it is written.

Although this group is nowhere named we do learn a number of things about them:

- they had been **Christians for some time** (5:12) and had suffered for their faith (10:32-34).
- Mostly **Jewish Christians** – assumed knowledge of OT
- at least some of their number were in danger of **drifting away** from the gospel (2:1) and missing out on heaven (3:7-4:11).
- some had **withdrawn from regular gatherings** with other Christians (10:24-25).
- some were **weary** and needed encouragement to keep going as Christians (10:35-39,12:1-13).

Hebrews can be divided into 3 sections:-

1. 1-4:13
2. 4:14-10:18
3. 10:19-13:17

Summary verse

4:14

Enough said! More important than all of these arguments is the scriptures themselves. It is now time to let the Bible do the talking! Read it on it's own terms, and read it humbly and prayerfully.

Week 1

God has spoken through His Son Hebrews 1:1-4

Day 1. Read Hebrews 13:22

1. What kind of letter is Hebrews?
2. What can we learn about who the letter was written to from these verses:- 2:1; 3:7-4:11; 5:12; 10:24-25; 10:32-39,12:1-13?

Day 2. Read Hebrews 1:1-4

1. What would you say is the main theme of these verses?
2. What does the writer say about this theme?

Day 3. Hebrews 1:1-4

1. How did God speak in the past?
2. How has God finally spoken?

Day 4. Hebrews 1:1-4

1. What are the seven things we learn about Jesus?
2. What is Jesus doing now?

Day 5. Hebrews 1:1-4

1. What does it mean that we have purification for sins?
2. How does this help us approach God?

sermon notes

Week 2

God rules through His Son Hebrews 1:4-2:4

Day 1. Hebrews 1:4-2:4

The writer of Hebrews exhorts using two approaches:- a. Reminding the readers of who Jesus is and what he is done; b. Warning of the dangers of drifting away from Jesus. This section contains both.

1. Divide the section into the two approaches.
2. What does the writer remind them about Jesus?
3. What does the writer warn them about?

Day 2. Hebrews 1:4-13

1. Who is Jesus superior to?
2. How does the writer make his point?

Day 3. Hebrews 1:4-13

1. What does the writer say about the Lord in verse 12?
2. What does the writer say about the Lord in verse 13?
3. What did God the Father say to God the Son according to verse 13?

Day 4. Hebrews 2:1-4

1. What must the readers do according to verse 1?
2. Why according to verse 2?
3. What other reasons are given for not drifting away?

Day 5. Hebrews 1:4-2:4

1. What is the one lesson you have learnt from this part of Hebrews?
2. Praise God for all we have in Jesus.
3. Pray that you will pay careful attention to God's Word to us in Hebrews.

sermon notes

Week 3

God sets us free through His Son Hebrews 2:5-18

Day 1. Hebrews 2:5-18

1. What does this passage teach us about Jesus?
2. What does this passage teach you about yourself?

Day 2. Psalm 8

1. What does this Psalm say about man?
2. To whom has God subjected everything?
3. How was this ruler crowned with glory and honour?

Day 3. Hebrews 2:5-18

1. What does this passage teach you about how God help us?
2. Why is it comforting to know Jesus calls us 'brothers'?

Day 4. Psalm 22

1. Who do you think this Psalm is ultimately talking about?
2. How does this help us understand Jesus?

Day 5. Hebrews 2:14-18

1. Why did Jesus take on flesh?
2. What did his death achieve?
3. How does Jesus being tempted help us?
4. Sum up what you have learnt from this section.

sermon notes

Week 4

God rules through His Son - Hebrews 3:1-6

Day 1. Hebrews 3:1-6

1. How is Jesus like Moses?
2. How is Jesus greater than Moses?

Day 2. Hebrews 3:1-6

1. Who is a member of 'God's house'?
2. What does it mean to 'boast'?

Day 3. Hebrews 3:1-6

1. Who are we to fix our eyes on?
2. What does it mean in practical terms to fix your eyes on Jesus?

Day 4. Hebrews 3:1-6

1. What are some things that distract you from Jesus?
2. What are some things that help you fix your eyes on Jesus?

Day 5. Hebrews 3:1-6

1. Why can we have courage or confidence?
2. What does it mean to have hope?
3. What lessons have you learnt from this section?

sermon notes

Week 5

Warning: Don't harden your hearts! Hebrews 3:7-4:13

Day 1. Hebrews 3:7-4:13

1. What do you think it means to harden your heart?
2. What is God's response to hard hearts?

Day 2. Psalm 95

1. What does the writer of the Psalm say should be our response to God?
2. What is the wrong response to God?

Day 3. Hebrews 3:7-12?

1. Who according to the Book of Hebrews, is the author of the Psalm?
2. What events does the Psalm recall?
3. What is the warning given in the Psalm?

