

OVERVIEW OF *HEBREWS*

I. Its THEMES

A. WHY it was written

1. To prevent Jewish CHRISTIANS from REVERTING to Judaism
2. To present the PREEMINENCE of Christ over EVERYTHING

B. HOW it uses the OT

1. Uses predominantly the PENTATEUCH and PSALMS
2. Almost always IGNORES the HUMAN writer (cf. 4:7; 9:19-20)
3. Treats EVERY WORD as GOD'S
 - a. Twice attributes OT words to CHRIST (2:11-12; 10:5ff.)
 - b. Twice attributes OT words to HOLY SPIRIT (3:7; 10:15)
4. Presents Christianity as the FULFILLMENT of OT Judaism

II. Its THEOLOGY

A. The CHARACTER of the Son

1. His DIVINE pre-existence
2. His HUMAN incarnation
3. His EXALTED position

B. The PRE-EMINENCE of the Son

1. His superiority over the ANGELS (1:5 – 2:9)
2. His superiority to MOSES (3:1-6)
3. His superiority to JOSHUA (4:8)
4. His superiority to AARON (4:14 – 5:10)

C. The Son as HIGH PRIEST

1. His GODLY CHARACTER
2. His DIVINE APPOINTMENT
3. His UNIQUE STATUS
 - a. Not connected to the priesthood of LEVI under the LAW
 - b. But connected to the priesthood of MELCHIZEDEK

D. The Son's high priestly WORK

1. The superior CHARACTER of His offering
2. The superior EFFECT of His offering

E. The Son's inauguration of the NEW COVENANT

1. Not a covenant WITH a better PEOPLE
2. But a covenant THROUGH a better MEDIATOR