

The Epistle of Paul to the HEBREWS

“The Superiority of Christ”

*with Phil Myers
thru the Bible by paragraphs*

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WARNINGS

2.1-4	slipping, drifting from Word
3.7-19	hard heart, walk away
4.1-13	unbelief, miss Rest
5.11-6.12	dullness, immaturity, apathy
10.26-31	willful sin
12.14-17	bitterness
12.25-29	bitterness, turn away

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

*Drawing out what is in the text
paragraph by paragraph*

Session
#1

The epistle of Paul to The Hebrews

When we face a difficult passage, we do not flip a coin or resort to logic;
we diligently apply hermeneutic principles.

DANGER !

There is danger in my decision to provide notes for you in the way I have presented here.

The danger is that you will rely on my ability to exegete
rather than learn how to draw out **[exegete]** observations yourself.

- * The strength of my decision to teach this way is that you will become accustomed to seeing the results of someone else's work and learn to duplicate it.
- * The weakness is that you will see my results and may not learn to do it for yourself, but rather simply memorize it.

In my wrestling years through college, I benefitted from drills taught by my coaches, as well as from watching other members of the team perform moves I had never seen. Some of my teammates even invented new moves and others perfected and adapted the coaches' moves for themselves. All this allowed me to improve my own unique style of "leg-wrestling."

Similarly, few great *[or good]* Bible teachers learned entirely on their own. Almost everyone heard *[and read]* others expound the Word first. Then they gleaned from experts as well as mediocre and even poor teachers. They learned how to avoid mistakes.

Your job is not to memorize my brain, but to learn to become good expositors *[those who "expose" truth]* of the Word on your own.

Don't cheat yourself by missing this golden opportunity to make the Scriptures your own !

Use good Bible study skills and these video sessions to open your eyes.

I still have hundreds of notes written in my Bible that I don't cover in this syllabus.
It's your job to make plenty of observations of your own.

B. **Possible order of Paul's writings**, *the canon according to Philip [same order as previous page]*

1. Galatians
2. I Thes
3. II Thes
- * **Cor A, the lost letter** *[see I Cor 5.9]*
4. * **I Cor, the "tearful letter"** *[see II Cor 2.3,4]*
5. * **II Cor**
6. Romans
7. Hebrews, jail in Caesarea
8. Philemon, jail in Rome
9. Philippians " "
10. Ephesians " "
11. Colossians " "
12. I Timothy
13. Titus
14. II Timothy " "

- 8 KEYS**
1. Non-contradiction
 2. Context
 3. Compare Scripture with Scripture
 4. Literal / Historical / Grammatical accuracy
 5. Only One Interpretation
 6. Same Author
 7. Clear Explains the Unclear
 8. T.B.D.S.

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Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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Introduction to the book of Hebrews

45 minutes reading time, pulpit speed

Paul's authorship, far more early Fathers accept it than any other person

1. Pauline style, sometimes chatty, from a pastor's heart, deep concern, fine rhetoric
2. Pauline theology, basic apostolic teaching
3. Pauline lists, [see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com), [Paul's 14 Books, a Survey & Comparison](#)
4. No other writer has similar style:
example: "It is written" & "He [God] says"
I Cor 6 I Cor 15 II Cor 3 II Cor 6 Eph 5
5. Early support for Paul, *see below*. No other name comes up as often by early writers.
6. 2.3 "salvation. . . spoken by the Lord [Damascus]."
7. 2.3 not one of "the 12"
8. 13.2 "I have written to you in few words,"
9. 13.2 Pauline understatement
10. 13.23 "brother Timothy"
11. 13.19 anticipated release
12. 13.23,24 chains
13. 13.24 from Italy
14. 13.25 benediction, "grace" Paul's trademark signature, *see I Thes 3.17,18*
15. 13.18 "pray for me" Pauline, no other author asks for prayer
16. II Pet 3.15 Peter mentions that Paul had written to the Jews.
Heart for lost Jews, *see Rom 9.1 & 10.1* Paul's MO, go to synagogues first
17. Habakkuk 2.4 is quoted in 3 Pauline books: Romans, Galatians, Hebrews
18. Neither Paul nor Hebrews quotes from the Gospels
19. Extensive use of OT quotations. 32X
20. Unique vocab: hapax legomenon [*words unique to the book*] = 131X, Pauline vocab
21. No mention of Temple destruction = must be pre-70 AD, still offering sacrifices
22. Nothing incongruent w/ Paul
* **OPINION, please:** "X" any of the above you support

nota bene, [*n.b., note well*]

- All discussions always include Paul.
- The early Church embraced Pauline authorship right away.
Clement of Alexandria, 150 AD Pantaenus, Ambrose, Rufinus, Eusebius, Council of Hippo, Council of Carthage
- Reason for absence of Paul's signature? Paul was not the apostle to Jews, but to Gentiles?
- All other non-Pauline suggestions have only 1 or 2 arguments which they claim don't fit Paul:
1. classical, 2. LXX, 3. allegorical, or 4. conjecture without evidence. Circumstantial reasoning.
- I cannot think of any other book in the Bible which has as much support for authorship as Hebrews and some people camp out entirely on the "non-signature" item. Huh?
- * We can be as sure of Paul's authorship as we can of any unsigned book.
8 OT unsigned books: I, II Sam, I, II Kings, I, II Chron, Esther, & Job.
8 NT unsigned books: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, I, II, III John.
- The only valid argument against Paul's authorship is that Paul wasn't the apostle to the Hebrews. The name "Epistle to the Hebrews" is not part of the text, but it was early on [300s] entitled "The Epistle of Paul to the Hebrews" and is so included in many Bibles.
- Who else could have written this authoritatively [*without a signature*] and received such universal adoption?

Paul's personal touch

- * fingerprints all over the book
- * Timothy, prison, soon release, benediction
- * Written perhaps during 2 years in prison in Caesarea, 13.23? His ministry seems to have been cut short by his insistence on going to Jerusalem after a prohibition by the Holy Spirit then with [grudging] permission by the Spirit with a warning of imprisonment if he went. Perhaps distributed to many Hebrew churches throughout nearby Judea & Samaria. Paul hadn't spent any time in Israel for 30 years, and now he's in prison back in Israel. *see Sir Wm. Ramsay*

I teach directly from this 44 page syllabus but only cover about 75% of the material

Maps
Cross-refs, 500x
Photos
Dates
Opinions
H/W
13 kinds of applications
8 KEYS
35 study tips
Further reading
My own parag. titles
30 Blogs
College level syllabus
Historical events
Cultural insights
Greek alphabet
Definitions of 30+ Greek words
Quotable quotes
Neat rabbit trails

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

*Drawing out what is in the text
paragraph by paragraph*

1. Themes & repeated words

#1 = Jesus Himself:

His humanity	His superiority [18x]	His role as High Priest
His appearance as Melchizedek in the OT		His seat at the Father's right hand

Other repeated words and themes:

purity	partaker	heavenly	warning	angels	salvation
sacrifice of praise	eternal security	5 warnings	rest	covenants	love
perfect [15x]	let us [13x]	by faith [13x]	angels	Tabernacle	
sacrifice					
sin	blood				

2. Highlights and familiar quotes

- 1.2 spoken through His Son
- 2.9 little lower than the angels
- 2.18 **tempted. . . He is able to aid us**
- 3.8 do not harden hearts
- 3.13 encourage one another
- 4.12 **Word of God. . . 2-edge sword**
- 4.15 high priest. . . our weaknesses
- 4.16 **boldly. . . help in time of need**
- 5.8 He learned obedience
- 5.12 ye ought to be teachers
- 6.6 if they shall fall away
- 6.16 **impossible to**
- 7.17 Mel. . . priest forever after
- 8.13 new covenant
- 9.22 without shedding of blood
- 9.27 **once to die. . . judgment**
- 10.10 death. . . once for all
- 10.25 **not forsaking assembling**
- 11 - Faith Chapter
- 11.6 without faith impossible to please God
- 11.11 **"she considered Him faithful!"**
- 11.19 **God was able to raise Isaac up**
- 12.1 great cloud of witnesses
- 12.6 **for whom the Lord loveth. . .**
- 13. do not neglect. . . strangers
- 13.5 **I shall never leave thee**
- 13.8 Jesus. . . same yesterday
- 13.17 obey those over you

A fortiori [*"from the stronger"*]:

an argument to express a conclusion for which there is stronger evidence.

forte = strength, strong

Examples:

Heb 9.13,14 "how much more shall the blood of Christ. . ."

Heb 12.9 "shall we not much rather be in subjection. . ."

Heb 12.25 "much more shall not we escape, if we. . ."

Rom 5.9,10 "much more then, having been justified. . ."

We will see Jesus compared to OT things 13X.

Many of these use the word "better."

Some translations use superior, or "how much more" or "much less"

8 KEYS A FORTIORI

3. Characteristics

- * begins like a treatise, ends like a friendly letter
- * 10 chapters of comparisons of Jesus to spectacular OT things
- * Paul's Magnum Opus.
- * 5 or 7 warnings
- * No particular instructions to any Church.
- * many blatant clues did Paul have to drop about his authorship?
- * The "a fortiori" construct is a comparison from a weaker idea "to the stronger" idea.
- * more practical than theological, but "heavy"
- * unlike Gospels [*save Luke*] it is a letter [*epistle*] not only a treatise. Note last 10 verses of book.
- * OT quotes are from LXX, not the Hebrew text as in Paul's other books.
- * Some say Hebrews sheds great light on Leviticus.

These notes are basically the kind I use in the Bible college where I teach. For each session their homework is 9-fold:

- A. To read the upcoming passage of Scripture 3 times prior to class and be ready to discuss it.
- B. To read the next 2 pages of these notes thoroughly.
- C. Give titles to each paragraph.
- D. Make personal applications. "LESSONS FOR MY LIFE"
- E. Look up any Bible references which I include in the notes. and fill in (1) blanks **85X**
- F. Weekly quizzes, of course, mid-term, and final,
- G. Memorize 10 verses in this book. (see **verses at left in red**) At our college students memorize 10+ verses each week.
- H. Write a research paper on one of a half dozen topics.
- I. Read all the blogs.
- J. Give an OPINION [*or best guess*] when asked for 10x.
- K. Raise questions in class and [*politely*] challenge anything I say if they have Bible

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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4. Outlines and organization of the letter

- 1-10 Superiority of Jesus [*Jesus is better than*]
- 11 By Faith
- 12,13 Encouragement to run the race

5. Warnings

5 warnings:

- 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
- 3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
- 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
- 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
- 10.26-31 willful sin
- 12.14-17 bitterness
- 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

6. People mentioned by name

Timothy

7. Notes about the city or region

* not the Diaspora

* distributed to Hebrew congregations first in nearby Judea and Samaria, if written from Caesarean jail, as I propose.

pjm

8. Of Special Note,

- 11.11,19 two best explanations of faith in Bible.
 - Rom 4.21 is also great
- * eastern churches adopted Hebrews into Canon earlier than western churches
- * written in most polished Greek in NT
- * Messianic Hebrews anticipated that the Temple would be part of the Messianic Kingdom as Jerusalem was going to be the capital of the world.
 - Shock! The Temple was dismantled in 70 AD!
 - Titus [*as general, before he became emperor*] literally dug up every stone but this happened several years after Hebrews was written.
- A book to rebuke complacency, *M.R.DeHaan, MD*
- Hebrews mentions Christ 13X: less than 7 of Paul's other epistles which averaged about 35-40X each.
 - Jesus occurs 14X
- Preachers quote the book of Hebrews less often than most of Paul's other books. [*just an observation*]
 - * Ammunition against the heresies of the "Great Councils" in the centuries to come
 - * Melchizedek is theophany, no human relatives

9. Reasons for drawing near to God:

- Boldly to the throne, 4.16
- He can be touched by man, 4.14,15
- Jesus is a real mediator with access directly to the Father.
- He is better than icons Moses & Abraham
- Others have made it to the "Faith Hall of Fame." So can you. *Chap 11*, regular people with irregular faith.

10. Date, AD 58-62 ca. [Paul's Timeline](#), p.9

Warnings addressed to believers: *only warning in Bible to unbelievers is to believe in Jesus as Savior*

- 2.1-4 neglecting the Word of God, peril of drifting
- 3.7-19 hard hearts of unbelief, peril of doubting, falling away
- 4.1-13 unbelief, missing the Rest [*of Canaan*]
- 5.11-6.12 immaturity, dullness, sluggishness, peril of walking away from God
- 10.26-31 willful sin, defiance
- 12.14-17 bitterness, fail of the grace of God
- 12.25-29 refusal, bitterness, tolerance of sin

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11. **Audience:** Jews in Israel—distributed to Hebrew congregations first in nearby Judea and Samaria, if written from Caesarean jail, as I propose. see *Sir Wm. Ramsay* pjm ←
- * If Paul was in jail in Rome then the first readers would have been the Diaspora [see map, p # 8]
 - * 2.3 = 2nd generation believers who were being pulled back into OT laws.
 - * They had evidently known people [parents?] who had heard Jesus Himself speak.
 - * 10.32-34 First readers had “endured a great fight of afflictions. . . gazing stock. . . reproaches. . . took joyfully the spoiling of your goods.”
 - * 13.9 In danger of being “carried about with. . . strange doctrines”

12. Salvation through Jesus Christ.

- We don't “lead a person to the church.”
- We don't “lead a person to prayer.”
- We don't “lead a person to a religion.”
- We certainly do “lead a person to [meet] Christ.”

13. Outlines of Hebrews

Mark Copeland

- 1-7 Superiority of Christ
- 8-10 Superiority of the New Covenant
- 11-13 Exhortations

McGee

- 1-10 Christ is better than the whole OT

anon

- 1-4 Christ's superiority: prophets, angels, Moses
- 5-10 Superiority of Jesus' priesthood
- 1-13 Superiority of the power of Christ

Liberty University

- 1 Theological basis: Christ's superiority
- 2 Prophets, angels, Moses, Aaron, Old Covenant
- 3 Practical evidence of superiority
- 4 Conclusion

anon

- A. Better than angels, Moses, Aaron
- B. Mediator of a better covenant
- X. Ministry, a better Tabernacle
- Δ. Better example
- E. Better shepherd

AUDIENCE, the first people who read Hebrews:

1. Assumed to be Jewish Christians living in Israel. pjm
 - The book seems to be written from Festus' Caesarean jail while waiting for two years for Festus to bring Paul to trial. Hebrew believer congregations nearby in Israel would have received the first copies.
 - Not. . .to pockets of Jewish believers sprinkled throughout the Roman Empire among various synagogues and churches with mixed congregations.
 - Book begins with reverence for the prophets, 1.1
 - No chapter focuses on the Gentile issues which arise in Paul's other books: idolatry, Gnosticism, Roman deities, emperor worship, or polytheism. Just Jewish issues.
 - Skips Hellenistic issues: esoteric thinking or revelations, reliability of the Hebrew Scriptures, and asceticism.
 - Every chapter quotes OT Scripture
 - Every chapter assumes a pretty thorough knowledge of the OT especially Mosaic Law, prophets' teachings, Jewish history & personalities, Tabernacle rituals, and biblical covenants.
 - Melchizedek is the only non-Jew mentioned. I notice do not call him a Gentile. He is a theophany.
 - High regard for the Tabernacle, feasts, and sacrifices.
 - High regard for the High Priest's office.
 - Jesus is compared to 14 Jewish elements.
2. Some feel the priesthood itself was the target audience of the epistle.
3. Seemingly not specifically directed to the Diaspora scattered throughout the Roman empire [see map, page 8] but to the Jews who had intimate knowledge of attending sacrifices at the Tabernacle [Temple].



