

Precept Upon Precept-Hebrews God Has Spoken, Oh, Won't You Listen, Lesson 3

3 reasons why Hebrews was written between 65-70 A.D.

1. Second generation Christians
 - a. Hebrews 2:3-4: "How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will."
 2. The temple is still standing
 - a. Hebrews 8:4-5: "Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "See," He says, "that you make all things according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.""
 - b. Hebrews 10:11, "Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins"
 3. Time of persecution
 - a. Hebrews 10:32-34: "But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one."
 - b. Hebrews 13:23: "Take notice that our brother Timothy has been released, with whom, if he comes soon, I will see you."
 - i. Paul dies in 67 A.D., so this could be written between 65-67 if Paul has not died
 - c. After the Jews were scattered, many Jews were raised in other language cultures so the Jews in Israel made the Septuagint in Greek for Hellenistic Jews in other parts of the world.
- Gospels describe Jesus' finished work on earth
 - Acts shows Christ's on-going ministry through the Church
 - Jesus ascending, Holy Spirit descending
 - General epistles show Jesus as Head over the Body
 - Revelation shows Jesus as the coming King
 - Hebrew's shows us Jesus' on-going ministry in heaven, intercession
 - Jesus our high priest
 - Priest is used approximately 35 times
 - First mention: Hebrews 2:17: "Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people."
 - Last mention: Hebrews 13:11: "For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned

outside the camp Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate. So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.”

- Hebrews 3:1: “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.”
- Hebrews 4:14-16: “Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”
- Hebrews 5:1-2: “For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is beset with weakness.”
- Hebrews 5:5-6: “So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You”; just as He says also in another passage, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.””
- Hebrews 5:10: “being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”
- Hebrews 6:19-20: “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”
 - You have a high priest whose on-going ministry is interceding for us.
- Hebrews 7:24-25: “but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. Therefore, He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”
- God has spoken in Jesus our high priest; consider Jesus
 - 1-2 God-man over angels, 3-4 Son faithful over his house, 5-7 like Melchizedek, 8-10:18 Mediator
- Don’t refuse Him
 - 10:19-11 Draw near in faith, 12 Run with endurance, 12:28-13 Offer an acceptable service
- 3 themes from the book of Hebrews
 - 1) A Priest that abides forever; therefore, draw near
 - 2) Christ is supreme, better than all; therefore, don’t refuse Him who is speaking
 - 3) Continuance in faith is evidence of salvation; therefore, hold fast
 - a. Don’t neglect salvation, Don’t fail to enter his rest, Don’t be sluggish in your faith, Don’t trample under foot His blood, Don’t refuse Him who is speaking