



# HEBREWS

Jesus is **GREATER THAN...SO STAND FIRM**

## CONCLUSION

### **FACILITATOR'S NOTE**

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At the beginning of this study in January some in your class might of asked, "Why a study on the book of Hebrews and what could it possibly have to do with my daily life?" It is our hope that the study of God's Word provided lessons throughout Hebrews that helped your participants understand the reason for the overarching theme of "**Jesus is GREATER THAN so STAND FIRM**" found throughout the book. God's Word provides lessons throughout so that we can understand His overall plan of redemption and salvation. This book offers us great insight into how Christ is greater than any angel, priest, or old covenant institution and therefore Christians should hold on by faith to the salvation found only in Jesus Christ.

There is one certainty that the book of Hebrews teaches us all: THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST. Hebrews helps its readers understand how the promises of God and His intention to save His children have been fulfilled in and through His Son, our ANCHOR, Jesus Christ. Hebrews demonstrates that the unseen is more real, powerful, and attractive than all that has been seen or touched through millennia. Hebrews portrays Jesus, both human and divine, as the great high priest who calls His followers to become deeply devoted disciples with uncompromising commitment, resolute perseverance, and a willingness to suffer for their faith. It helps us understand God's love and plan of redemption from the beginning. It demonstrates that nothing that has happened has happened out of happenstance. God has known from before time began how He would save His children from themselves and restore them to His presence.

We hope this series challenged individuals. Hebrews presents a common thread of hope in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a thread that is woven through all of Scripture and demonstrates God's redemptive plan and will for our lives (and for all humankind). In this last class we encourage you to revisit each of the themes overviewed through the semester and glean from your class participants what they learned and will take away from this study. God bless you as you conclude and encourage your class to continue to dig deeper into Hebrews and the rest of Scripture to discover God's plan and will for their lives.

## PRAYER

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Begin your time with a prayer asking God for the guidance of His Holy Spirit to continue to reveal Himself to us through His Word and all creation. Thank Him for the gift of His Son who is superior to ALL and for His plan of salvation and His deep love for us.

## FOCUS

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- Recognize that **JESUS IS GREATER THAN...SO STAND FIRM!**

## LESSON

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### Discussion Starters (OPTIONAL)

- During this study, what about this book has grabbed your attention the most?
- What have you learned through this study that you didn't know before?
- What was the most challenging part of this study?
- What have you learned from this study that you can take and teach those whom you are sharing your faith with?
- What does this book have to say to new believers? What about mature believers?
- What do you think are the most important lessons for the 21<sup>st</sup> century church?

### FROM GOD'S WORD

- REMEMBERING THE THEME OF HEBREWS
  - JESUS IS GREATER THAN angels, priests, temple, or Mosaic laws/rituals/sacrifices. This is the reason to persevere in the faith rather than leave such a great salvation. The church should be encouraged to carry on in Christ and with each other and hold on to the redemption and rest found only in Jesus Christ.
- REMEMBERING WHY IT WAS WRITTEN
  - Hebrews frequently encourages the audience to persevere and cautions against falling away from Christ (2:1–4; 3:7–4:13; 5:11–6:12; 10:19–39; 12:1–29). These passages encourage disciples of Christ to remain faithful.
  - The emphasis on the supremacy of Christ and His new covenant over angels, priests, Moses, the temple, and sacrificial system shows the readers that it is futile to return to them (or to go anywhere else). The audience is encouraged to remain in the faith because that faith is grounded in the most superior revelation.
  - The teaching of salvation found in Hebrews is rooted in Christ—the Son of God who became the once-and-for-all high priest AND sacrifice. Christ is the author and perfecter of faith (12:2) and has obtained salvation for all who are faithful (6:1; 11:6; cf. 4:2) to the end, when the faithful shall receive their reward (6:12; 10:22, 38–39).

- REVIEW OF KEY THEMES IN HEBREWS

(Taken from the ESV Study Bible)

1. Jesus is fully God and fully man.	1:1–14; 2:5–18
2. Jesus as Son of God reveals God the Father, is the agent of creation, and sustains all creation.	1:1–14
3. Jesus serves as the eternal high priest, who as a man sympathizes with human weaknesses, and yet who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for sin.	1:3; 2:10–18; 4:15–16; 9:11–10:19
4. Jesus is superior to angels, to Moses and the Mosaic covenant, and to the earthly tabernacle and its priesthood.	1:4–2:18; 3:1–6; 5:1–10; 7:1–10:18
5. All humanity faces eternal judgment for sin.	4:12–13; 9:27–28; 10:26–31
6. Faith is necessary to please God and to participate in his eternal salvation promises. Faith requires conviction about the unseen realities of God and his promises. Such faith produces perseverance.	4:2–3; 6:1, 12; 10:22, 38–39; 11:1–40
7. Perseverance is necessary in the Christian life, and thus church participants are warned against a lack of endurance.	2:1–4; 3:7–4:13; 5:11–6:12; 10:19–39; 12:1–29
8. God’s promises are trustworthy, including his promise of eternal salvation.	6:13–20
9. With the advent of Jesus Christ, the last days have begun, though they await consummation at his return.	1:2; 2:5; 4:9–11; 9:9–28; 12:22–29

- For Discussion
  - What were the challenges facing the intended audience?
  - What are the author’s criticisms? Where does he commend them?
  - Why does the author spend so much time explaining the superiority of Christ?

## REFLECTION

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- Throughout the book, the author corrects numerous misunderstandings:
  - About the nature of Christ
  - About judgment and salvation
  - About what faith is and why it is necessary
    - Which of these misunderstandings occur today? How so?
- After studying Hebrews, has it helped you consider JESUS GREATER THAN anything and everything in your life? How/Why?
- After studying Hebrews and the issues it addresses, what are your thoughts on its contemporary significance? Does it have merit today? How?

## PRAYER

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