Q

The
Diaspora
of the Jews

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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14. OT quotations

Hebrews 86X [from at least 8 Psalms]

Romans 74X

I Corinthians 41X

15. "Let us" passages

4.1

4.11

10.22

10.23

10.24

12.1 [2X]

12.28

13.13

13.15

16. "We" passages

Paul often includes himself along with the believing Jewish readers.

Definitely a letter to believers.

17. Chastening passages

12.6-11 "for whom the Lord loveth. . .for our profit. . .peaceable fruit"

12.27-29 "look for judgment. . .punishment"

18. Occasion / Purpose of the writing

1. Jewish believers in Israel [?] were wobbling in their faith.
2. They were being drawn back into the legalism of OT rituals.
3. Persecution by Claudius [41-54] who expelled all Jews from Rome.

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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HEBREWS

The Superiority of The Christ

CHRIST

- 1.1 He speaks through His Son, Better than prophets
 - 4 Better than angels, A Better Name
- 2.1 Confirmed by signs
 - 5 A little lower than angels
 - 9 Crowned with glory
 - 14 Tempted like us
- 3.1 Apostle & high priest
- 3.3 Better than Moses
 - 7 Do not become hardened
- 4.1 Better than Joshua's rest
 - 7 The Word reveals intent of my hearts
 - 14 Tempted like us
- 4.15 Better than Aaron
- 5.1 Better than high priest
 - 11 You are dim-witted
- 6.1 Stick to the 6 essentials
 - 9 Be diligent, not dull
 - 13 Better than Abraham
 - 17 As good as Melchizedek
- 7.1 Melchizedek's credentials
 - 4 Melchizedek compared to mortal men
 - 11 His priesthood better than Aaron's
 - 17 Jesus & Mel belong to same permanent Priesthood
- 7.19 Better than Aaron's priesthood
- 7.22 Better than the OT covenants
 - 26 A pure priest
- 8.1 Better than sanctuary
- 8.2 Better than the Tabernacle [*sanctuary, Holy of Holies*]
 - 6 Better than promises
- 9.1 Better than sanctuary
- 9.3 Better than the Holy of Holies
 - 11 Better than blood of atonement
- 9.12 Better than any OT sacrifice
 - 23 Only one sacrifice
- 10.1 Better than Law of Moses
 - 8 Better than Day of Atonement
 - 19 No other sacrifice
 - 32 God is present in persecution
- 11.1 Five people of faith
 - 13 Faith in the God of the future
 - 20 Acts of faith of 7 more
 - 32 Faith without receiving
- 12.1 Run patiently
 - 5 A father's loving discipline
 - 14 Esau's bad example
 - 22 Don't resist God
- 13.1 Be content because....
 - 7 Obey & listen to your leaders
 - 18 Pray for me
 - 25 Grace

Myers

BETTER THAN 17 OT INSTITUTIONS

chapters 1-10

Q

THE SON IS...

- 1.1 Better than prophets
 - 1.4 Better than angels
 - 1.4 A Better Name
 - 3.3 Better than Moses
 - 4.1 Better than Joshua's rest
 - 4.15 Better than Aaron
 - 5.1 Better than High Priest
 - 5.6 Jesus is as good as Melchizedek
 - 6.13 Better than Abraham
 - 7.19 Better than Aaron's priesthood
 - 7.22 Better than the OT covenants
 - 8.2 Better than the Tabernacle, sanctuary
 - 8.6 Better than the promises
 - 9.2,3 Better than the Holy of Holies
 - 9.12 Better than any OT sacrifice of bulls & goats
 - 10.1 Better than Law of Moses
 - 10.3,4 Better than Day of Atonement
- Esteeming the Law as God's instrument for guiding God's people for 1,500 years.
 - Esteeming Jesus Christ as God's final provision for man's sin. . . plus a whole lot more.

Timeline of the apostle Paul

Year	Event	Scripture	Year	Event	Scripture
4 BC	birth of Christ	Luke 2	50-54	begged to leave town	Acts 16.39
7 AD	Herod [#1] the Great kills babies <i>Judea becomes Roman province</i>	Matt 2.16-18		*Thessalonika, plants church mob chased them out of town	Acts 17.1-10
1-10AD	birth of Paul, Tarsus [<i>Turkey</i>] Saul, Pharisee Roman citizen	Phil 3.5 Acts 22.28		*?Berea, leaves Silas & Tim Athens, Mars Hill, *Corinth, Silas & Tim rejoin Paul	Acts 17.10-14 Acts 17.16-34
15?AD	educated under Gamaliel <i>Tiberius becomes emperor</i>	Acts 22.3		18 months, meet Aquila & Priscilla, plants church	Acts 18.1-17
26	<i>Pilate becomes procurator, Judea</i>			Paul writes I & II THESS.	
28	John the Baptist beheaded Herod [#2] Antipas	Matt 14.10		visits Ephesus briefly, Caesarea, Jerusalem, returns to Antioch	Acts 18.18-22
29	crucifixion of Christ	John 20	54-58	THIRD MISSIONARY TRIP <i>Nero becomes emperor, 54-68 AD</i>	
	Peter preaches [<i>3,000 & 5,000</i>]	Acts 2.41 4.4		*Galatia again [<i>Turkey</i>], on way to	Acts 18.23
30	Saul at Stephen's stoning	Acts 7.51		*Ephesus, plants church, stays 3 years, Diana [<i>Artemis</i>] mob, [<i>silver idol makers</i>],	Acts 19.1ff
32?	Saul persecutor of the Church	Acts 8.1-3		Paul writes I, II CORINTHIANS ROMANS,	
34	Barnabas sent to Antioch as Jerusalem's first missionary	Acts 11.20-22		Philippi in Macedonia	Acts 20.1
	Saul saved on way to Damascus preaches in Damascus	Acts 9.1-9 Acts 9.20		*Troas, Greece, Macedonia Eutychus falls out window	Acts 20.2-12 Acts 20.13-15
	Barnabas vouches for Saul in Damascus	Acts 9.27		on foot to Mitylene, etc.	Acts 20.15ff
	flees Damascus in a basket	Acts 9.20ff		*Miletus, meets elders	Acts 20.15ff
	goes to Jerusalem	Acts 9.26-29		Rhodes, Patara, Phoenicia, Tyre kneels on the beach	Acts 21.3-6
35,36	Saul sent away to Tarsus	Acts 9.30		CHURCH PLANTING MINISTRY ENDS	
	Seminary of Arabian Desert [<i>during time in Dam or Tars?</i>]	Gal 1.17		Caesarea	
37	<i>Caligula becomes emperor</i>		58-62	* forbidden to go to Jerusalem [<i>Paul chooses to disregard info given "through the Spirit"</i>]	Acts 21.4
41	<i>Claudius becomes emperor</i>			* permitted to go to Jerusalem arrested at Jerusalem, mob at Temple	Acts 21.11
42	<i>famine in Rome</i>			asserts citizenship	Acts 21.26ff Acts 21.22ff
42	Barnabas finds Saul in Tarsus, brings him to Antioch to teach	Acts 11.25,26		Jerusalem, Paul makes sinful vow to prove he kept Mosaic laws	Acts 21.24 Acts 22.30ff
	Saul takes famine aid to Jerusalem	Acts 11.29,30		taken before Sanhedrin	
	Mark joins Barn & Saul	Acts 12.25		murder plot	
	Herod [#3] Agrippa I kills James	Acts 12.1-3		delivered, but imprisoned for 2 years in Caesarea	Acts 23.12ff
44-49	FIRST MISSIONARY TRIP Barn & Saul chosen by Spirit to be missionaries to Gentiles Cyprus, Galatia [<i>Turkey</i>]	Acts 13.2,3		Jesus guarantees Paul that he will get to Rome [<i>to fulfill Jesus' earlier promise that he would stand before a king—Acts 9.15</i>]	
	Paul becomes leader of trip [<i>so</i>] Mark goes home [<i>Jerusalem?</i>]	Acts 13.13		Felix, HEB ← Caesarea,	Acts 24
	* Pisidia, preached, expelled	Acts 13.50		Festus	Acts 25.1-12
	* Iconium, murder plot, fled	Acts 14.5		Herod [#4] Agrippa II	Acts 25.26
	* Lystra, healed lame man, * Derbe			* Paul appeals to emperor Nero	Acts 25.11
	P&B mocked gods, stoned	Acts 14.19,20		boat trip to Rome as prisoner	Acts 27,28
	return trip appoint elders	Acts 14.21-24		Writes PHLM, PHIL, EPH, COL	
49	return to Antioch			<i>Nero's great fire of Rome</i>	
	Paul writes GALATIANS			Paul re-imprisoned	
50	P & B, Jerusalem Council				
	<i>Claudius expels Jews fr Rome</i>				
50	squabble over Mark's departure [<i>nobody sinned, just disagreed</i>] [<i>Mark goes home and writes book of MARK</i>]	Acts 15.36-39			
50-54	SECOND MISSIONARY TRIP Paul & Silas, re-visit ch in Turkey Lystra, pick up Timothy [<i>Luke joins P's team somewhere along the way and stays with Paul continuously for 15 years, even to prisons</i>]	Acts 15.40,41 Acts 16.1-5			
	Troas, "Macedonian vision"	Acts 16.9,10			
	*Philippi, Lydia, demon-possessed girl, jail, jailer's family saved plants church	Acts 16. 11-38			

Paul has 26 traveling companions over 20 years.
* Paul's church plants, 10-14X

Events after Acts 28

Paul witnesses to Nero, was released from prison,
writes I **TIM, TITUS**, goes to Spain, re-arrested,
writes II **TIMOTHY**, beheaded about 65 AD.
Temple destroyed 70 AD. see PhilMyersBlog.com, 2020

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

Drawing out what is in the text paragraph by paragraph

APPLICATIONS

Examples to follow
Sins to avoid
Praise & worship

Repeated words
Decisions to make
Seeking the lost
Cautions & warnings
Praying for others

Attitudes to correct
Questions to answer
Promises to claim
A teaching to study
Praying better

EXPOSITION OF HEBREWS

The Superiority of The Christ in 50 paragraphs

Six editor's notes:

- * When you see a font like this: ***“bold + italics + quotation marks + underlined”*** it is a direct quote from the Bible from I Corinthians, KJV.
- * When you see **pjm** [my initials] I am giving my [well thought out] opinion on a topic. There doesn't seem to me to be enough Scripture to be dogmatic. Sometimes I'm just “leaning” that way.
- * When you see a green font like this, **ἐκκλησία, ecclesia**, it is a Greek word I thought some might enjoy (30x).
- * In my college syllabi, a number like this **(1)** also has a blank line like this _____ . It indicates a verse which I want my students to look up the verse and fill in the blank themselves.
- * When you see a reference with just numbers, 3.2 or 6.6 it usually comes from the book we are studying. In this case, Hebrews. However, you'll note that I have filled in the blanks for these video sessions.
- * When you see this box **Q** it is to notify my students that I might ask a question . on the next day's quiz about this material.

The Superiority of The Christ

Christ is Better Than...

1.1-3 He speaks through His Son, Better than the prophets
What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? -----

Write a title or **BIG IDEA** here after we discuss this paragraph.

Put a tiny star in the margin of your Bible next to the most significant verse in this paragraph.

1:1 **“God...spake...unto the fathers (1) by the prophets,”** = the Bible writers
Curiously no introductory chat

1:2 **“[now He has] spoken unto us (2) by His Son...[the Creator]”** a contrast to the prophets
“unto us” context will show that this whole book is written to believing Hebrews, probably those presently living in Israel, since it doesn't cover the issues of the Diaspora scattered throughout the Roman Empire.
It is Not directly aimed at unbelievers. In almost every chapter Paul includes himself with the word “we” or “us.”
No passage contradicts this precept.

8 KEYS #3 CONTEXT

1:3 **“the brightness of His glory”** = perhaps the Shekinah Glory, Exod 19.16-18 40.34-38 I Kgs 8.10 **pjm**
Shekinah is a Hebrew word not found in the Bible.
“the express image of His person” = exact representation, “exact imprint” [Wiersbe]
“when He had by Himself (3) purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high”, a magnificent thought.
What P.S. There is only one God. There are not 3 thrones. Sorry, can't explain this one.

Session #2

Write an application for your life on most paragraphs.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

1.4-14 Better than angels, Better Name than they

What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? -----

1:4 **“so much better than the angels”** - not transmitters of Scripture, just messengers from the throne
angels = **αγγελων, angelon**—messengers, ministering spirits, by implication sometimes pastors Rev 2 & 3
* OT “malachi” is the Hebrew word for messenger, angel, or a man named M _____
see also: 1.4,5,7,9,13,14 2.1,2,5,7,9,16

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com **Angels' Jobs**

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These are 18 easiest-to-recognize letters in the 24-letter Greek alphabet.
α β δ ε γ ι κ λ μ ν ο ω π ρ σ τ υ ς
a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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Promises to claim
A teaching to study
Praying better

"a more excellent (4) Name than they"

A whole study can be made on Jesus' name:

- * the many names of the Father and the Son
- * the things accomplished by and through the very name of "Jesus"

Do this one for Homework. Hint: prayer, creation, healing, salvation. . . .

Jesus [English] = **Ἰησοῦς** [Greek] = Joshua, or Yeshua, or Y'shua [Hebrew & Aramaic]
cognates: Hosea, Jehovah-Yasha [literally = "the God who saves"]

1:5 "For unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? and again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to Me a Son?"

5-13 all these verses are quotes from the OT.

See if the Cross-references in the margin of your Bible include any of these.

Ps 2.7 II Sam 7.14 Psa 104.4 Psa 45.6,7
Psa 102.25,26 Isa 51.6 Psa 110.1

* remember the comment in the introduction, p. #6 Hebrews quotes OT 86X

Paul's writings include greater percentage of OT quotes than other writers.

Q 1:6 "the first begotten" **γεννηεκα, gegenneka** = begotten

μονογενε, monogene = only begotten John 3.16

Ps 2.7 "this day have I begotten Thee" see context
Psa 89.27 Col 1.15

1:8 "let all the angels of God (5) worship Him" [2.7 "a little lower than the angels," see Psa 8.5]
1:10 "unto the Son He saith, Thy throne. . . a scepter of righteousness"

1:13 "Thou [Son]. . . hast laid the foundation of the earth" Creator [a repeat], see vs. 2

"To which of the angels said He at any time, Sit on my right hand. . . are they not all ministering [leitourgous, not doulos, nor diakonos] spirits. . . for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Messengers?

"the Word spoken by angels" 2.2, I choose to believe angels did not have any role in delivering the Scriptures to men.

Serving people seems to be their prime duty.

"footstool" Josh 10.24 Psa 110.1 Matt 22.44 Heb 10.13

Q 1.14 "ministering spirits", guardian angels?

Acts 12.15 Luke 16.22 Matt 18.10 Psa 34.7 Psa 91.4

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

2.1-4 **WARNING #1** [vss. 1-4] **Word confirmed by signs**

What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? -----

2:1 "We ought to give the more earnest heed. . . lest at any time we should (1) let them slip"

Danger of slipping away. 5-7 warnings in this book. Slip = drift [in NKJV & virtually all newer translations].

