

# Hebrews

## Breakdown

- The writer of Hebrews is unknown. Many believe the letter was written by Paul, but others suggest different writers such as Barnabas, Apollos, etc. Even though we don't know for sure who the "writer" was, we can be absolutely sure that the "author" was the Holy Spirit.
- Jews were originally called Hebrews, so from the title, we can see that this letter was written to Jewish Christians.
- Based on clues from the letter itself, it is believed to have been written around 65 A.D.

## Main Points

- Hebrews more than any other book of the Bible shows us the connection between the Old Testament (Old Covenant) and the New Covenant we have in Christ. All of the things we read in the Old Testament about offerings and sacrifices are revealed in the work of Jesus. In Hebrews, we see clearly that Jesus is greater than any angel, priest, or Old Testament discipline. He is the final sacrifice and priest. In Him, we see the fulfillment of all the Old Testament hopes and promises.
- Jesus is the Great High Priest who presents Himself as the final offering, bringing the end to sacrifice and saving everyone who comes to God through Him. Because of Jesus, we can now enjoy a relationship with God, living obediently and worshipping Him forever.

## Did you know?

- In the early Biblical days, God spoke to His people through His prophets. How does the writer of Hebrews say God speaks to us now?
- Because of persecution from other Jews, the Jewish Christians the writer was addressing were considering going back to Old Testament Judaism. The writer urged them to listen carefully to the truth they had heard. What did he say would happen if didn't?
- In Hebrews, we learn that the Tabernacle that Moses built in the wilderness was not the only Tabernacle of God. Where is the other Tabernacle located?
- Hebrews is well-known for its 11<sup>th</sup> chapter which has been nicknamed the "Hall of Faith". How many Old Testament characters are mentioned in this chapter?
- No other book of the Bible so thoroughly explores the New Covenant current priestly ministry of Jesus like Hebrews does. Why is Jesus' priestly ministry important to us?
- Hebrews is the longest epistle in the Bible, but the writer doesn't think of the letter that way. How does the writer describe what he has written?

## Further Thought

- In the Old Testament, the high priest oversaw the offerings and animal sacrifices. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we no longer have to sacrifice animals. What are our sacrifices that Jesus oversees now, and how does that change things for us?
- In the New Covenant, God will put His laws in the people's hearts and write them on their minds. What does it mean for God's laws to be written in our hearts and minds? What can we change in our lives so that other people will see that we live according to God's laws?