

“Hebrews #1”

Hebrews 1: 1-4

(Written to converted Jews who understood the Old Testament)

- No one knows who wrote the letter of Hebrews, a lot of controversy about the author. *(There is no salutation as other letters have)*
- There are scholars that think this letter was actually a sermon or a series of sermons that were dictated by someone and then written down.
- Personally, I can see this, not sure if this is true. Some have even attributed authorship to Apollos.
- Whoever the author is: *(They knew Hebrew and understood the Old Testament)*

Dwight Pentecost: *“The author displays a very high regard for the Old Testament Scriptures. He shows high esteem for the Law itself, for the Aaronic priesthood, for the tabernacle, for the feast, and for the sacrifices that were such an integral part of the Law... While he does not despise the revealed Judaism of the Old Testament, the writer of Hebrews does show the superiority of Christianity over Judaism.”*

(Before 70AD)

Philippians 3:4-7...

- Even Paul had a high regard for and understanding of the Old Testament.

John 5:39... *“You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about Me.” (ESV)*

Matt. 5:17... *“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill” (NKJV)*

- The beauty of Hebrews is the way it shows how Jesus Christ is superior to the old system. He came to fulfill.

V's 1... (ESV)

- *God spoke in the past in various ways...*
- *Sometimes He gave His revelation directly, sometimes through dreams, and sometimes through visions.*
- *Spoke through the Prophets... Once through a Donkey!*

Albert Mohler: Speaking of these first three verses...

“The Holy Spirit, through the author of Hebrews, is placing the story of Christ within the context of God’s entire redemptive plan – a redemptive plan that spans from creation to new creation... The story of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ begins not just during the age of the Roman Empire but “long ago” in the narratives of the Old Testament. The account of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ begins at the very beginning of creation... Specifically, God has been active speaking... For centuries Yahweh “spoke to the fathers by the prophets”

- **1 Peter 1: 6-13...!!!**

V 2... “In these last days he has spoken to us thru His Son!”

- **What is the writer of Hebrews saying... God is a speaking God.**
- **Throughout history God has spoken and now in these final days He has given His final revelation in Jesus Christ.**
- **Whom He (God) appointed the heir of all things. (Jewish understanding)**
- **Not only was He (Jesus Christ) the heir, but He also created the world.**

Question: How can we recognize a false teacher or so-called Prophets?

- Always claim a new revelation.
- MARTIN LUTHER... **"Sola Scriptura"** - *Beginning and the cry of the reformation.*
- Martin Luther's revelation came from scripture! (Romans 3)

1 John 2:20-23 (Read)

Carl F. H. Henry: Speaking of God's revelation... In his book - God who speaks.

"It is Gods willful disclosure, through which He forfeits His own personal privacy so that His creatures might know Him.

- When I read that I thought... God makes Himself vulnerable to us!

V's 3-4... (ESV)

- *Jesus is the radiance of the glory of God!*
- *He is the exact imprint of God the father!*
- *He upholds the universe by His word!*
- *He purifies us from our sins!*
- *He is seated at the right hand of God! (Majesty on high)*
- **V2...** *He is the heir of all things!*
- **V2...** *He created the world!*
- **V4...** *His name is above every other name, in heaven and in earth!*

THIS IS THE GOD WE SERVE...