This warning section = vss. 1-4

Eleven lures to go back to Temple worship?

1. Visible proof of God's presence
2. Not idolatry, per se, but worshipper is able to: see sacrifices, smells, sounds, bustle of religion, priests, Temple itself
3. Rules are clearly spelled out
4. Written Torah [no books of NT were widely distributed]
5. Rituals had been good enough for 1,500 years
6. Moses wasn't being replaced by any big name church personality
7. Walking by sight was comfortable
8. Lots of familiar holiday [feasts] had familiar songs [Psalms]
9. Simplicity, just follow the rules
10. No weekly meetings under Law, no elders, no communion, no change in marriage laws, no excommunication, no supposedly "risen" Savior,
11. The Kingdom had not yet come as promised. Moses said nothing about a replacement for the ceremonial laws

See 16 Dangers of Drifting. page 12

Q "let them slip", **παραρψωμεν, pararyomen** = drift away NASB

* The ancient "Disciplines of the Christian Life" to keep us from slipping.

Session #3

WARNINGS
 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
 3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
 10.26-31 willful sin
 12.14-17 bitterness
 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

3 "crutches"
One has crutch. Two need one.

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The Danger of Drifting

“lest at any time we should let them slip [drift]” Hebrews 2.1

Reasons why Jewish Christians slipped away from their churches in 52 AD.

[Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, & Hindus often face the same dilemma when they trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.]

1. Jews in the first century like the comfort of all the Jewish rules, sacrifices, trips to the synagogues, feast days.
2. Our religion, Judaism, came straight from the mouth of God on Sinai! We can trace our Jewish roots back 2,000 years to Abraham. These apostles want us to be satisfied with a history back only back to Pentecost 20 years ago. Huh?
3. We like the coziness of all the rituals from their past. Keeping all the rules makes me feel moral.
4. A-sermon-a-week doesn't fill the void left by missing out on Jewish-ness .
5. Many of us wear our religion like a comfortable pair of shoes or a favorite sweater.
6. Leaving the familiar is like not getting a hug from your mother.
7. I lost all my fishing buddies when I joined a Bible believing church.
8. I can't marry the girl I've liked for the last 5 years. She's a nice Jewish girl but she doesn't believe in Jesus. . .yet.
9. The 600 rules of Moses were strict, but these Church rules are vague: love, be patient, be generous, pray, don't think bad thoughts, don't get back. It's so constant. You can never tell when you've done enough. I like the lists of all the commands better.
10. Friends shun me.
11. My boss says I have to leave my religion at home.
12. My kids don't understand why all the meetings I go to.
13. My friends have seen other friends go off into other cults, even idolatry, and they're okay with it, but they don't like my telling them there is only one way—and that I'm right!
14. I'm not sure I can live with the possibility of persecution.
15. I'm allergic to beatings and whippings like Paul got.
16. I grew up expecting a Messiah-King on a white horse, not a dead rabbi who came back from the grave.

OPINION, please

Mark any that affect you.

Mark any that might hard for others you know.

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2.1 **“give more earnest heed [pay closer attention]”**,

* Myers’ 5 Spiritual Muscle Exercises: Eyes, Ears, Mouth, Knees, & Hands

It’s not comprehensive, but easy enough for a new believer to remember.

- **Eyes**, read your Bible, start in John—look for “believe” [98X]
- **Ears**, listen hard in church, apply it
- **Mouth**, tell somebody else about Jesus
- **Knees**, pray [*confess, thank, ask, worship, intercede for others*]
- **Hands**, do things you know would please God

2:2,3 **“[pay attention to] the word spoken through angels. . .steadfast”**

* “word” is this the Word of God delivered through angels?

* Note that angels’ words are “steadfast” [*unalterable - NASB, reliable - ESV, legally binding - Holman*].

“every transgression and disobedience received a just [fair] recompense of reward”

Sins receive correction from the Father. Sometimes punitive, sometimes for rehabilitation, the same as parents.

- Loss of rewards at Judgment Seat of Christ, *II Cor 5.10*
- Disappointing the One who died for us.
- Disobedience receives punishment [*chapter 12.6 ff, the chastening chapter*]
 - a. false doctrine
 - b. moral compromise
 - c. leadership failure
 - d. conforming to world
 - e. evangelistic complacency
- “saved yet so as by fire” *I Cor 3.15 (6)*

“how shall we [believers] escape [consequences], if we (7) neglect so great salvation?”

* Yes, even believers are careless and neglect [*disrespect, treat casually, ignore*] the importance of their own salvation.

* We have all met people who have forgotten they are saved since they’ve neglected to obey.

* “There are no happy disobedient children.”

* I have friends who are believers but who have become complacent about God. Do you? They can give very clear testimony that they are placing their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, but their lives do no radiate the joy of the Lord. It’s not so much that overt evil has gripped them, but that God is no longer central in their thinking or priorities. The sins of neglect. Letting it slip.

2:4 **“God also bearing them [angels, see v. 2] witness, (8) both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His own will?”**

God ratifies the shift from the OT dispensation of Law to the New Testament Church with a splurge of miracles the same way He introduced the Mosaic period of Law with 20 or 30 miracles. This time He primarily uses the 12 Apostles and 3 others.

* Most believers in Bible times never saw a miracle [*Red Sea era excepted*].

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

2.5-8 Both Jesus [and Adam] were made a little lower than angels

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

2:5-7 Did you notice the words **“One in a certain place testified”** or notice a font change at verse six?

Another OT quotation: Psa 8.4-6

Just look back at the quotations in 1.5-13 to see if there were quotations from Psalm 8.

“What is man [Adam] that thou art mindful of him? or the Son of Man [Jesus] that thou visitest him?”

“Thou madest him [man, see vss. 8 & 9] a little (9) lower than the angels; thou crownedst Him with glory and honor, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands”, Psa 8.5 I Cor 11.9,10

Grammatically this fits both Jesus and Adam. [note capitalization of pronoun]

However, note the unmistakable use in verse 2.9 that Jesus was made “lower than the angels.”

This is a comparison between Adam and Jesus.

Capitalization of “Him” is mine but is used by many commentators.

**Session
#4**

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2:8 **“Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him.”**, referring to Adam.
Gen 1.26,28 “Let us make man. . .let them have dominion. . . .”

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

2.9-13 **Crowned with glory** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

2:9 **“We see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor [so] that He. . .should (10) taste death for every man.”**

Some of our friends believe that Jesus paid only for the sins of the elect.
This is the teaching called “Limited Atonement” which means Jesus did not die for everyone’s sins, but only for the “elect’s” sins.

*Those who hold this minority view focus our attention on very few unclear verses which are worded that Jesus died for “many.” *see below

*They disregard the plain reading of the following verses:

- I John 2.2 for the sins of the whole world
- II Cor 5.14,15 **(11)**He died for all
- John 1.29 **(12)**sins of the world 3.16,17 whosoever
4.13,14 whosoever will drink 6.51 for. . .the world
11.25,25 5.24 12.32 draw all men
- Acts 2.21 whosoever shall call 10.43 & 13.26
- Rom 5.6-8 Christ died for the ungodly 9.33 whosoever believeth
10.13 **(13)**whosoever shall call
- I Pet 3.9 not willing that any should perish
3.18 Christ suffered for the unjust
- Isa 53.6 all have sinned. . .iniquity of us all
- I Tim 4.10 Savior of all men 2.3-6

*“Limited Atonement” is based on the grammatical construct of several passages like these and subsequently applied “many” to scads of others.
Mark 10.45 a ransom for many
Heb 9.28 bear the sins of many
Rom 5.15,19 grace abounded unto many. . .many be made righteous

Q

LIMITED ATONEMENT means that Jesus’ death could not pay for all men’s sins or else all men would automatically be saved.

John Calvin’s most repeated theme was that God’s will was ALWAYS done. He insisted that **SOVEREIGNTY WAS DEFINED AS CONTROL.**

Sovereignty by definition means independence.

God needs to consult no one. God, in His independence, granted man a free will to believe.

8 KEYS FAILURE OF CALVINISM TO EXPLAIN VERSES WHICH CONTRADICT

[see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com) **Corporate Election; not Calvinism, not Arminianism**

biblical “Election” = we become elect by faith

Question of Nicodemus: “How can a man be born again?”

Answer: Jesus: “Whoever believes. . .has everlasting life.”

Calvin: **“Whoever has eternal life can believe.”**

Go ask a knowledgeable Calvinist, he will tell you that is exactly what John Calvin taught.

1st - you must be born again by the Spirit Who gives you a special kind of faith.

2nd - you have no choice, you will put that faith in Jesus Christ.

3rd - you now are born again [in response to Nicodemus’ question.

A Calvinist’s answer will now astound you with theological gymnastics. The answer to Nicodemus’ question is not as simple as Jesus’ “whosoever.”

LIMITED position

Matt 20.28
1.21

Jn 17.6,9
6.37

I Tim 4.10
Eph 1.5

2:9 **“taste death”**, γευσεται, geusetai = taste, partake, share in “for every man”

* 3.14 partakers of Christ

* 6.4 uses a cognate of the Greek word [geusamenous] and the KJV translates it “partake” pertaining our full salvation. Not just a sip of salvation.

* Phil 2.8 “obedient to the point of death”

2:10 **“to make the (14) captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”** [see note at 5.9]

* Jesus became fully man with an earthly human Mom. He suffered physically for our salvation.

* Suffering on the Cross was the finish coat to perfect [complete] His human experience.

2:11 **“He is not ashamed to call them brethren.”**

May we never give Him reason to be ashamed of us.

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APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

2.14-18 **Tempted like us** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

2:14 **“Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, (15) the Devil”**

Jesus’ death defeated Satan. Crushed Satan’s skull, Gen 3.15, “[Jesus] shall bruise thy head.”

2:16,17 **“He took on him the seed of Abraham. . .to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest. . .to make reconciliation [propitiation] for the sins of the people.”**

Only one human could pay for human sin. God had to become human.

- John 11.35, Jesus wept.
- Luke 23.46, “I thirst.”
- Matt 26.38,39, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful. . .Let this cup pass”
- Matt 21.18, “He was hungry”
- Matt 4.1, tempted by Devil
- Heb 4.15, “in all point tempted like as we are”
- “reconciliation,” **ηιλασκεσθαι, hilaskesthai** = propitiation, a technical word to indicate God’s wrath about man’s sin was “satisfied,” Jesus was punished for me.
I John 2.2 “[propitious] for the sins of the whole world”
- The usual word for reconcile is **καταλλαξαντος, katallaxantos**, = appease, rectify, resolve

Q 2:18 **“He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to (16) succor [help] them that are tempted.”**
II Cor 10.13 “no temptation. . .[except those] common to man” Jesus too.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

3.1-6 **Apostle & high priest, Better than Moses**

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

**Session
#5**

Q 3:1 **“holy brethren”**, a reminder that this is written to believers.
n.b. There are no indications in any of the “warning” sections that the writer has shifted to address unbelievers.

“[Jesus] the (17) Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus”

apostle = one who is sent

high priest = mostly a mediator

“our”, 3rd person plural, mentioned 2 dozen times, 4.14,16 10.25

Paul is speaking from one believer to another. We are all capable of heinous sins.

3:2 **“Who was faithful. . .as also Moses was faithful in all his house.”**

Funny way to say it. Jesus was as faithful as Moses. We would almost expect it to say Moses was as faithful as Jesus.

This is Paul’s use of understatement.

3:3-6 **“this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses. . .[the builder] has more honor than the house.”**

Paul’s use of the grammatical construction “a fortiori.” [comparison from the lesser to the greater] **From** Moses’ glory **to** Jesus’ glory.

a fortiori = lit. from the stronger see explanation, p.4

3:5 **“Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant”**

Moses was also the most humble man on the planet. Num 12.3

“house” probably simply refers to Moses ministry.

Likewise, Jesus’ house would be Jesus’ ministry.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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WARNINGS

- 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
- 3.7-19 **hard heart, walk away**
- 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
- 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
- 10.26-31 willful sin
- 12.14-17 bitterness
- 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

3.7-19 **WARNING #2** [vss.3.7-19, *pjm*,] **Do not become hardened**
What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? -----

3:7-9 **WARNING** **“Harden not your [believers’] hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness. . .your fathers (18) tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.”**

Israel tested God’s patience:
* complained 10X

Exodus, chaps 5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 32 Num 11, 12, 13, 14

* deprived of rest for 40 years after refusal to enter Canaan, *Kadesh-Barnea, Num 14*

* Crossing Jordan into the Promised Land is often mistaken for “dying and going to heaven.”

* These hard hearts are believers who now fail to trust God.

Ps 66.18 “if I regard iniquity in my heart. . .”

3:10,11 **I was grieved with that generation, and said, “They do always err in their heart. . .They shall not (19) enter into My rest.”** **8 KEYS #3, COMPARE WITH JOSHUA**

* **“rest”**, 43X in NT

* Rest? or No Rest? Heb 3.11,18 4.1,3,4,5,8,9,10 9X

* This is the rest of victory in a believer’s life. Finishing the course well. Faith granted the Israelis eternal rest, but in Hebrews God is drawing a picture of His own rest at creation.

* Recumbent faith. Resting in the arms of God. Do you ever picture yourself wrapped in God’s arms or sitting on God’s lap and just letting Him hug you?

* Rest, full barns soon, pre-built cities, walls, wells, established trade routes for caravans, free land . . .

* Dissatisfaction with God’s instructions is an abomination with consequences.

So I swear in My wrath,

* Only one thing makes God angry—sin.

3:12 **“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you (20) an evil heart of unbelief”**

Lack of faith [*dissatisfaction*] in God is evil.

WARNING: “departing from the living God.”

departing, **απιστια, apistia** [*a-without pistis-faith*] = apostasy, translated “unbelief” 3.19

We can’t trust God anymore.

Religion is more comfortable than pursuing God. What was the big draw to cause someone to leave God and return to Judaism? Same as the 21st century.

- I lost my old friends when I joined the church. [*see list on p. 12*]
- Better to walk by sight, not faith.

3:13 **“Exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any of you be hardened through the (21) deceitfulness of sin.”**

There is a solution for **“unbelief”** for the believer. . .encourage somebody else!

Don’t ask me to explain it. Just do it!

- * esteem others
- * speak truth sweetly
- * no grudges
- * look for others’ strengths
- * forgiving quickly
- * compliments

Eph 4.12 edify others in the Body of Christ. see also Rom 12.3 & Phil 2.3

* On a side note: Clyde Narramore, biblical counselor, spoke on the telephone with a seriously troubled patient and said, “Right now hang up the phone and go do something nice for somebody else!”

The opposite of encouraging:

- * Finding fault
- * lack thankfulness
- * Edge in the voice
- * failing to look for others’ strengths

3.10,11
I know those who realize they will face sensationally dangerous [*for important*] situations and have learned to relax in the midst of turmoil.

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**Session
#6**

3:14 **“For we are made partakers of Christ”** I Pet 4.13 II Pet 1.4 Col 1.12 I Cor 10.17
see comments at 2.9

Q **“partakers IF we hold. . .steadfast unto the end”**,

Problem: What if we don't hold fast?

Do we lose our “partaker” status?

There is no exact Greek cognate for the English word “if.”

