



**A Vision of Christ's  
Majesty and Fulfillment**





# Overview of the Epistle to the Hebrews

Hebrews 1-13

While still not proven for certain, various latter-day apostles and prophets attribute this epistle to Paul. His audience is also uncertain, but the title implies that it is addressed to the Hebrew saints. Many Hebrews or Jews who had joined the Church of Jesus Christ, were facing tremendous opposition, and many were leaving the faith. Many also still felt it was necessary to observe the rites and rituals of the law of Moses. This epistle is written to assure the Christian Jews that no matter what challenges they face, it is not worth abandoning Christ. He wants to show them that Christ is ultimately the key to life and salvation and convince them that Jesus Christ had fulfilled the old law and they needed to move forward to a higher and holier way to live. Through Christ, they could be changed and made holy so that they could boldly enter into God's presence.

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Hebrews 1-13

This epistle shows that Jesus, as the Great High Priest, came to bring the people a better covenant; not made of outward performances and ordinances, but one which would change the very nature of the person. They were to now live the law of the gospel and move onward to perfection through the atonement of Jesus Christ. While this new covenant would bring greater light and blessing, it would also require greater obedience, diligence, and faithfulness. Christ would be the Great High Priest who would sacrifice himself to fulfill all the ordinances of the physical, outward tabernacle so that all people might take the covenants inwardly and be able to pass through the veil and enter into the rest of the Lord; something that had been withheld from the common people since the days of Moses. (see **D&C 84:23-27**)



# Jesus Christ



**Hebrews 1:1-2** Old Prophets

**Hebrews 1:4-10** Angels

**Hebrews 3:1-6** Moses

**Hebrews 7:1-4** Abraham

**Hebrews 7:14-19** Melchizedek

**Hebrews 9:11-15** OT Sacrifices

# The Condescension of Christ



Hebrews 1-13

Though greater than all, Christ descended below all things in order to know how to succor his people and lift all mankind

**Hebrews 2:9, 16-18** Took on a mortal nature

“Without a doubt, Jesus came into the world subject to the same condition as was required for each of us – he forgot everything, and he had to grow from grace to grace. His forgetting, or having his former knowledge taken away, would be requisite just as it is in the case of each of us, to complete the temporal existence.

Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, 1:33

# Overview of the Epistle to the Hebrews



Hebrews 1-13

When Jesus was born, the veil of forgetfulness common to all who are born to earth, by which the remembrance of primeval existence is shut off, was cast over him. In the premortal world, Jesus had stood as “one like unto God,” (**Abraham 3:24**), “more intelligent than they all” (**Abraham 3:19**), meaning all the other created spirits. But although his capacity was greater than that of any other, and he was designated to become the Only Begotten Son of God in the flesh, still he was meek and humble, and he condescended to have a veil cast over him and to have the knowledge of his glory and power in premortality blocked from his mind at birth.

James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, 111.



# The Condescension of Christ



Hebrews 1-13

Though greater than all, Christ descended below all things in order to know how to succor his people and lift all mankind

**Hebrews 2:9, 16-18** Took on a mortal nature

**Luke 2:52** Grew in wisdom, stature, favor with God and man

**D&C 93:12-14** Grew from grace to grace

**Hebrews 4:14-16** Tempted in all things like as we

**Alma 7:11-13** Suffered all things according to the flesh

**D&C 122:7-8** Hath descended below all things

**D&C 88:6** In and through all things the light of truth



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## Hebrews 2:10

Captain of Our Salvation and of our Souls



## Invictus

Out of the night that covers me, black as the Pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be for my unconquerable soul.  
In the fell clutch of circumstance, I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance, my head is bloody, but unbowed.  
Beyond this place of wrath and tears looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years finds, and shall find me, unafraid.  
It matters not how strait the gate, how charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul.

**William E. Henley, Poet**



## The Soul's Captain

Art thou in truth? Then what of him who bought thee with his blood?  
Who plunged into devouring seas and snatched thee from the flood?  
Who bore for all our fallen race what none but him could bear. –  
The God who died that man might live, and endless glory share?  
Of what avail thy vaunted strength, apart from his vast might?  
Pray that his Light may pierce the gloom, that thou mayest see aright.  
Men are as bubbles on the wave, as leaves upon the tree.  
Thou, captain of thy soul, forsooth! Who gave that place to thee?  
Free will is thine -- free agency to wield for right or wrong;  
But thou must answer unto him to whom all souls belong.  
Bend to the dust that head "unbowed," Small part of Life's great whole!  
And see in him, and him alone, The Captain of thy soul.

**Orson F. Whitney, Early Apostle of the Church**



## Invictus Revisited

Are we just bubbles on the waves to wander to and fro?  
Or do we choose to board the ship to go where He would go?  
He is the captain of our soul when winds and waves may roar;  
He calls a cadence loud and clear, but we must pull upon the oar.  
Agency means that we must act, but not with head unbowed,  
But acknowledging him in every deed for the power He endowed.  
We should not wander aimlessly where 'ere the wind may blow,  
But we must work at His command to row and row and row.  
We claim his grace and redeeming love to get us to the shore  
But we must do all we can to pull upon the oar.  
So board His ship with grateful heart to reach your heavenly goal;  
And worship Christ the King of Kings and Captain of thy Soul.

**M.L. King**



## Hebrews 2:1-5, 14-15

- **Verse 14** -- *Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood,* he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.

**Sacramental inference** - As we partake of the flesh and blood of Christ, we enter into a covenantal relationship and trust him as the Captain of our Salvation.

## Hebrews 2:16-19