

Week 49 Hebrews

On Sunday evenings at *Bible Explorer* we will explore the question

'What does this book from the Bible mean for us today?

Intro:

Luther: "some wood straw or hay mingled with the gold, silver or precious stones."

Wood, Straw and hay!

- Much on Jesus' death and sacrifice, little on the resurrection
- The book about Melchizdek!!

Who Was Melchizedek and What Is His Significance (Genesis 14:17-24; Hebrews 5:10, 7:1)?

http://www.biblestudytools.com/video/who-was-melchizedek-and-what-is-his-significance-genesis-14-17-24-hebrews-5-10-7-1.html

- Needs familiarity with the OT! A striking feature of this presentation is the unique manner in which the author employs expositions of eight specific passages of the OT Scriptures:

2:5-9: Ps 8:4-6 3:7 -- 4:13: Ps 95:7-11 4:14 -- 7:28: Ps 110:4 8:1 -- 10:18: Jer 31:31-34 10:1-10: Ps 40:6-8 10:32 -- 12:3: Hab 2:3-4 12:4-13: Pr 3:11-12 12:18-24: Ex 19:10-23

Gold Silver and Precious stones!

- Hebrews argues that true religion and worship of God is not tied to any externalities
 - It asserts the supremacy of Christ more than angels , Moses , the law, Melchizedek, Aaronic Priesthood
 - It encourages Christians not to be content with things as they are but to advance the gospel

Written for Who?

Jewish Christians, God Fearers? Jerusalem, Alexandria, Corinth, Ephesus or Rome

Written by Who?

Paul, Apollos, Luke, Barnabas, Priscilla?



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Outline

- 1 The Finality of Christianity 1-2:18
- 2 The True Home of the People of God 3:1-4:13
- 3 The High Priesthood of Christ 4:14-6:20
- 4 The Order of Melchizedek 7:1-28
- 5 Covenant, Sanctuary and Sacrifice 8:1-10:18
- 6 Call to Worship, Faith and Perseverance 10:19-12:29
- 7 Concluding Exhortations and Prayer 13:1-21
- 8 Postscript 13:22-25

Today

Every Christian at some time or other is tempted to quit and to ask, "What's the use?" As problems and roadblocks mount, as faith seems unproductive, as doors slam, do we find it easy to think about quitting?

We also need current reminders about the supremacy of Jesus Christ. There is no stronger enticement to stay in the race than to "fix your eyes on Jesus" (12:2).

- "Pay more careful attention to what we have heard so that we do not drift away" (2:1).
- "Let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it [God's promised rest]" (4:1).
- "Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity," (6:1).
- "We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure" (6:11).
- "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (12:1)