§ KEYS #4, GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY DEFINITION

* In the KJV the word “if” **ἐἴπερ, eanper** is rendered 7 ways: 1.) if, 2.) if indeed, 3.) but if, 4.) to you that unless, 5.) whithersoever, 6.) unless, or 7.) whether

* Some students interpret this to mean “if you don't hold fast to the end of life there is no assurance of salvation.”

Response: The law of non-contradiction insists that any interpretation of this phrase cannot countermand the multitude of verses which say:

believe. . .eternal life

believe. . .be saved

believe. . .sons of God

. . .therefore it must be translated with those passages in mind which exclude works as a requirement of salvation

§ KEYS #1, NON-CONTRADICTION

§ KEYS #7, CLEAR EXPLAINS UNCLEAR

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com, **211 Verses, believe or faith
God's 2 Favorite Words**

Possibly: **“partakers IF we hold (our original confidence firm)”**

3:15 **WARNING: “While it is said, today if ye will hear His voice, (22) harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.**

See discussion at 3.7,8—identical wording

3:16 **“Some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.**

I choose to believe that all adults were believers on the night of Passover, but we can say with certainty that there was at least one believer in every single household on that night with a voice strong enough to insist on the blood.

Ex 12.20.

3:17-19 **“With whom was he grieved [and angrv. v.11] forty years? Was it not with them that had sinned? . . .unbelief”**

* They had a well-informed, unified hard heart for one afternoon. Consequences, severe for 40 years.

* God's Fatherhood obligates Him to withhold blessings from disobedient children. *See 12.12ff.*
Deut 9.23 “Go up. . .and you did not believe Him or obey His voice.”

Num 14.2 “The sons of Israel grumbled. . .v.6 Joshua. . .Caleb. . .tore their clothes.”

Q Entering God's **“rest”**, **“not able to enter because of unbelief”**, tis is the accurate part but there is are true believers who do not have a daily restful spirit because they are not living by faith. Canaan is the Promised Land, a picture of the result of obedience.

* Negro Spirituals erroneously equate entering Canaan with entering heaven. God's rest is a satisfaction which comes from faith and obedience.

* Bad theology but good motivation that God truly has prepared a restful life for obedient believers.

“Trust and obey, for there is no other way,

To be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey.” *John Sammis*

* Our unbelief will prevent God's rest in our hearts. Human contentment will not cover it up.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

BibleByParagraphs.com [video sessions]
PhilMyersBlog.com [blog topics]
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These are 18 easiest-to-recognize letters
in the 24-letter Greek alphabet.
α β δ ε γ ι κ λ μ ν ο ω π ρ σ τ υ ς
a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

Drawing out what is in the text paragraph by paragraph

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Praise & worship

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Cautions & warnings
Praying for others

Attitudes to correct
Questions to answer
Promises to claim
A teaching to study
Praying better

WARNINGS

2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
4.1-13 **unbelief, miss Rest**
5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
10.26-31 willful sin
12.14-17 bitterness
12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

4.1-6 **WARNING #3** [vss.4.1-13, *pjm*] **Faith brings rest**

Jesus is Better than Joshua's Rest

What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? -----

RECUBANT FAITH brings contentment

4:1,2 **WARNING, don't miss the Rest:**

“let us therefore (23) fear,

* There should be a reverential fear of God's displeasure. There is only one thing that you can do to disappoint God—sin.

“seem to come short of it [the Rest].”

Rest is promised but it is based squarely on behavior.

True, faith is a learned behavior, but it is available to all consistently obedient believers. Got a friend who lives in fear, anxiety, knots in stomach? Suspect sin lurks. Help your friend to walk through these deep waters and to confront sins. I'd start with confessing grudges.

Biblical faith is a decision. It is confidence in a person, Jesus Christ. It is truly a supernatural choice. God grants a lifetime of peace, rest, contentment, and serenity regardless of furious circumstances. Alas, not all believers trust God through the deep waters.

- Heb 13.5 “be content. . .I will never leave you”
- Phil 4.12 “contentment. . .I have learned in whatever circumstances”
- Psa 23.1 “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not lack.”
- John 14.27 “My peace I give unto you.”

“Faith isn't hard. . .but it has to be so bloomin' persistent.” anon

* Matt 11.30 “My burden is light.” **If serving the Lord seems a heavy unpleasant burden you are carrying more of the burden than God intended.**



4:3-5 **“We which have believed do enter into rest”**

Each of us might be able to cite times when we experienced an overwhelming peace in circumstances which causes others to cringe, whine, dive into depression or anxiety, or complain.

That is precisely what God means by this Rest.

And by the by, you can live continually in this Rest year after year. I know many who do. It is confidence in a person. It is truly a super-natural choice yet any person can choose rest.

- God isn't just disappointed with unbelief. He is angry, too. 3.11
- Psa 23.2 In green pasture and still waters He restores my soul. Yes, many believers rarely get rattled by anything and sometimes their circumstances are unbelievably uncomfortable. Same as yours. Lack of trust blocks rest.

4.6 **“unbelief [disobedience, NASB]”**

- 3.12 **(24)** unbelief in departing from the living God
- 3.13 hardened through the deceitfulness of sin
- 3.18,19 **(25)** unbelief, believed not
- 4.11 disobedience

Trusting God in **wilderness** context.

Trusting God in **21 century** context

__finances __education __food __family tension __health
__job __God's leading __raising kids __political climate

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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Session #7

4.7-13 The Word reveals the intent of my heart

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

4:7 **WARNING, don't fossilize, "harden not your hearts."**

It is a sin to live in *anxiety.

* We all know that there are medical treatments which address some issues, but it is my observation that some friends who claim to have medical issues also have ongoing sin related habits. Some of commission. Some of omission.

"don't harden your heart"

heart

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 3.8 | 4.12 |
| 3.10 | 8.10 |
| 3.12 | 10.16 |
| 3.15 | 10.22 |
| 4.7 | 13.9 |

} **8 KEYS** A QUICK STUDY

* He wants to settle your hearts.

4:9-11 **"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. . . Let us labor [be diligent, NASB] therefore to enter into that rest."** This is the Sabbath Rest which Joshua promised.

Diligence is the opposite of "**drifting, slipping**," 2.1

* Do you look forward to seeing how God will use you tomorrow?

* "At the end of every day we should be able to say, "I couldn't have done what I did today without God's help." John Walvoord, *president, Dallas Seminary*

4:12,13 **"The Word of God"**

- By this time [62 AD] most of Paul's books plus the Gospels were getting around to the dozen church-plants [20?] in existence, plus the Jerusalem and Israeli churches.

"Word = quick. . . powerful. . . sharper. . . piercing. . . discerner"

- **quick = alive**, but it doesn't grow
- [*so*] **powerful** it cuts into our hearts and discerns our intentions

"dividing asunder of (26) soul and Spirit"

- **piercing**, the book can discern the motives [*intentions*] of our thoughts
- Soul & spirit seems to support the idea that man is a trichotomy, not a dichotomy.
 - * body physical plants have only a body
 - * soul ego: personality, feelings, goals, emotive mammals have body & soul
 - * spirit a spiritual entity, God pricks the heart, sin humans alone grasp purpose to life

see blog www.PhilMyersBlog.com 25 Genes Evolution Can't Explain

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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4.14-16 Tempted like us, Better than Aaron

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

4:14,15 **“We have a (27) great [compared to Aaron] High Priest [a mediator]. . . Jesus the Son of God. . . We have not an high priest which cannot be touched”**

* see 2.18 (28) “tempted He is able to succor”

* Kenosis **ἐκένωσεν, ekenosen** = empty, no reputation,

kenosis is the doctrine which describes Jesus as being fully God and fully human and emptying Himself of His glory.

* Phil 2.7 He “emptied Himself” of His glory and took on human flesh.

* Parents make good parents because they were once kids.

“feeling of our infirmities”,

• sympathize with our weaknesses, *NKJV, NASB, ESV*

but was in (29) all points tempted like as we are,

- Tempted by Satan: pride, hunger, worship
- Human fear of the pain of the Cross
- When slandered, He retorted not
- When mocked, He defended not
- When accused, no revenge
- When rejected, He sulked not
- Jesus wept at Lazarus’ tomb.
- Cried over Jerusalem.
- Sobbed in Gethsemane.
- Tempted by Satan, *Matt 4.1-11*
- Spit on. Beaten. Stripped. Mocked. And then He took my sin and paid for it.

“yet (30) without sin”, **OPINION, please**, underline your 2 favorite

Sinless:

II Cor 5.21	I John 3.5	Acts 3.14	Acts 7.52	James 5.6
John 8.29	I Pet 1.9	I Pet 2.22	I Pet 3.18	I Pet 1.18,19
Heb 7.26	Heb 4.15	Heb 9.14,28	Col 1.21,22	Rom 1.17

Human body without human peccability: “sin nature, old man, natural man”

* Perhaps the sinful nature is passed on from male genes [*Adam?*]. *pjm ?*

* He belonged to a real family.

* He had every opportunity to sin. He is impeccable. Without sin.

4:16 **“Let us therefore come (31) boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find (32) grace to help in time of need.”**

- Come **“boldly”** in prayer.
- Let us then cuddle up in His lap to find mercy & grace. . .because He understands.
- Open access into the Holy of Holies. Thirty-foot high veil was ripped top to bottom, *Matt 27.51 cf. I Kings 6.20*
- Only High Priest had access prior. Of course, all people could pray to God any time they wanted in the OT. Jesus didn’t change His method of mediating just for the Church, but He ratified that Jesus Himself was the means to the Father in this new Church era.
- Grace: receiving what we don’t deserve
Mercy: not receiving what we do deserve

Jesus Is Sinless
Copy this list into your Bible. put it in the margin next to your favorite verse here.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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Session #8

5.1-10 **Better than the high priest** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

Q 5:1,2 “[Jesus as] **high priest**. . . can have **(33) compassion on the ignorant**. . . [since] **He Himself also is compassed with infirmity** [human weakness or limitations] 2.18 4.14,15

* duties of the High Priest: offer sacrifices & deal gently with the misguided
* His “infirmity” was simply that He faced real temptations. [Yes, if you storm a castle with pitch forks and sticks it is ineffective, but it is still an attack.]

5:6 **“He saith also in another place, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek”**

We’ll address this soon, but not right now.

- “I will raise up a faithful priest.” [Jesus, not Mel] I Sam 2.35 Samuel lived about 400 years after Moses. There had been priests for 400 years.

Q 5:8 **“Though he were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He (34) suffered”**, obedience to the will of the Father, as well as to family and community mores. Specific context is “things He suffered” referring to the crucifixion: nails, spit, flogging, mockery.

5:9 **“being made perfect, He became the author [source, NASB, ESV] of eternal salvation**

A neat phrase, “the source of eternal salvation” = that’s Jesus! NASB

- Not referring to moral perfection. See notes at 4.15 above.

“unto all them that obey Him”,

First, this cannot be stating that salvation comes by obedience because of the multitude of verses that countermand that. It must be either an unclear statement or an alternate meaning it is God’s instruction o all men that they believe in Jesus, although many do not obey Him and receive condemnation.

- God **(35)** “desires all men to be saved,” I Tim 2.4

Q **“being made perfect”**,

This phrase is better rendered complete, finished, or fulfilled.

Jesus demonstrated that He is the completely perfect high priest by:

- not needing to offer any sacrifices for His own sin
- successfully completing His work as mediator of a new Covenant
- passing the test perfectly, paying for sin
- propitiating the Father with His own life, a sacrifice
- deal gently with the ignorant and misguided [as mediator]

5:10 **“Called of God an (36) High Priest after the order of Melchizedek.**

- This order began and ended with Mel, with one Great High Priest, Jesus!
- There is no internal evidence which disqualifies Mel from being Jesus incarnate.
- There is nothing which clearly negates the possibility of Mel’s being deity.
- He wasn’t born. He simply took on a human body.
- Mel = Jesus as a **Christophany**, pre manger **8 KEYS** ANOTHER QUICK TOPICAL STUDY
 - *as visitor to Abraham Gen 18, *wrestling Jacob Gen 32,
 - *burning bush Exod 3, *pillar of fire Exod 13, *still small voice I Kgs 19,
 - *Jacob’s ladder Gen 28, *Balaam’s angel Num 22, *captain to Joshua Josh 5,
 - *Samson’s parents Jud 13 *Saul & Damascus Acts 9, *fiery furnace Daniel 3.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

5.11-14 **WARNING #4** [vss. 5.11-6.20, *pjm*] **You are dim-witted**

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

Q 5:11 **“Ye are dull of hearing”**, [slothful, sluggish]. The whole book of Hebrews seems to be written to second generation believers who haven’t quite weaned themselves from the ritualism of Temple worship.

* Very little NT Scripture has been available to help form their doctrine. The dangers of “slipping/driftng” have not yet been expressed explicitly.
* Although Paul is chiding them for immaturity, he is also gently guiding them, wooing them, toward growth. At the same time he is warning them of both consequences
disobedience as well as chastening at the hands of a loving God.

WARNINGS

- 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
- 3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
- 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
- 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
- 10.26-31 willful sin
- 12.14-17 bitterness
- 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

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5:12 **“When for the time ye (37) ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.**

I was one of these dull Christians, myself. A fellow student, Yankee Arnold, used this verse to encourage me to grow like a weed. So I did!

Go invade someone’s space. Challenge him. Coddle her. Teach them to take baby steps. Invite them to join BibleByParagraphs.com. A kind word. Go find somebody like I was. Linda dug her claws in me and I grew!

see PDFs on Serving She Entered My Space, Dug Her Claws in Me

www.BibleByParagraphs.com home page

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com Doc’s Discovery Books, I ask 5-10 questions in every chapter of the Bible. A great tool for you to encourage others to begin the habit of Bible reading. Print off the Gospel of John and give it to a friend.

5:13 **“for he is a baby”**, milk drinker

* I remained a milk drinker until I was out of college. I was one of those who needed someone to intervene, get in my face, and take me by the hand.

* Although my dad led me to the Lord as a small child, I can’t remember his encouraging me to develop the habit of reading my Bible on my own.

5:14 **“strong meat. . .by reason of use [practice, NASB]. . .discern (38) both good and evil”**:

“meat” = Bible reading, quick confession, walking with the Lord each day, seeking the lost, deeply involved at church, consciously trusting Jesus daily, using spiritual gift.

“by reason of use”, growing comes as a result of discipline. A grandpa could still be a baby Christian if he doesn’t grow.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

6.1-8 **Stick to the 6 essentials**

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

WARNING: Don’t fall away!

6:1,2 **“Leaving the [six] principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on. . .[build on your foundation]”**
“the (39) foundation is”:

1. **repentance from dead works**

2. **faith toward God**

3. **baptism**

4. **laying on of hands** **blog Laying on Hands**

5. **the resurrection**

6. **eternal judgment**, rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ, *I Cor 5.10*

“resurrection”, OT pertaining to Rez was not clearly referring to heaven. OT saints expected to join David in a Kingdom ruled by a Messiah. “I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

Psa 23.6

Church Age believers take the resurrection to mean eternal life in heaven. Hebrews clearly points to heaven.

Q 6:4,5 **“It is impossible for those. . . (40) enlightened [= saved]. . .tasted [= saved]. . .made partakers [= saved] of the Holy Ghost. . .tasted [= saved] the good word of God”**,

The whole book is addressed to believers in the Church Age.

