

Survey of the New Testament
“Hebrews”

I. Introduction

A. General Epistles (Hebrews is the first in this section.)

1. A shift from Paul’s thirteen letters.

2. There are eight in number.

a. _____

e. _____

b. _____

f. _____

c. _____

g. _____

d. _____

h. _____

B. Authorship – a mystery.

1. Why not the Apostle Paul?

2. Some suggestions:

3. The case for A_____.

a. Note Greek style and familiarity with the Septuagint.

b. Possible A_____ or H_____ Jew.

c. Highly educated and a powerful speaker.

d. Acts 18:24-28

e. What happened that tempted these people to forsake Christ and return to the
L_____ of Alexandria?

1. Philo refuted.

Time

Emotion

Greater than the priesthood of Aaron

Platonism

Greater than angels

Greater than Moses

The Logos of Philo could never become human because matter was
e_____.

C. Date

1. Clement of Rome

2. Timothy

3. Eyewitnesses

4. The Temple

5. Best date –

D. Purpose (Jewish audience)

1. Core teaching – Aaronic priesthood obsolete.

E. Outline – Philip Hughes (Excerpted from Exposition of Hebrews)

- I. *Christ superior to the prophets*: His absolute uniqueness as Divine Son, Incarnate, Redeemer, and Exalted Lord (1:1-3).
- II. *Christ is superior to the angels* (1:4-2:18).
Proved from the Old Testament: 1:4-13
First warning: the peril of neglecting such a great salvation: 2:1-4.
Christ the true Man exalted above the angels: 2:5-9.
The purpose and consequence of the Incarnation: 2:10-18.
- III. *Christ superior to Moses* (3:1-4:13).
Moses and Christ compared: 3:1-6a.
Second warning: The peril of copying the example of the Israelites in the wilderness: 3:6b-4:2.
Necessity of faith and obedience for entry into God's rest: 4:3-11.
The sharp and penetrating discernment of God's word: 4:12-13.
- IV. *Christ superior to Aaron* (4:4-10:18).
Our compassionate High Priest: 4:14-16 (resuming the subject already introduced in 2:17-3:1).
High priesthood: general qualifications: 5:1-4
Christ's qualifications: 5:5-10
Third warning: the peril of stagnation and apostasy: 5:11-6:8.
Encouragement to persevere: 6:9-20.
The order of Melchizedek: 6:20b-7:28 (already mentioned 5:6, 10; cf. 2:17; 4:14f).
Significance of Melchizedek: 7:1-10.
Imperfection of the Levitical priesthood contrasted with the perfection of Christ's priesthood: 7:11-28.
The shadows of the old covenant superseded by the realities of the new covenant: 8:1-9:10.
The redemption procured by Christ's sacrifice all-sufficient and eternal: 9:11-10:18.
- V. *Christ superior as the new and living way* (10:19-12:29).
Encouragement to enter boldly into the true sanctuary: 10:19-25 (cf. 4:14-16).
Fourth warning: the peril of despising the Gospel: 10:26-31.
Encouragement to endure: 10:32-39.
The triumph of faith and perseverance illustrated by the example of the believers of the former age: 11:1-39.
The supreme example of Christ: 12:1-4.
The significance and value of discipline: 12:5-11.
Encouragement to resume the struggle: 12:12-14.
Fifth warning: the peril of following the example of Esau: 12:15-17.
Mount Sinai and Mount Zion compared: 12:18-24.
Sixth warning: the peril of refusing him who speaks from heaven: 12:25-29.
- VI. *Concluding exhortations, requests, and greetings* (13:1-25).

II. Key thoughts

A. Revelation of God through His Son – 1:1-2:18.

B. The high priestly character of the Son, 3:1 – 5:10.

C. The high priestly office of the Son, 5:11 – 10:39.

D. Loyalty to God through persevering faith, 11:1 – 12:13.

E. Orientation for life as a Christian in a hostile world, 12:14 – 13:25.