Day 4. Hebrews 4:12-19

1. Why is there is there such a immediate need to encourage one another?
2. How are those who experienced the exodus from Egypt a warning to you?

Day 5. Hebrews 4:1-13

1. How are you in a similar situation to those who experienced the exodus from Egypt?
2. What was their error? What was the consequence of their error?
3. Who are what should you fear?

sermon notes

Week 6

God mediates through His Son Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Day 1. Hebrews 4:14-5:10

1. What does this passage tell you about Jesus?
2. What does this passage tell you about what you need to do?

Day 2. Hebrews 4:14-16

1. What comfort and encouragement do you find in this passage?
2. How should we approach God?

Day 3. Hebrews 5:1-6

1. What is the role of the high priest?
2. How does a person become a high priest?

Day 4. Hebrews 5:7-10

1. What did Jesus pray for? What was the outcome?
2. What kind of salvation has Jesus won for us?
3. How did he win this salvation?

Day 5. Hebrews 5:11-14

1. What does the author of Hebrews expect his readers to have become by now?
2. What did they need instead?
3. Why has this situation come about?

sermon notes

Week 7

Warning: Don't fall away! Hebrews 5:11-6:12

Day 1. Read Hebrews 5:11-14

1. What does the author of Hebrews expect his readers to have become by now?
2. What did they need instead?
3. Why has this situation come about?

Day 2. Hebrews 6:1-8

1. What does this passage teach about the foundations of the Christian faith?
2. What strong warning does this passage contain?
3. What kind of person is this warning directed against?

Day 3. Hebrews 6:9-12

1. What is the author of Hebrews confident of?
2. Why is he confident?
3. What does he desire for those he is writing to?

Day 4. Hebrews 5:11-6:12

1. What do you think it means to 'train yourself to distinguish good from evil'?
2. Are you growing in being able to distinguish good from evil?

Day 5. Hebrews 5:11-6:12

1. What are lessons you have learnt from this section?
2. What changes will you make in response to what you have learnt?

sermon notes

Week 8

God promises fulfilled in His Son – Hebrews 6:13-20

Day 1. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. What did God promise Abraham?
2. What is it impossible for God to do?

Day 2. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. What is the hope we have?
2. Why is this secure and an anchor?

Day 3. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. What has Jesus done?
2. On whose behalf has he done this?

Day 4. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. Why do we need to flee for refuge to Jesus?
2. How long will Jesus stand for us as the 'high priest'?

Day 5. Hebrews 6:13-20

1. On what basis can we be sure of inheriting the blessing of heaven?
2. How do these verses promote our continual trust in God?

sermon notes

Week 9

Jesus, the eternal priest – Hebrews 7:1-28

Day 1. Hebrews 7:1-10; Genesis 14:18-20

1. What do these passages tell us about Melchizedek?
2. How is he like Jesus?

Day 2. Hebrews 7:1-10

1. How is Melchizedek greater than the Levitical priests?
2. How does the pattern of an Old Testament character help the author explain more about Jesus?

Day 3. Hebrews 7:11-19

1. What does this passage tell you about the law and the Levitical priesthood?
2. On what basis has Jesus, who is from the tribe of Judah, become a high priest?
3. What is the “better hope” which Jesus introduces?

Day 4. Hebrews 7:20-28

1. How is Jesus the “guarantor of a better covenant”?
2. What is Jesus able to do which cannot be done by the other priests?

Day 5. Hebrews 7:20-28

1. What things must the other priests do which Jesus does not have to do?
2. What is the surprising nature of Jesus’ sacrifice which makes him able to save completely those who draw near to him?

Sermon notes

Week 10

Jesus, priest of the new covenant – Hebrews 8

Day 1. Hebrews 1-7

1. Go back over chapters 1-7 and for each chapter come up with one thing it is saying about Jesus as priest.

Day 2. Hebrews 8-10

1. Pick out the themes or topics that appear in each chapter.

Day 3. Hebrews 8:1-6

1. What do we have?

2. Where is He?

3. What do we have?

Day 4. Hebrews 8:6-13

1. What are the differences between the new covenant and the old?

2. How is it possible for us to enter into this new covenant?

Day 5. Hebrews

1. What is the covenant that God has made with us in Christ?

2. What difference should this make to our lives?

Sermon notes

Week 11

Jesus, priest of the heavenly sanctuary – Hebrews 9

Day 1. Hebrews 9:1-10

1. What meaning was communicated by the symbolic objects in the Most Holy Place of the tabernacle?
2. What did worship look like under the system of the Old Covenant?

Day 2. Hebrews 9:1-10

1. What was it that all the symbolism could not accomplish?
2. What does the coming of Jesus make possible?

Day 3. Hebrews 9:11-22

1. What did the sprinkling of blood perform in the Old Covenant?
2. How does the blood of Jesus fulfil all of these functions for us in the new covenant?