Q **3 HAPAX LEGOMENON = unique words or phrases used only once in the Bible**

* **“those who were once enlightened”** = saved

* **“tasted the good word of God”** = saved

* **“if they shall fall away”** = saved

8 KEYS #6, CLEAR EXPLAINS THE UNCLEAR

“partakers”,

I Pet 4.13

II Pet 1.4

Col 1.12

I Cor 10.17

Session #9

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Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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Q

6.6 **TWICE LOST = ALWAYS LOST**

If anyone could be lost twice, this verse would indicate that he/she could never be saved again.

Can anyone name specific biblical sins Jesus did not pay for?

blog
50 Damnable(?)

Habits:
according to
“Conditional Security”
advocates

blog
Who Is Lost if the Other Opinion is Correct?

Q

“tasted”, see notes at Heb 2.9, Jesus’ tasting death.

- * γενομαι, *genomai* = eat [not nibble]
- I Pet 2.3 (41) “tasted that the Lord is gracious [the kindness of the Lord, NASB]”
- * Remember, the whole book is written to believers.
- * 4 figures of speech for “salvation”
 - Enlighten, 6.4
 - Partakers, 6.4
 - Tasted death for every man, 2.9 I Pet 2.2,3
 - Tasted the words of God, 6.5

Q

6.6 **“fall away... (42) impossible to renew... to repentance”**, unthinkable because Christ has already saved us “forever.”

To **“fall away”** by definition is not clearly a biblical statement meaning to lose one’s salvation. This is the only time the Greek word is used in the Bible, it is called a **HAPAX LEGOMENON**, one-time-use.

fall away, *παραπεσοντας, parapesontas* = [parapipto], to fall, alight as, to fall into a trap

No one can receive renewing [rebirth] more than once.

- * How can they crucify anyone twice? Impossible!
 - Died once, I Pet 3.18 Heb 9.12,26,28 10.10,12 Rom 6.10
- * Repent once, can’t repent again. You’re already saved, “so as by fire.”
- * Yes, they can shame Him by their actions.
- * Yes, their bad works can be “burned up,”

I Cor 3.13,15 (43) “yet he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire.”
A very strong and clear verse to support eternal security.

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com **5 Crowns: rewards only for obedient saints**
see PhilMyersBlog.com **10 Kinds of People in Our Churches**

Q

6:6-8 **“If they shall (44) fall away, [WARNING! Don’t fall away] to renew them again unto repentance**

- * They cannot be saved again. They can’t repent again.
 - * Not a hypothetical situation. People do fall away. Some even deny the faith for a while.
see PhilMyersBlog.com **2 Kinds of Repentance, 2 Kinds of Forgiveness**, for saved and for unsaved
 - * Disobedient Christians who fall away **“put Him to an open shame.”** They openly make Jesus ashamed.
 - * They embarrass Jesus.
see Blog **64 Irreversible Changes at Salvation**, these would all have to be undone if we could lose our salvation
- “Fallen from grace” Gal 5.3,4
- * This expression is also a **HAPAX LEGOMENON** = a unique phrase
 - * This verse specifically is addressed toward unbelievers who are trying to be saved by works.
 - * Those unsaved people have fallen from grace.

8 KEYS HAPAX LEGOMENON

Q

“If they (45) shall fall away”, these are called “castaways” [I Cor 9.27],

There is a whole section in chapter Heb 12.5-17 dealing with God’s chastening His disobedient children.

He will discuss it at length when we get there.

- I heard someone say, “If you’ve confessed your sins then you have not committed the sins mentioned in Hebrews 6 or 10.” anon Hmm-m-m.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

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Session #10

6.9-12 **Be diligent, not dull [slothful]** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

6:9-12 “**Beloved [saints], we are persuaded better things of you**”

Yes, God expects heaps of good works from every believer. I compiled a list of 120 NT verses. It is **APPENDIX T, in Blog Yes, We Are! No, We’re Not, part II.**

However, there are no good deeds by which we can determine whether or not another person is saved. **Blog 2 Calvinists’ Anxiety [MacArthur & Sproul]** about their own salvation

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

6.13-16 **Better than Abraham** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

6:13 “**When God made promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself**”

* He swore by _____.

* He made an oath by the Trinity: Father, Son, Spirit. *see verse 18: by Son & Holy Spirit.*

6:14 “**Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee**”

Doesn’t it seem strange to you that the God of the universes would hold Himself accountable to a mere man?

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com Abrahamic Covenant, 37 ingredients

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

6.17-20 **As Good as Melchizedek** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

6:18 “**By two immutable things [beings], in which it was impossible for God to lie**”

Num 23.19 (46) “**God cannot lie.**”

8 KEYS #3, COMPARE

* There are some very strange opinions by those who don’t read verse 18 carefully.

* What [Who] is immutable?

* Two unchangeable things [beings] = the Son & the Holy Spirit, *swore by Himself, v.13*

Q 6:19 “**We have as an anchor of the soul. . . [Who] entereth into that within the veil. . . even Jesus, made an High Priest (47) for ever after the order of Melchizedek, [it seems only One person ever belonged to this order] forever**

after the order of Melchizedek, Jesus.”

. . .and this leads us into chapter 7!

* Notice the Scripture never says Jesus is better than Mel.

6.20 Paul introduces Jesus’ role as High Priest, the longest topic treated in the book, 3+ chapters: 7,8,9,10

- 2.17
- 3.1
- 4.14,15
- 5.1,5,10
- 6.20
- 7.26,27,28
- 8.1,3
- 9.7,11,25
- 10.21
- 13.11

Q High Priest
10X
[4 chapters]

High Priest
18X in
whole book
of Hebrews

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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JESUS' PRIESTHOOD: 3 1/2 chapters, 7,8,9,10

- A. Based on Melchizedek.
B. Higher than Aaron
C. A dozen comparisons to: Levitical priesthood, Levitical services, Levitical Temple worship, Levitical sacrifices, Levitical High Priestly duties on Day of Atonement, Levitical mediatorial role, etc.

7.1-3 Melchizedek's credentials What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____ WHO IS MELCHIZEDEK?

7:1 Why do most writers believe "this Melchizedek" is actually Jesus pre-incarnate?

8 KEYS, CENTRAL THEME IN 4 CHAPTERS [NT], & 2 CHAPTERS [OT]

Session
#11

* Only 2 options:

- A. Melchizedek is Jesus, a Christophany **8 KEYS** #4, LITERAL INTERPRETATION
B. Mel is the Gentile king of [Jeru]Salem: **8 KEYS**, DENY A LITERAL INTERPRETATION, ACCEPT AN ALLEGORICAL INTERPRETATION

* We can look a Mel literally or as a figure of speech: not really fulfilling the facts attributed to him, denying 5 of the nine * facts which are said about him below.

* God only wants us to know **25** things about him.

5 facts from the Torah, *Gen 14.18-20*

1. king of Salem, *presumed to be Jerusalem* *Jer 3.17, actually an unknown city*
2. a [the?] priest of the most high God *Heb 10.12*
3. member of the Order of Melchizedek, *the founder* *Heb 7.13-17*
4. more honorable than Abraham *duh?*
5. received plunder from Abraham, *Temple tax, Lev 27.30 ff, 400 years later*

* Dead Sea Scrolls refer to Mel as elohim [11Q13 - 11Q Melch]

6 facts from Psalm 110.1-7, speaking of "My Lord [v.1], *the Messiah*."

1. He will sit at God's right hand, v.1 *Luke 22.69*
2. His enemies will be His footstool, v.1 *Heb 10.13*
3. He will rule, v.2 *Rev 11.15*
4. He will be a priest, v.4 *Heb 2.17*
5. He will be after the Order of Mel, v.4 *Heb 7.13-17*
6. He will judge, v.6 *John 5.22,23*

3 deeds that Mel did,

1. Melchizedek fed Abraham *Gen 14.18,19*
2. Mel blessed Abraham
3. Mel received tithe of the spoils *cf Lev 27.30ff Mosaic tithes*

11 more facts from the NT about Mel,

- Hebrews 7 & 8* **8 KEYS** #4 LITERAL
1. * without father, without mother *Heb 7.3*
 2. * without descent, *genealogy* *Heb 7.3*
 3. * having neither beginning of days, *Heb 7.3*
 4. * nor end of life *Heb 7.3*
 5. * made like unto the Son of God, *Heb 7.3* *Dan 3.16, furnace*
 6. * Mel has an endless life, *Hebrews 7.16*
 7. abideth a priest continually *Heb 7.3*
 8. king of righteousness, "*perfection?*" *Heb 7.11*
 9. king of Salem, which is, King of peace *Heb 7.2* [*duplicate*]
 10. Jesus sits at the Father's right hand *Heb 8.1*
 11. Not a Levite *Heb 7.5,6*

* *denied by those who believe Mel was not Jesus.*

* *If the first 6 are not taken literally there is no reason to believe the last 5 are to be taken literally.*

* *We choose a literal interpretation since there is no obvious reason to assume that we should interpret it allegorically.*

Q

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

*Drawing out what is in the text
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Jewish views:

8 KEYS, RABBINIC HISTORY, etc.

Melchizedek never bisects Jewish or secular history, except in Gen 14.

No biblical support

- * Rabbinic: Mel was born circumcised
- * Midrash: spiritually superior
- * Josephus: a Canaanite warlord
- * Dead Sea Scrolls refer to Melchizedek as Elohim, [11Q13_11QMelch]
- * Philo: a peaceful Gentile king
- * Mel assisted David in writing the Psalms
- * Like Jethro, he worshipped JHVH Ex 18.9-11???
- * Son of Shem, line of believers Gen 14.18-20
- * In support of allegorical view: Melchizedek is a Gentile king.

Additional interpretations to support idea that Melchizedek is a Gentile King, *mostly opinions not supported in Scripture.*

1. Priests are chosen “from among men” Heb 5.1
2. Abraham did not worship him
3. He’s described as being greater than Abraham not as divine
4. Jesus was not from the priestly line of Levi either
5. Mel’s priesthood records no “beginning of days” Heb 7.3b
6. Jesus is not compared to Mel, Mel is compared to Jesus
7. Jesus is a fulfillment of an OT foreshadowing
8. Mel is only a type
9. Never says Mel is eternal
10. Mel is just a picture
11. No record of genealogy
12. No record of Jewish family
13. Does not say his descendants would become priests
14. Not the son of God, but “made like the son of god” statement unsupported in Scripture but extrapolated by eisegesis.

THEREFORE: the above 14 items seem to be randomly selected to be viewed as allegorical.

- * We cannot be sure which facts are actual and which are allegorical.
- * The “Gentile king” theory admits that some of the 25 observations from page #25 are to be understood. *Method of selection very unclear.*
- * That would lead us to conclude that perhaps NONE of the statements from page 25 can be taken at face value.
- * Every seemingly clear statement about Mel is actually unclear since there is no way to identify the difference between literal & allegorical.
- * The “Gentile king” position insists that eight [8] biblical facts must be understood literally: Mel is a king and priest, he ruled Salem, he’s a believer in JHVH, he received gift from Abraham, he’s greater than Abraham, he started an order of priests by himself not by God, and he’s a king of peace.

CONCLUSION:

- * The Gentile king view is preposterous.
- * All biblical facts should be considered to be allegorical or else literal. *The “Gentile king” position will not accept that.*
- * We must read all of the information as literal, since reading only parts of the account as allegorical is unsatisfactory since we can’t tell which parts?
- * Mel = Jesus, a *Christophany*

- Jesus as our High Priest: a major theme—91 verses [out of 303 verses]
2.17 3.1 4.14,15 5.1,5,10 **6.20 7.26,27,28 8.1,3 9.7,11,25 10.21** 13.11
⇒ And these High Priest verses are snuggled together between the two most well known warnings, chapters 6 & 10.
⇒ Before abr was I AM
- Jesus’ priesthood focuses more on the person and quality of Jesus’ life than it does on His role as High Priest: perfect, enduring, qualified to intercede, compassionate, human feelings, and so on.

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7:2 **“to Whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all”**, how these two met is not explained by God.

- Many connect Abraham’s gift of 10%, not to the Temple tithe, but to the NT Church although there is not one reference to Church Age tithing. NT giving is probably to be far more generous than the Mosaic “4-part tithing” program which actually amounted to about 30% of one’s income. *pjm*
- Abraham’s gift to Mel was not an annual “income tax.” It was booty, plunder. Abr was extremely rich: “flocks, and herds, and silver and gold, and servants, and maids, and camels, and donkeys.” *Gen 24.35*.
If it had been income tithing, Abe would have had to pay royalties on a business venture large enough to have at least 318 full time employees [*Gen 14.14*]. He actually gave Mel 1/10 of swords, animals, tents, and plunders of war which Abraham had only possessed for a couple of days[?]. **8 KEYS, LOOKING FOR THEMES**
- Tithing had already been practiced occasionally by pagan societies.
 - Mesopotamia, Tablet of Shamash [800 BC] taxes
 - Assyria idolatry [800 BC],
 - Persia, Lady of Uruk [300 BC]
 - Egypt, god Ra, idolatry [1200 BC] **8 KEYS, ANCIENT HISTORY**

Q

Theophany = Melchizedek is an appearance of God on earth. This is called a theophany.

Sol—I Kgs—in a dream	—	Moses—burning bush, Exod
Elijah—visions, ___	—	Peter—Acts 12, release from jail
Rushing mighty wind, Acts 2		Dove at baptism, Matt 3
Mighty voice on Sinai, Exod 20		Samson, Manoah, Jacob’s ladder, donkey. . . .

Q

Christophany = When it is clearly a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus it is called a “Christophany.”

Seems to be most often as the Angel of the Lord.	
Melchizedek, Gen 24	3 men in the fiery furnace, Daniel 3
Captain of Lord’s army, Joshua 3	Gideon—Judges 7, captain
Jacob—Gen 28, wrestle angel	Abr—Gen 18, 3 angels
Hagar, Gen 16	Adam & Eve, Gen 3

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

7.4-10 Melchizedek compared to mortal men

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

7:4 **“Consider how great this man [Jesus],**

- Order of Melchizedek was higher than Order of Aaron which only covered sin [atoned]
- Our High Priest, Jesus, can forgive sin, 9.22 10.4
- Questions not answered in text:
 - * Where did Mel offer sacrifices?
 - * Did Mel observe the sabbath?
 - * What was His role as mediator?

8 KEYS, T.B.D.S.

Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. He. . .received tithes of Abraham, and [Mel] blessed him [Abe] that had the promises. Without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. *see notes at 7.2*

I believe Abraham knew Jesus by sight after Jesus [Mel] catered a meal for Abraham and his employees.
And what a feast it must have been. *pjm*

Q

Why didn’t Abe ever give a tenth to God again? Had he ever given a tenth before? **8 KEYS, T.B.D.S.**

- * No NT reference to tithing out of one’s income. Strong commands to be generous.
- * Quite a number of NT instructions and examples of giving generously, regularly, on first day of week, and one even out of deep poverty. *1 Cor 16.1,2*

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- * Abraham's giving was not out of his earned income—spoils of war
- * Abraham did not know the stranger, Mel prior.
- * Later Abraham would recognize Mel when an angel of the Lord visited him in Gen 18.21,22, on their way to Sodom.
- * Why did Melchizedek choose this moment in Abraham's life to show up? **8 KEYS** #8, T.B.D.S.
- * Mosaic tithe was an income tax to support the Tabernacle ministry: priests' salaries, upkeep of and repair of the Tabernacle, priestly garments, daily shewbread, incense & lamp oil, as well as the many national sacrifices both animal & grain, especially during the 3 weeks of feast days when a million out-of-towners may have shown up.
 - * There were at least 3 layers of giving which amounted to far more than 10% [22%?]
 - * There was also a Temple tax which may have been the poll tax.
 - * Mosaic tithes did not start for 400 years.

