

Epistle To The Hebrews

Chapter 11: 1-22

1/15/25

The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews is unknown. For many readers, Hebrews is considered to be one of the most difficult books in the New Testament. A study of the Old Testament, its background and certain phases of the first-century can be beneficial.

The Epistle to the Hebrews is a tribute to the incomparable Son of God and an encouragement to the author's persecuted fellow believers. It seems that the author was concerned that his Christian readers were wavering in their endurance. He approached this matter in a two-fold presentation: 1) the writer exalted Jesus the Christ, who he addresses as both "God" and "this man," and is thus the only One who can serve as a mediator between God and man; and 2) he exhorted his fellow Christians to move forward unto perfection, and live by faith.

The author of Hebrews wanted to exalt Jesus Christ. An indication of this desire is the consistent and repetitive use of the Greek word *kreitton*, which means "better," "superior," or "more excellent".

No other book in the New Testament ties together Old Testament history and practices with the life of Jesus as thoroughly as the book of Hebrews.

By Faith We Understand:

Hebrews 11: 1-3

Faith At The Dawn of History:

vv. 4 - 7

Faithful Abraham:

vv. 8 - 12

The Heavenly Hope:

vv. 13 – 16

The Faith Of The Patriarchs:

vv. 17-22

Small Group Discussion:

1. What exactly is faith and how would you define it?
2. What are some things that we do not see as Christians that we believe?
3. What can we learn from verse 6?
4. What were Abraham's most outstanding character qualities and what key lessons can we learn from his life?

Next Week's Lesson:

Hebrews 11: 23 - 40