Day 4. Hebrews 9:11-22

1. What does it mean for us as new covenant people to serve the living God?
2. What do you think it means for everything in that worship to be sprinkled by the blood of Jesus?

Day 5. Hebrews 9:23-28

1. What is the true 'place of holiness' that is the fulfilment of the symbolic tabernacle of the Old Covenant?
2. What does it mean for us that Jesus has entered that place?
3. What is the image we are supposed to have in our minds of what it means to 'wait' for Jesus' return?

Sermon notes

Week 12

Jesus, once for all sacrifice – Hebrews 10

Day 1. Hebrews 10:1-10

1. Why were sacrifices offered year after year?
2. What did the sacrifices remind worshippers of?

Day 2. Hebrews 10:1-10

1. What is it that God does not want?
2. What makes a person holy??

Day 3. Hebrews 10:11-18

1. How many times was Jesus sacrificed on our behalf?
2. Why is it so significant that Jesus' sacrifice was one for all?

Day 4. Hebrews 10:11-18

1. What are the effects of Jesus death for us, his people? For his enemies?
2. What promise is given in verse 17?
3. Why then is Jesus' resurrection and exaltation at God's right hand such a source of assurance for us?

Day 5. Hebrews 10:1-18

1. List the things you have learnt about Jesus death from this passage.

Sermon notes

Week 13

Don't shrink back – Hebrews 10:19-39

Day 1. Hebrews 10:19-25

1. What is the significance of the curtain in the tabernacle?
2. What does the opened curtain mean for us?

Day 2. Hebrews 10:19-25

1. List 3 things we can do to show our confidence we have because of Jesus.
2. Which do you find the most difficult to do?

Day 3. Hebrews 10:26-31

1. What is the warning that is given?
2. How does verse 29 define 'sinning' from verse 26?

Day 4. Hebrews 10:32-36

1. What do think might be the 'better and lasting possessions'?
2. What is the response to suffering in these verses?
3. What advice is given in verses 35-26?

Day 5. Hebrews 10:37-39

1. What are the 2 groups described in verse 39?
2. From the rest of the passage what are marks of those who believe and are saved?

Sermon notes

Week 14

Live by faith – Hebrews 11:1-12:3

Day 1. Hebrews 11:1-2

1. What is the definition of faith?
2. Who are the ancients and what were they commended for?

Day 2. Hebrews 11:2-4

1. What do you learn about creation in verse 3?
2. What is the reason Abel's sacrifice was more pleasing than Cain's?

Day 3. Hebrews 11:5-6

1. What is amazing about Enoch?
2. What is necessary for relationship with God?

Day 4. Hebrews 10:7-10

1. What was it about Noah that really pleased God?
2. What is the proper expression of faith that we see in Noah?
3. What motivated Noah?

Day 5. Hebrews 11:11-12:3

1. How did faith in God's promises affect Moses' life and decision making?
2. What actions were taken as a demonstration of faith?

Sermon notes

Week 15

Receive God's discipline – Hebrews 12:4-13

Day 1. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. What does verse 4 say the Christian life is about?
2. Who does the Lord discipline?

Day 2. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. How should we think about hardship?
2. What is the suggested response to hardship?

Day 3. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. What is a mark of being a child and a true son?
2. What is God's discipline like compared to God's?

Day 4. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. According to verse 9 what should be our response to discipline?
2. What is the immediate result of discipline?
3. What is the long term result?

Day 5. Hebrews 12:4-14

1. Why should we not lose heart when the Lord rebukes us?
2. What is the command in verse 12?

Sermon notes

Week 16

Don't refuse God – Hebrews 12:14-29

Day 1. Hebrews 12:14-29

1. List some of the instructions from verse 14-16 which will help us keep a level path?
2. What is the lesson for us in Esau's story?

Day 2. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. What is the shadow and reality for:-
 - the mountain
 - the warnings
 - the shakings

Day 3. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. Of the things that are reality which things have already taken place, and which things are still to come?

Day 4. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. Verse 26 quotes the prophet Haggai. How did Haggai look back to the shadows, as well as forward to the reality?
2. How can we do the same?

Day 5. Hebrews 12:4-13

1. List the lessons you have learnt from this passage.

Sermon notes

Week 17

Life together – Hebrews 13 and review

Day 1. Hebrews 13:1-6

1. What are the instructions given here which should characterise followers of Jesus?
2. How is our attitude to money different from our world?

Day 2. Hebrews 13:7-9; 17-19

1. What is the role and importance of leadership?
2. What obligations do leaders and churches have towards each other?

Day 3. Hebrews 13:20-21

1. How is the prayer that ends the letter linked to the idea of pleasing and worshipping God?

Day 4. Hebrews 12:17-25

1. What request does the writer make in verse 18?
2. Is this a challenge to you in any way? If so, how?

Day 5. Hebrews

1. Spend some time scanning the whole book and reviewing the lessons you have learnt.

Sermon notes