8 KEYS #8, COMPARE TO OT LEVITICAL TAXES, *TITHES*

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

7.11-16 His priesthood Better than Aaron's

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

- Q** 7:11 "What further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchizedek?"
We needed an eternal mediator with perfect blood. High Priest is Jewish not Gentile.
- 7:12 "There is made of necessity a change also of the law.", Jesus fulfilled the Law, *Matt 5.17*
- 7:13-15 "after the similitude [likeness, like] of Melchizedek there ariseth another priest",
This is perhaps the strongest statement which might be used to support the idea that Melchizedek is not Jesus. *pjm*, but I disagree
- 7:16 "Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of (48) an endless life."
This is perhaps the strongest statement which might be used to support the idea that Melchizedek is definitely Jesus. *pjm*, I agree
* If Jesus is only a priest after a Gentile king's priesthood, wouldn't Jesus' priesthood end with the death of Mel?
8 KEYS, PRIEST AS A FIGURE OF SPEECH

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

7.17-25 Jesus & Mel belong to same permanent priesthood, Better than the OT covenants [promises]

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

- 7:17 "Thou [Jesus] art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."
* It seems unthinkable that the real mediation of Jesus comes from the priesthood established through a Gentile king/priest.
- 7:19-22 "Law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did [= a better Covenant] Jesus was made a surety [guarantee] of a better Testament [Covenant—NASB, Promise—Indonesian]",
He replaced the Law by keeping it perfectly Himself. HE is the embodiment of the better Covenant, Himself.
* As I read these verses I felt as though both the Father and Paul, the scribe, were tremendously excited about what they were recording on parchment! Romans was written slowly and meditatively, weighing each phrase carefully. But not here. Paul was scribbling as fast as he could go. Climaxing with "Thou art a priest FOREVER!"

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

Session
#12

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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7.26-28 A pure priest What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

7:26 (49) **“high priest: . . . holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners. . . higher than the heavens. . . needeth**

not daily. . . to offer up sacrifice. . . for His Own sins. . . [but just] once [for the people]. . . He offered up Himself”; *see notes at 4.14,15, sinless life, p. 20*

* He prays for me as the Mediator and pays for my sin as the Savior!

“ONCE!”, 10X Heb 7.27 9.12, 26, 27, 28 10.2, 10, 14 12.14 Rom 6.16 I Pet 3.18

8 KEYS REPETITIVE WORDS

* Although the Roman Catholic Church denies it today, there was a long period of time [@AD 500-1000] when they clearly taught, “The Mass is the unbloody death of Christ for sins.” By this they meant that every Mass was actually a re-crucifixion. They no longer adhere to that. However, the Mass always includes communion [*eucharist*] and the Church affirms that . . . the “Eucharist [*χρηρισ, charis = the grace*] participates. . . by changing the elements of bread and wine into the actual body and blood of Christ.”

John Chrysostom, 400 AD

8 KEYS INFO FROM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRADITION

Once For All

Once for all, O sinner receive it.
Once for all, O friend now believe it.
Cling to the Cross, the burden will fall.
Christ hath redeemed us once for all.



APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

8.1-5 **Better** than sanctuary [*Tabernacle in the wilderness*]

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

8:1-3 **“High Priest, Who is set [seated as a priest] on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty”;**

At the right hand of His throne: *6 different authors*
Psa 110.1 Matt 26.64 Mark 16.19
Acts 7.55,56 Rom 8.34 I Pet 3.22

* There will not be 3 thrones. We have only one God and there is only one throne.

8 KEYS, A QUICK BIBLE STUDY

8:1,2 **“High Priest. . . true Tabernacle which the Lord pitched [in heaven] and not man”;**

Rev 21.3 It will be there when you arrive. Go explore.

8:5 **“Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the Tabernacle. . . according to the pattern [*typos, type*] shewed to thee in the mount.”**, the wilderness Tab was a replica of the

Tab which is evidently still in heaven. see Rev 21.3

* pattern = *τυπος, typos* = type, imprint, mark, fashion, model, form
* “type” a special relationship between an OT item and a NT item, often Jesus
* see Ex 25.9,40 Rev 15.5 Rev 21.3

see blog ??? Types, Shadows, & Parallels ???

* 3 views:

classic, word *typos* must be used
strong biblical relationship
parallels of many kinds

* see also Heb 9.11-28, The High Priest

8 KEYS, MEL AS A TYPE OF CHRIST

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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Session #13

8.6-13 Better than covenants & promises

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

8:6-7 “[Jesus’] more excellent ministry. . . [as] mediator of a better covenant”.

Q

Perhaps His primary mediatorial roles today:

- When we are accused by Satan
- When He hears my confession
- When I ask in prayer
- When I am accused by others for sins I did not commit
- Eventually at death when I enter heaven

3-Part High Priest Role

- ◇ His role as Reconciler is similar but emphasizes restoring a broken relationship, to prevent alienation or estrangement: peacemaker, pacifier.
- ◇ His role as Intercessor is also similar but emphasizes His prayer ministry on our behalf. More connected perhaps to guidance and our decision making process than toward any particular sin.
- ◇ His role as Advocate is speaking in our defense.

Q

This is known as an a fortiori construction. see p. 5 [a tool of comparison, just for you grammar buffs]

9.13,14

10.28,29

12.9

12.25

It is a comparison: since the first fact is true, we are more confident [we infer] that the second fact is true.

* A fortiori = “from the stronger”

* A fortiori is used several times in Hebrews.

all the more

so much the more

8.9 “I took them by the hand”, we believers are all like little children to our Heavenly Father. All my children knew they were safe when they held my hand in a crowd, yours too.

Q

8.8-11 “I will make a new covenant. . . I will put My laws (50) into their mind, and write them in their hearts”,

OPINION, please, Covenant = promise, vow, oath, a will, testament, commitment to follow through

* This is still future. Trib? Millennium? Eternity? *pjm*, I’m not tellin’

* “All shall know Me.” [When do you think it will occur] ____?

Many believe that we will have the Bible memorized when we get to heaven. *pjm*

* (51) “We shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is.” I John 3.2

- Everyone who enters the Kingdom will be a believer. Jer 31.34
- God’s laws written on my heart and in my glorified brain. Whew.
- Jesus himself is the New Covenant.

8.12 “remember no more”, means that God never holds it against our account.

* Debt is paid as if it never existed.

8:13 “He hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.”,

- The first covenant was very, very good [I Tim 1.8].
- (52) The Law was holy [Rom 7.12].
a. Temple ceremonial laws b. civil laws [e.g. taxes, cities of refuge] c. moral laws [e.g. murder, honesty, coveting, marriage]
- Jesus’ promise of eternal life outshines the best that the Law had to offer. The Law drew people to God. It convicted us of sin. It pointed the way to please God. It showed us how to have eternal life; but it could not give eternal life.
- Might this be a prediction of the destruction of the Temple which would happen within 10 years? AD 70 And sacrifices ceased forever for the Jewish community.
- The entire Law will be forever available once we get to heaven Psa 119.89.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

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9.1-10 Better than sanctuary, Better than the Holy of Holies [2nd room]

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

9:1-3 “Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. There was a Tabernacle”

see blog [The Tabernacle](#), inside the Tab plus a small teaching model

for your family or Bible class members to make

“candlestick [lampstand, NASB]. . .the shewbread. . .veil, the Tabernacle. . .the Holiest of all. . .the golden censer. . .the ark of the covenant, every piece in the Tabernacle tells us about Jesus’ ministry.

It’s a study we’re not going to pursue.

9:7ff **Q** “Into the second went the High Priest (53) alone once [10.10] every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, next paragraph makes the dramatic contrast about Jesus, the God-man High Priest!

* see Lev 16 & 23, Yom Kippur = Day of Atonement, Spring of the year

* It is mythology that the priest had a rope around his ankle in case he died in the Holy of Holies. Nothing in any Jewish writings, only in recent Christian literature.

* High Priest took blood of goat, bull, and ram. Three trips? or 3 bowls? *pjm*, three trips
Lev 16.3,7,8

9.10 “meats and drinks and diverse washings”, these are Leviticus-centered rituals. Pharisees took washings far beyond the prescribed norm and made their laws equal to Moses’ laws.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

9.11-22 Better than blood of Atonement, Better than any OT sacrifice

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

9:11ff “Christ. . .more perfect Tabernacle. . .by (54) His Own blood He entered in once into the Holy Place,

having obtained eternal redemption for us

Right after Jesus died He tore the veil and entered the Holy Place with His own congealing blood Matt 27.51

“It is finished.” John 19.30

9:14 “How much more shall the blood of Christ, there is no comparison.

* (55) How much more? 10.28,29 12.9,25

9:15 “He is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death. . .they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.” His death did more than just pay my punishment for sin.

9:22 “(56)Almost all things are by the law purged with blood”

* If this verse said, “All things are purged with blood,” it might be misunderstood that even the unbelievers’ sins would be purged.

* OT sacrifices were covered by the animals’ blood.

* Another explanation. Some offerings were not blood: grain [meal], wine, water, oil, and a living scapegoat. The end of the verse still demands blood.

* But death is the price tag of sin. “The wages of sin is death.” Rom 6.23

* Consider also Lev 17.11. (57) “The life of the flesh is in the blood.”

* Yes, His (bloody) death paid for all sins of all people. *see notes at 2.9*

* Yes, His death even paid for the sin of suicide. There is no unforgiveable sin. He died for all sins. Titus 2.14 **8 KEYS #3, COMPARE**

* No, word studies do not seem to remove all the fog in this verse. God seems to have wanted to use only 10 words to say what He did.

8 KEYS #7, UNCLEAR? CLEAR VERSES SAY

ELSEWHERE THAT JESUS DEATH COVERED ALL SINS

without shedding of blood is no remission, hints were given to Adam in the Garden. Then to Abraham.

Moses gets a clearer picture. John the Baptist says, “Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.” John 1.29

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

The holy places at the Tab / Temple

- 9.2 Holy place = lamp & table
- 9.3 Holy of Holies = veil between
- 9.4 Holy place = Altar of Incense
- 9.4 Holy of Holies = Ark of the Covenant
- 9.6 Holy place = priests went continually
- 9.7 Holy of Holies = High Priest annually
- 9.8 Holy of Holies = not yet [opened]
- 9.12 Holy of Holies = once for all time

Session #14

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9.23-28 **Only one sacrifice** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

9.23 **“heavens should be purified”**, does not say heaven should be cleaned.
9:25,27 **“As it is appointed unto [unsaved] men (58) once to die, but after this the [Great White Throne] judgment”**,

- As discerning groups began to separate from Constantine’s Church the heretics clustered around false doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church. **8 KEYS, CHURCH HISTORY**
- Verses like this one were interpreted as stand-alone entities ignoring dispensational principles for interpreting prophetic principles by literal understanding. This verse [9.27] certainly gives the appearance that a personal judgment occurs for the newly departed immediately after death.
* A more popular view was promoted that there would be a universal judgment of all people would be held before the Great White Throne, *Rev 20.11ff.*
- Biblical [dispensational] students recognized that the believers’ judgment took place at the Cross and only later unbelievers stood at the Great White Throne.
- The brevity of this verse did not take into account the concept of Hades,
ηαδης, hades = alternately translated: death, grave, hell.
*The doctrine of Purgatory erupted out of the less clear verses.

see blog, A CHART **The Resurrections, OT & NT**, with Scripture including Paradise
*Christians do not go through a judgment.
When unbelievers die they go to hell.
Only unbelievers face the Great White Throne. All condemned.
Both Satan and Hell are cast into Lake of Fire.*

Q

Q

9:28 **“Christ was once offered to bear the sins of (59) many [all]”**
* see brief explanation a 9.11, Christ entered into the Holy Place once after His death. 1X
9.26,27,28 10.2,10,12,14 **“once or often”** 7X
[also 7.27 I Pet 3.18 Rom 6.10] 3X **8 KEYS REPEATED WORDS**

- The Mass: only for baptized Catholics who have confessed all mortal sins to a priest.
* Mass celebrated 350,000X/day [2021].
* For 500 years it was celebrated as “the unbloody sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our sins.”
RC dogma today denies this. *see note at 7.26*

Q

“to them that look for Him shall He appear the second time [Rapture] without sin unto salvation.
* [ESV] “to save those who are eagerly waiting”
* [Holman] “bring salvation to those who are waiting”
* [NASB] “to those who eagerly await Him”

- Jesus’ appearing is mentioned 3X, v. 26 has appeared past
v. 24 is appearing present
v. 28 shall appear future
- We do eagerly wait on tiptoes.
- a crown, II Tim 4.8 **(60)** “to them who love His appearing”
- I Thes 1.11 2.19 3.13 4.11ff 5.23 [all 5 chapters, II Thes also]
- Rom 8.19-25 I Cor 1.7 Phil 4.5 Tit 2.13
- Jas 5.8 Jude 21 Rev 1.3

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----



BibleByParagraphs.com [video sessions]
PhilMyersBlog.com [blog topics]
DocMyers3@gmail.com [e-mail]

These are 18 easiest-to-recognize letters in the 24-letter Greek alphabet.
α β δ ε γ ι κ λ μ ν ο ω π ρ σ τ υ ς
a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

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**Session
#15**

10.1-7 **Better** than the Law of Moses What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

- Q** 10:1 **"The Law...can never...make the comers...perfect"**
- Rom 8.3,4 Law was powerless, "could not do"
 - Rom 2.17 **(61)** Law condemns
 - Phil 3.9 **(62)** "My own righteousness which is [insufficient] of the Law"
 - Gal 3.10 "cursed is everyone that continueth not in ALL things. . .of the Law"
 - Jas 2.10 **(63)** "keep the whole Law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all"
 - Gal 2.16 "justified by the faith. . .not by works of the Law"
- "The Law having a shadow of God things to come"**
- Rom 7.12 "Law is good"
 - I Tim 1.8 "We know that the Law is good if we use it lawfully"
 - Rom 7.16 "I consent to the Law that it is good"
- 10:3 **"there is a remembrance again made of sins every year"**
- A. law shows our sinfulness, Rom 3.10
B. reminds us of God's forgiveness, Eph 4.32
- 10:4 **"It is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins"**,
He takes away the punishment for sin.
He takes the sin upon Himself. "He was made sin for us." II Cor 5.21
v.11 **"sacrifices, which can never take away sins"**,
v.17 **"Their sins and iniquities will I remember no more"**
- 10:6 **"In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin Thou hast had no pleasure"**,
Grace has superseded Law. The Law provided an effective thousand-year covering for sin.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

10.8-18 **Better** than the Day of Atonement What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

- 10.10 **"once"**,
Once for all see notes at 9.28 and 7.26
9.7, 28 10.12,14
- 10:12,14 **"But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, for by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified"**,
- 10:18 **"Where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin"**,
Those who still give sacrifices believe that God's sacrifice of His Son is not enough.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

10.19-25 **No other sacrifice** What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

- 10:19 **"Having therefore, brethren [Paul too, "we" 8X in the next few verses], boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus"**,
What a thrill for a Jew to even think about entering the Holy of Holies!
Only "brethren" have such a High Priest, 4.14
- 10.22 **"let us (64) draw near with a true heart"**,
* this phrase is a synonym of salvation
"hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience",
* this phrase is a synonym of salvation
- 10.23 **"let us hold fast the profession [homologian = allegiance] of our faith"**,
* this phrase is a synonym of salvation
- 10.24 **"let us consider one another"**
3.13 **(65)** "encourage one another"
12.1 "let us lay aside"
Paul shares his excitement with all his not-yet-met Jewish brothers.

