

GOSPEL of *Grace*
FELLOWSHIP

Hebrews – Part 2
Jesus Christ, Our Intercessor at the Throne
by Dana Burkinshaw
September 9, 2020

Three Key Word Studies

Better – Christ is better than the angels (1:4), has given us better things (6:9;11:40), is symbolized by a better person (7:7), offers a better hope (7:19), has a better covenant (7:22;8:6), with better promises (8:6), offered a better sacrifice (9:23), gives us a better possession (10:34), a better country (11:16), a better resurrection (11:35), based on the shedding of better blood (12:24) – the blood of the spotless Lamb of God.

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 1

Three Key Word Studies

Eternal – Christianity also provides an eternal salvation (5:9), warns of eternal judgment (6:2) for those who reject it; gives eternal redemption (9:12) to those who accept it, which is applied by his eternal spirit (9:14); gives to us an eternal inheritance (9:15), which comes through an eternal covenant (13:20).

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 2

Three Key Word Studies

Once (for all) – Regarding “once (for all)” salvation, Hebrews says: We were, once for all, enlightened to it (6:4). Jesus entered, once for all, into the holy place to obtain it (9:12). He, once for all, put away our sins (9:26). We will face, once for all, judgment without it (9:27). He offered himself, once for all, to bear our sins (9:28). He purged our sins, once for all, by it (10:2). He offered his body, once for all, for our sins (10:10).

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 3

Warning Passages

- Peril of Drifting (2:1-4)
- Peril of Doubting (3:7-19)
- Peril of Dullness (5:11-14)
- Peril of Departing (6:1-20)
- Peril of Despising (10:26-39)
- Peril of Denying (12:18-29)

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 4

Views of the Warning Passages

- Loss-of-salvation view
- Loss-of-rewards view
- Tests-of-genuineness view
- Hypothetical loss-of-salvation view

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 5

Elementary Principles

- Repentance from dead works
- Faith toward God
- Instruction about washings
- Laying on of hands
- Resurrection of the dead
- Eternal judgment

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

6

Laying on of Hands

- To confer blessing
- To invest identity
- To ordain successors

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

7

Jesus on the Final Judgment

- Matthew 25:30
- Matthew 25:31-32
- Matthew 25:45-46
- Matthew 13:49-50
- Matthew 10:15
- Matthew 11:22
- Matthew 12:41-42
- Matthew 12:36
- Matthew 13:40-43

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

8

Melchizedek in Scripture

- Genesis 14:18-20
- Psalm 110:4
- Hebrews 5:5-10; 6:19-20; 7:1-17

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

9

The Akedah (“Binding”) of Isaac

- **Gen. 22:1-14** “...Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar...”
- **John 8:56** “Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.”
- **Hebrews 11:17-19** “He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.”

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

10

Discrepancies/Contradictions

- If Jesus was already perfect, how could he be made perfect through suffering? (2:10)
- Is Jesus our priest or our sacrifice? (7:21; 9:26,28; 10:10)
- Why couldn't Esau repent if he sought it with tears? (12:17)

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

11

Contributions of Hebrews

- **Distinctive emphases:** The epistle to the Hebrews greatly enriches NT Christology, especially with respect to Jesus’ priestly work, the finality of his sacrifice, the nature of his sonship, the importance of the incarnation, and his role as “pioneer.”

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

12

Contributions of Hebrews

- **Extensive use of OT texts:** This epistle enables us to explore the hermeneutical assumptions of 1st-century Christians so as to better learn how to read the OT – the nature of typology, the understanding of prophecy that goes far beyond merely verbal prediction, and the interplay between exegesis of specific texts and the constraints of redemptive history.

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

13

Use of the OT

There are some ninety-eight-plus (98+) OT citations in the book of Hebrews (all from the Septuagint, except 10:30).

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

14

Contributions of Hebrews

- **Perseverance/apostasy:** Hebrews links with some other NT books (e.g., 1 John) that are vitally interested in the problem of perseverance of Christians and the nature and danger of apostasy. It continues to speak volumes to those whose hope pursues the comfort provided by religious externalism instead of pursuing “the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.”

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

15