ONE ANOTHER

100X in NT
64X by Paul
1/3 = command to "get along"
1/3 = instructions to love
15% = to be more humble
Examples:
Mark 9.50 Eph 4.32
Rom 12.16 Col 3.13
Rom 15.5,7 Jas 4.11
Gal 5.26 Jas 5.9
Eph 4.2 I Thes 3.2

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

*Drawing out what is in the text
paragraph by paragraph*

APPLICATIONS

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Sins to avoid
Praise & worship

Repeated words
Decisions to make
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Cautions & warnings
Praying for others

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“to provoke (66) unto love and to good works,

- * We gather to provoke = **παροξυσμον, paroxysmon**, stir up, stimulate, sharpen, outburst
- * Too many people think that the main purpose of “going to church” is to sing and listen to a speech about God. Nay, nay. Much needs to revolve around the fellowship part. The Sunday-morning-only-crowd is the withered part of the vine. Those who miss out on the “gather to provoke” grow strong. The church gathering is vital. To how many people are you and I an encouragement when we gather?

“having our hearts sprinkled from. . .”

Memories of the High Priest sprinkling the blood in the Holiest of All.

“one another”, **ἀλλήλους, allelous** = each other, among themselves, used 100X in NT, [64X by Paul]

A phrase used 30X with instructions to “get along,” 30X “to love”

Rom 12.16 “be of the same mind”

Eph 4.32 “be ye kind one to another”

Q 10:25 **“Not (67) forsaking the assembling. . . together. . . exhorting one another”**,

“Going to church” is not nearly as important as becoming an active part in Christ’s Body.

Assembling [a verb], **ἐπισυναγωγην, episynagogen**, do you see the word “synagogue” in this Greek word? *to “synagogue” together*

church = **ἐκκλησία, ekklesia** = ex + kaleo, “called” + “out” = group, church, gathering, congregation

Those believers who don’t go to church—never make opportunity to encourage other believers. We all know a couple of them. Even when they were attending church they probably didn’t encourage others; but then again, . . . perhaps no one was encouraging them.

Am I being an encouragement?

I wonder whether those who have left our local congregation had tried to be an encouragement to anybody?

Let’s think of a dozen time when we have tried to help, encourage, or cheer up somebody at church.

see BibleByParagraphs.com
PDFs on Serving

[100 Perceptive Questions to Ask](#),
Category 4, “Building Relationships,” #3

5 Steps Down the Slippery Slope of Falling Aside, **OPINION, please**, *What about you?*

- Prayer life slows down
 - Bible reading sporadic
 - Need for leisure escalates
 - “I’m too busy” is a common excuse
 - Finding fault increases
 - Holding a grudge against some Christian
 - Anger increases: sometimes boiling, sometimes smoldering
 - Rationalizing your “weaknesses” raises its ugly head

If you must check 4 boxes. . . you’re already slipping.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

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WARNINGS

- 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
- 3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
- 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
- 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
- 10.26-31 willful sin
- 12.14-17 bitterness
- 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

10.26-31 **WARNING #5** [vss.10.26-31, *pjm*] **Willful sin of defiance**

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

10:26 **“If we [Paul, too] sin (68) willfully [little or big] after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more [no other] sacrifice for sins [except Jesus’ sacrifice of Himself, vs. 18]”**

* Christ will never die again, ever!

Known consequences:

- v. 27 devour
- v.28 death
- v.29 sorer punishment
- v.30 vengeance from God
- v.30 judgment
- v.31 fear

see Blog

Willful sins, Big sins, Denial of the Faith, a discussion against the belief that willful sin cancels one’s salvation

“the knowledge of the truth”, this is actually a synonym of salvation, quite the same meaning as believe, repent, or faith.

10:27-29 **“But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. Of how much sorer punishment. . .who hath (69) trodden under foot the Son of God”**

* **trodden underfoot**, = to treat with disdain, contempt, disrespect, despise, v.29
hath counted. . .an unholy thing”.

10:30 **“We know Him that hath said, vengeance [sorer punishment, v.29]. . .I will recompense, saith the Lord”**

10:31 **“It is a fearful thing”**, context = sins which cause death:

- Acts 5, Ananias & Saphira
- Lev 12, Nadab & Abihu
- II Sam 10, David & Bathsheba [death penalty was stoning, Deut 22.24]

* “If we walk with the Lord there is no need to be afraid of the Lord.” *anon*

- * Three kinds of sins: * ignorance, Lev 4.2, 13-15
- * omission, James 4.17 “to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not”
- * defilement, presumption, intentional, Exod 21.14

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

10.32-39 God is present in persecution What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

10:34 **“took joyfully (70) the spoiling of your goods”**, this is not car wrecks, disease, nasty neighbors, or living in a rough neighborhood. Paul is talking about persecution.

OPINION, please

- If today were the day I was to be beaten, robbed, and lose my home to arson **because I am a believer in Jesus Christ**, am I ready? Would I take it joyfully? Would there be malice in my heart? Would I seek ill for my tormentors? Would I demand all my rights? Would I pray for my antagonists? Would I seek to bring them to faith in the Savior?
- “spoiling”**, *ηαρπαγην, harpagen* = seizure, plunder, stealing
- Popov [torture victim] to pastor in Ohio, “How do you think Christians in America would hold up under the persecution in Russia?”
Pastor to Popov, “How do you think Russian Christians would do suddenly living in materialistic America?”
- “in everything give thanks” *I Thes 5.18*, This covers car wrecks, disease, nasty neighbors—still be joyful, thanking God for His many blessings.
- James 1.2, **(71)** “count it all joy. . .trying your faith” = a different category of woes.

10:35 **“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward”**

Be confident. Your reward is on the way. Don’t give up!

Session #16

WILLFUL SINS 10.26

- Anger
- Arguing
- Attitudes
- Complaining
- Dressing provocatively
- Grudges
- Jokes
- Mean thoughts
- Over spending [in debt, greed]
- Priorities
- Rationalizing
- Speeding
- Thought life
- TV addiction, etc.
- Unfaithful desires
- Withholding forgiveness

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10:36,38

“Ye have need of patience”, Tribulation and trouble are not the only ways to learn patience. **“The just shall live [daily life, not talking about eternal life] by faith. . .but if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him”**, quote from Hab 2.4

Habakkuk 2.4 is quoted 3X in the NT, Rom 1, Gal 3, Heb 10

Context: drawing back is in the context of sinning willfully, v.26.

We are a disappointment to the Lord when we “draw back,” fail to live trusting His wisdom.

Context is v.34 **“the spoiling of your goods”**, *persecution - not hardships [big difference]*.

Q

10:39

“We are not of them who draw back [shrinks back, NASB, ESV, Holman] unto perdition [destruction, condemnation is not damnation] but of them that believe to the saving of the soul”,

* I Cor 3.15 This is the same thought, “works are burned. . .he will be saved, yet so as by fire.”

6 KEYS #3, CONTRASTING

“draw back” = *ηψοστολεσ, hypostoles* shrink, let down, timidity, retreat

* Does not mean apostasy, that word is *αποστασια, apostasia*

* Again, if this were the only verse in the Bible which used the doctrine of “drawing back” we might start by assuming this refers to loss of eternal life. . .but. . .”

“saving περιποιεσιν, peripoiesin = preserving, possessing] of the soul”, this is not the usual

Pauline word for salvation is most often *σωτηριον, soterion*, saving, salvation -

Eph 6.17 helmet of salv. See also: *Rom 1.16 10.1,10 11.11 13.11 salvation*

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE?

11.1-12 Five people of faith

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph?

Best two statements of faith in the whole Bible:

Q

#1 Sarah, Heb 11.11, “she [Sarah] judged Him faithful Who had promised” God said it. That’s enough.

Q

#2 Abraham, Heb 11.19, [Abraham was] accounting that God was able to raise him up even from the dead”

* Faith is also called hope. Jer 17.7

11:1

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”,

“substance”, *ηψποστασια, hypostasis* = essence, authentic, guarantee

• Heb 11.11, “[Sarah]. . .judged [considered] Him faithful who had promised”

• Heb 11.19, “[Abraham]. . .accounting [considering] that God is able”

• Rom 4.21 “[Abraham was]. . .fully persuaded that wat He had promised, He was able also to perform.”

11:4

“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain”,

11:5

“By faith Enoch was translated [Poof! He disappeared heavenward]. . .he pleased God.

11:6

“Without faith it is impossible to please him”,

11:7

“By faith Noah, being warned of God. . .moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house”,

11:8

“By faith Abraham. . .obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

11:9

“By faith he sojourned”,

11:10

“He looked for a city”, see note at 11.16

Q

11:11,12

“Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed. . .because she judged Him faithful Who had promised”, My favorite 4-word phrase about faith in the Bible.

H OPINION, please: check three examples above where you have made the most progress in your life.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE?

Session #17

11.1

12 Examples

Abel sacrificed
Enoch walked
Noah prepared
Abraham left,
became, looked
Sarah bore
Isaac blessed
Jacob blessed
Joseph buried
[one family]
Amram &
Jochebed hid
Moses refused,
fled
Israel Passover
crossed, defeated
Rahab welcomed

23 others:

obtained, stopped,
quenched, turned,
received, torture,
mocked, scourged,
jail, stoned,
tempted, . . .

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PhilMyersBlog.com [blog topics]
DocMyers3@gmail.com [e-mail]

These are 18 easiest-to-recognize letters in the 24-letter Greek alphabet.

α β δ ε γ ι κ λ μ ν ο ω π ρ σ τ υ ς
a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

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11.13–19 Faith in the God of the future

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

11:13 **“These all died in faith, not having received the promises [son, land, nations], but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims [exiles] on the earth,** we, too, have not yet received all that God has promised us.

11:16 **“They desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared (72) for them a city”**,

OPINION, please

Jerusalem?

Millennium?

New Jerusalem?

Heaven?

pjm

“a better place” = not here, Rev 21.2,3 ?

11:17-19 **“By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac”**

Immediate obedience, Gen 22

“Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead”,

* Gen 22.5 Abe told his servants, “Abide here with the ass and I and the lad will go yonder and worship and come again to you.” *That is faith!*

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

11.20-31 Acts of faith of 7 more

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

11:20 **“By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come”**,

Esau will serve his little brother, Jacob Gen 25.23. . .and when will that happen?

It hasn't happened yet. pjm

8 KEYS #3, COMPARE

OPINION, please, When will Esau serve Jacob?


During Church age?

During Tribulation?

During Kingdom?

11:21 **“By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph”**, and you're wondering about how much faith it would take to pass on a blessing to your own kids.

11:22 **“By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones”**, again, what kind of faith does it take to get into the faith Hall of Fame.

You've probably trusted God like this, haven't you? Maybe that's he point. 

* Was this “departing” a prophetic statement about their exodus from Egypt 400 years later?

11:23 **“By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents. . .not afraid of the king's commandment”**, granted this did take a little bit of guts and risk and faith that God would be faithful to them.

11:24-26 **“By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter”**,

Did Moses tell his Egyptian mom before he fled? his Hebrew mom?

... esteeming the (73) reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt”,

People still do this in the twentieth century freely.

Muslims and Jews do it today knowing they will be expelled by their families when they trust Christ as their Savior.

11:27 **“By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing Him who is invisible”**,

* I believe this is a comparison of fearing God more than fearing Pharaoh. He would rather obey JHVH than placate Pharaoh's wrath.

11:28 **“Through faith he kept the Passover [40 years later]”**

11:29 **“By faith they [plural] passed through the Red Sea as by [5 miles of] dry land [at night, Ex 14.21]”**

11:30 **“By [group] faith the walls of Jericho fell down”**, with a shout, Josh 6.20.

11:31 **“By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace”**, baby believer obeys by faith. Living by faith is God's command from the day of our salvation.

* She became the great, great, great, g, g, g, g, grandmother of king David through Ruth.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

Session
#18

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11.32-40 Faith without receiving What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

11:32-37 “Gideon [300 defeat 135,000] Barak [fearful yet trusting] Samson [perhaps only once in his life] Jephthah [1st time called on to serve publicly] David [patient faith for 20 years until Saul died] Samuel [first assignment when still a child]

23 Acts of faith.

<u>subdued kingdoms</u>	<u>wrought righteousness</u>	<u>obtained promises</u>
<u>stopped the mouths of lions</u>	<u>quenched fire</u>	<u>escaped the sword</u>
<u>were made strong</u>	<u>waxed valiant</u>	<u>turned to flight</u>
<u>dead raised to life</u>	<u>were tortured”,</u>	<u>cruel mockings</u>
<u>scourgings</u>	<u>imprisonment</u>	<u>stoned</u>
<u>sawn asunder</u>	<u>tempted</u>	<u>slain with the sword</u>
<u>wandered about</u>	<u>sheepskins and goatskins</u>	<u>being destitute</u>
<u>afflicted</u>	<u>tormented</u>	

* interesting that Barak made it and Deborah didn't.

- There may be a cost to you and me in living by faith.
- Who else would you add to the list?

Q

from the Bible? _____
from your church? _____

11:38 “Of whom (74) the world was not worthy”,

* Whom do I know “of whom the world was not worthy.” I’ve met quite a few, not high profile, but exceptional people. Consistent plodders, faithful, humble, prayerful, blameless. Pastors, Sunday School teachers, students, friends, fellow professors

11:39,40 “These all, having obtained a good report through faith God having provided some better thing for us”,

There is evidently a special reward to us if we learn to trust the Lord.

- * Matt 15.25, Syrophenician woman
- * Matt 8.6, centurion
- * Matt 19.28, 12 apostles

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? -----

12.1-4 Run patiently What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses”,

You and I have that same “cloud” of witnesses that had lived 1,000 years before Paul.

- This is perhaps the only verse in Scripture which hints at the possibility that those in heaven can see what is going on on the earth.
- We do know that angels [*presumably in heaven*] do see what is happening on earth,

Luke 15.10

“let us lay aside every weight”,

Weights: phones, **leisure**, food, fads, materialism, busyness, time & money eating out, etc.

“the sin which doth (75) so easily beset us”, “easily ensnares, NKJV **OPINION, please, for yourself**

Q

- | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> fretting | <input type="checkbox"/> dissatisfaction | <input type="checkbox"/> grumbling | <input type="checkbox"/> vanity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> envy | <input type="checkbox"/> pride | <input type="checkbox"/> greed | <input type="checkbox"/> complacency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> omission | <input type="checkbox"/> prayerlessness | <input type="checkbox"/> fibbing | <input type="checkbox"/> deceiving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rationalizing | <input type="checkbox"/> incomplete obedience | | |

◇ Isn't it nice that there are so many sins over which the Lord has given us almost complete victory? Murder, embezzling, bribery, fraud. . . [*now work on the rest*].

◇ Sin can reign in the life of a believer. Rom 6.12.

see www.PhilMyersBlog.com 3 Nice Things About Eternal Security

let us run with patience the race that is set before us”,

- This is a marathon, not a sprint. Endure long term hostility.
- Phil 1.21 to me Christ is everything, chocolate chip cookies are a bonus
- Phil 3.10 . . .and do count them but loss. . .that I may know Him
- Phil 3.13,14 (76) press. . .for the prize

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- 12:2 **“fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher”**, role of a coach, Swindoll
“Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God”, joy in the presence of hatred, betrayal, mocking, arrest, sleeplessness, several unfair trials, false accusations, fleeing disciples, and a denying disciple. Seems hard to believe He was glad for the opportunity to pay for my sin.
- “Praise God for the hammer, the file, and the furnace.” Tozer
All are useful in the master’s hands.
- 12:3 **“consider Him that endured such contradiction of [hostility from] sinners against Himself,**
“He has done so much for me. Is it too much to give Him everything?” anon
- I suppose no one has ever been hated with such vitriolic malice so much as He. Satan’s fury was unleashed. His venom splashed all over Jesus. Whatever I might go through is nothing.
 - Phil 3.10 “that I may know Him”
 - Phil 1.21 “to me. . .to live is Christ!”
- 12:4 **“Ye have not yet resisted unto blood [i.e. death] striving against sin”**,
- My blood? Not yet. He bled for me. The Passion of the Christ was not as brutal as Roman crucifixion could be. Roman soldiers conspired to contrive the most painful death imaginable. Crucifixion was their solution.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____**12.5-13 A father's loving discipline** What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? _____

**Session
#19**

- 12:5 **“My son, (77) despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him”**,
- “The purpose of correction in purification.” Swindoll
 - Proverbs is a good short study about parental correction.
Prov 10.17 13.1 22.15 29.15,17
 - See also, Eph 6.1, 4 Psa 94.12
 - “sin unto death” sins for which God’s answer was death
Jonah, Achan [Josh 7], Onan [Gen 28], Herod [Acts 12], Ananias [Acts 5],
Kadesh-Barnea [Num 13], David’s 70,000 [II Sam 24], communion [I Cor 11]
blasphemy [Lev 24], murder [Lev 24] Pharaoh [Exod], abuse communion [I Cor 11]
 - 15 results of living with unconfessed sin
 - ⇒ physical chastening, (78) I Cor 11.30
 - ⇒ death, sickness, I Cor 11.30
 - ⇒ blessings withheld Rev 2.23
 - ⇒ loss of rewards I Cor 3.14
 - ⇒ reproach to God’s name II Sam 12.14
 - ⇒ weakened conscience I Cor 8.7
 - ⇒ reputation of hypocrisy Jas 1.26
 - ⇒ shame at Judgment Seat of Christ I Cor 3.14
 - ⇒ loss of joy Heb 12.11
 - ⇒ broken fellowship Isa 59.2?
 - ⇒ no “rest” Hebrews 4.1
 - ⇒ no further growth Heb 5.12
 - ⇒ prayers are not heard Mic 3.4 Psa 66.18
- 12:6 **“Whom the Lord loveth He (79) chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth”**,
- Pro 3.12, (80) “whom the Lord loveth He correcteth” God compares Himself to a good dad.
Prov 13.24
Psa 23.4 rod & staff

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- Proper discipline from God or parents to a humble heart produces respect and deepens love.
- Never in anger. Never too much. Sometimes with pain: physical or other consequences.
- God’s consequences for His disobedient children:

withdraw His presence	withhold blessings
anguish in our hearts [<i>Peter</i>]	repentant
His Name maligned	we hurt Him
sorrow in heaven	sickness or death
division in the church	some don’t hear the Gospel

Positive results of chastening:

hugs from God afterward	learn patience	build faith in Father
become sensitive	example to others	shows God’s mercy
appreciate grace	learn to be merciful to others	

see Blog

Suffering, 20 mostly biblical purposes

12:7-10 **“what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”**

reminder of our salvation
oblique approval of spanking
His chastening is for our future good.
We only spank our own kids. We correct them because we love them.

Q 12:11 **“No chastening for the present seemeth (81) to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth *“the peaceable fruit”*”**

Discipline is to produce good works in our lives.
Three Ways to Learn, Prov 19.25,

*Smite a scorner
the simple will beware*

reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge.

- Punishment for the mocker
- Naïve learn by watching somebody else get punished
- Hearing a lecture [*sermon, parental rebuke*] on obedience and the discerning learn

12:12,13 **“Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees”**,

Correction is designed to strengthen weaker believers.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

12.14-21 **WARNING #6** [vss.12.14-17] **Esau's bad example, bitterness, failing grace**

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

TWO POSITIVE COMMANDS

12:14 **“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”**,

sanctification, *ἁγιασμόν, hagianmon* = holiness, set apart for special

purpose

THREE NEGATIVE WARNINGS

12:15 **“Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God**

“lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you”,

Chastening is designed & delivered to drive out our stubbornness or bitterness.

We are to say, “Thank You, Father” after our trip to the wood shed.

Bitter grudges have untold damage.

12:16,17 **“Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau [2 wives? Gen 26 & 36], who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright”**

Esau despised his father’s blessing which would come with the birthright. But Esau got his father’s birthright anyway when his little brother skipped town for 20 years.

* I have wondered when Esau will serve Jacob in fulfillment of Gen 25.23. Trib? Kingdom?

12:18-24 **“Ye are not come unto the mount [Sinai] that might be touched, and that burned with fire, . . .and if**

so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned,

A snapshot of God’s anger with Aaron’s golden calf, *Exod 32*

WARNINGS

- 2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
- 3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
- 4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
- 5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity, apathy
- 10.26-31 willful sin
- 12.14-17 bitterness
- 12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

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a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

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“My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” *Matt 11.29,*

* *If the burden is always too heavy, you are pulling too hard. You are depending too much on your human ability to do the impossible. Obedience is not just hard, it is impossible.*

* *We are to depend only on the strength He gives us. Relax! Enjoy the pull but pull hard.*

* *“All it takes is all you’ve got!” but He supplies the strength.*

12:22 **“Ye are come unto mount Sion [Mt. Moriah = Abraham’s altar] and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem [His city], and to an innumerable company of angels,**

* also called Dome of the Rock *from which Muhammed claimed to have ascended to heaven [Qur’an, chapter 17]*

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

12.25-29 **WARNING #7** [vss.12.25-29] **Don’t resist God, tolerance of sin**
What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? _____

12:25 **NEGATIVE WARNING**

“See that ye refuse not [avoid, deprecate, reject] Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused Him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away, from Him that speaketh from heaven”

“Rebellion is knowing to do right and choosing to do wrong.” *pjmyers*

12:28,29 **POSITIVE WARNING**

“let us have grace [charis]. . .serve God. . .reverence. . .godly fear. Our God is a consuming fire.”

* Rom 1.18-21 “the wrath of God” Only about sin.

* Obedience is the one step solution to avoiding God’s wrath.

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

13.1-6 **Be content because....** What is the **BIG IDEA** in this paragraph? _____

12 topics in chapter 13

All the Post-It notes on Paul’s refrigerator.

- a. 1 brotherly love
- b. 2 strangers in our homes
- c. 3 prisoners
- d. 4 marriage
- e. 5 money
- f. 7,17 leaders
- g. 8 Christ, Himself
- h. 9 strange doctrine
- i. 10-14 animal sacrifices & Christ
- j. 15,16 sacrifice of praise
- k. 18,19 prayer requests
- l. 20-25 benediction and blessing

13:1 **“Let brotherly love continue”**, a partial solution to all the warnings.

13:2 **“Be not forgetful to entertain [“show hospitality” *ESV* & many others] strangers [aliens]: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares”**,

- “of hospitality” = **philoxenias**—**philo** [love], **xenias** [strangers, aliens,
by extrapolation = guests]
sleep on porch or guest room or basement, eat heartily, stay awhile
- invitation without interrogation
- grammatically angels are messengers: theophanies, “angelic beings,” or humans.

WARNINGS

2.1-4 slipping, drifting from Word
3.7-19 hard heart, walk away
4.1-13 unbelief, miss Rest
5.11-6.12 dullness, immaturity,
apathy
10.26-31 willful sin
12.14-17 bitterness
12.25-29 bitterness, turn away

**Session
#20**

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These are 18 easiest-to-recognize letters
in the 24-letter Greek alphabet.

α β δ ε γ ι κ λ μ ν ο ω π ρ σ τ υ ς
a b d e g i k l m n o o p r s t u s

Hebrews: EXEGESIS

*Drawing out what is in the text
paragraph by paragraph*

APPLICATIONS

Examples to follow
Sins to avoid
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Praying for others

Attitudes to correct
Questions to answer
Promises to claim
A teaching to study
Praying better

- open doors: your kids' teenagers friends, neighbors, visitors to church, even real angels [maybe]
- "took joyfully the spoiling of your goods" 10.34
- scary friendship evangelism
- elders must be (82) "given to [characteristically] hospitality," Rom 12.13
- (83) elder must be "lover of hospitality," Tit 1.8
* I've met Christians who are proud that no one has ever smoked in their house, or sworn, and that they have no unsaved friends. Jesus was a "friend of sinners."
Matt 11.19

* I betcha Mary and Joseph had lots of unbelievers in the home where Jesus grew up. *pjm*

13:3 **"Remember them that are in bonds [δεσμιον, desmion chains], as bound with them; and them which suffer [persecution, not just difficulties] adversity"**

"You visited me, I was in prison," Matt 25.36

Prison Pen Pals, worshipping in rescue missions, spending a night in a Christian homeless shelter, sharing a sandwich with a hobo, buying a McDonald's gift card for a homeless friend. .

Q 13:4 **"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled"**

"whoremongers, [πορνους, pornous, = sexually impure] and adulterers God will judge"

"I ask every couple I marry if they are still virgins.
In 20 years as a pastor, when they both say, "Yes,"
Not one couple has divorced."
Pastor Doug Winne, church of 700



13:5 **"Let your (83) conversation be without covetousness and be content with such things as ye have [own]"**,

"godliness with contentment is great gain," I Tim 6.6

Greed is ever present in all cultures, but materialism is now identified by sociologists as being characteristic of our age. It is nice to know that God's can granted a spirit of contentment along with our needs. Maxed out credit cards are the 1st sign which almost defines Christian greed and discontent. *pjm*

see Blog Thankful 100 Times

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee",

never not, twice in this sentence, *ου με, ου με - ου με, ου με* = no not never

* Never not will I leave [*ανω, ano* = desert, leave] you, never not will I forsake [*enkatalipw, enkatalipo* = forsake] you

* John 10.28, *ου με, ου με* = no not never "they shall never perish. . . [nor] pluck them out of My hand"

13:6 **"I will not fear"**,

- Ps 56.3 (84) "What time I am afraid I will. . ."
- Ps 23.4 "valley of the shadow of death"
- Psa 27.1 (85) "of what shall I be afraid"

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

13.7-17 Obey & listen to your leaders

What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

13:7 **"Remember them which have the rule over you"**, elders = pastors = overseers = bishops

- I Pet 5.1
- I Tim 3.1ff

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- Titus 1.9
[see PhilMyersBlog.com](http://PhilMyersBlog.com) [Duties of Elders, Pastors](#)
who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.
- 13:8 “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever”,
His immutability
 - Mal 3.6
 - 1 Sam 15.29
 - Jas 1.17
 - Heb 6.18
- 13:9 “Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines”,
 - Danger of false teachings
 - I Timothy, “teach” sound doctrine, 15X
1.3,5,7,10
2.12
3.2
4.6,11,13,16
5.17
6.1,2,3
 - Heraclitus [500 BC, Greece], “There is nothing permanent except change.”
 - Please change or adopt new ideas very slowly. It is the Achilles heel of the twenty-first century church to embrace changes in belief without a careful examination of the Word.“good thing that the heart be established with grace”,
 - II Pet 3.18 “grow in grace”
 - II Tim 2.1 “be strong in grace”
- 13:11 “The bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary [Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement, October] by the High Priest for sin, are burned without [outside] the camp.
- 13:12 “Wherefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His Own blood, suffered without [outside] the gate”,
* Lev 16, scapegoat was released “outside the camp” i.e. here = “without the gate”
- 13:15 “let us offer the sacrifice of praise”,
 - Verbal, joyful, often, thankful, full of Scripture
 - Our offering to Him
- 13:16 “But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.
- 13:17 “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account”,
 - I Pet 5.3 submit to elders
 - Acts 20.28 “the flock, over which God hath made you overseers”

APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE? _____

13.18-24 Pray for me What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? _____

- 13:18 “Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.
- 13:19 “I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored [released from prison] to you the sooner.
- 13:20,21 Some feel this verse became a doxology of praise perhaps used in the local church.
“The God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd [Jesus] of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant”,
OPINION, please, in your Bible circle several significant words in verse 20.
- 13:21 “Make you perfect in every good work”,
 - perfect, *καταρτίζαι, katartisai* = complete, supply, mend, outfit a ship, also use to “set a bone”
- 13:22,23 “I beseech [parakaleo, parakaleo = comfort, encourage, urge] you, brethren, suffer the word of

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exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words. 23 Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty [from prison?]; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you”.

Timothy is Paul’s BFF in 15 years of ministry together.

13:24 **“Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you”.**

This is the only verse that doesn’t seem to fit with my opinion tht Paul wrote this epistle from the jail in Caesarea. *pjm*

13.25 Grace What is the BIG IDEA in this paragraph? -----

13:25 **“Grace be with you all. Amen.”**

- Paul’s opening and closing blessing = grace
- Paul’s frequent tri-fold blessing = grace, mercy, and peace
n.b. 13.20 “the God of peace”
- Other closing words: resurrection, blood, maturity, shepherd

8.5

AMEN!

TYPES, SHADOWS, PARALLELS, SIMILITUDES, FIGURES,
PATTERNS, & METAPHORS

connecting OT & NT pictures

A. Classic type: a relationship using the Greek word *τύπος*, *typos*

- * often has an antitype
- * often uses metaphor
- * rarely disputed as being prophetic

EXAMPLES = lamb, Abraham’s ram, serpent in the wilderness, water from the rock, Christ our Passover, Last & Communion, Adam & Christ, Melchizedek & Jesus, “I AMs” in John, High Priest & Jesus
Heb 8.4 - Tabernacle in heaven

B. any very strong relationship with multiple similarities: especially when there is a prophetic foreshadow:

EXAMPLES = Moses—deliverer-Savior,
Tabernacle & Jesus, Jonah & 3 days, Babylon,
Egypt = bondage,
leaven = sin,
manna = God’s provision,
Kinsman = Redeemer [Ruth], Joseph

C. Any parallel, similar traits, symbolic signs,

EXAMPLES = leprosy—sin, flood—punishment, Jacob’s ladder—???,

D. The Tabernacle is the most complete and perfect “type” of Jesus in the Bible.

- Colors
- Four coverings over the Tab
- Veil
- Furniture in both rooms
- Materials: silver, gold, wood, brass, bread, incense, oil
- Laver & altar
- Day of Atonement
- Ark of the Covenant [and contents]
- Blood offerings [plus non-bloody offerings]