Introduction of Hebrews

# God is here and he is not silent he has spoken through his word

Introduction: God is here, and He is not Silent---He has spoken through His Word

* God is here
  + He is transcendent  
    - High and lifted up
    - Set apart far above His Creation
  + He is also condescending  
    - Yet He came to man
    - He lowered Himself
    - To walk with man
* God is not silent!  
  + He has spoken
  + In the past He spoke
    - Directly
    - Dreams
    - Prophets
    - Visions
    - He spoke through His Son Jesus Christ
    - He now speaks through His Written Word
  + 3 Important Terms
    - Revelation
      * General Revelation
      * Special Revelation
    - Inspiration
    - Illumination
  + Because God is a personal God and He has created man in his image man is a personal being
  + God speaks
  + God communicates to mankind
  + Now God speaks through His Word
* God has always intended to have man walk with Him  
  + At creation God and Adam walked in the garden
  + Now through redemption and the atonement of Christ man is able to be restored to a position of being able to walk with God again.
  + The Book of Hebrews is going to teach how to walk with God
  + The Book will teach why we can now walk with God
  + The book will enable us to realize the reality of both worlds here and now
* Introduction to the book itself  
  + The Theme is the Superiority of Christ  
    - He is the Supreme One
    - He has superiority over everyone and everything
  + Who was the author?  
    - II Timothy 3:16 explains that all Scripture is inspired by God
    - The human author that God used?
      * Some say Luke
      * Some say Paul
      * Some say Barnabas
      * Some say Apollos
  + Key words run through the epistle:  
    - P*erfection.* It never means "sinlessness" in the New Testament.
      * Mature
    - *Eternal* occurs repeatedly, to show that Christianity is a permanent, abiding reality
    - H*eaven* or *heavens*
    - *Let us* is another key word
    - The word *better* is used thirteen times in this book as the writer shows the superiority of Jesus Christ and His salvation over the Hebrew system of religion
  + “The basic idea of this letter is that Jesus Christ alone brings to men the full revelation of God and that he alone enables them to enter into his very presence.”   
    Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT).
* When was the book of Hebrews written?
  + Most likely before the destruction of the temple in 70 AD therefore many think it was 63 or 64 AD
* **Hebrews 1:1-3 (NKJV)**   
  1  God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,   
    
  2  has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;   
    
  3  who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
* 1  God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,  
  + 1  God, who in different periods of times and in different ways has spoken in the past to His people by the prophets.
  + **God is here and He has never been silent….He has always spoken**
* 2  has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;  
  + 2  B*ut now God* Has chosen in the last days to speak to His people by *his* Son, Whom He has appointed to be the heir of everything, Who is the One, by which, the universe was created.
  + Jesus has Created all things:  
    - [**Isaiah 48:13**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Isaiah/48/13)
      * "Surely My hand founded the earth, And My right hand spread out the heavens; When I call to them, they stand together.
    - [**Proverbs 8:29**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Proverbs/8/29)
      * When He set for the sea its boundary So that the water would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth;
    - [**Job 38:4**](https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Job/38/4)
      * "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding,
    - **Psalm 104:3-5 (NKJV)**   
      3  He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind,   
      4  Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.   
      5  *You who* laid the foundations of the earth, So *that* it should not be moved forever,
    - **Colossians 1:16-18 (NKJV)**   
      16  For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.   
      17  And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.   
      18  And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.
    - **Psalm 102:24-25 (NKJV)**   
      24  I said, "O my God, Do not take me away in the midst of my days; Your years *are* throughout all generations.   
      25  Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens *are* the work of Your hands.

* 3  who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,  
  + 3  Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is the illumination and radiance of God’s glory and the explicit image of his essence *and substance,* and He upholds everything by the power of His Word. *Further, after* He had made atonement for our sins He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.
  + Jesus Christ purged our sins
  + What does that mean?  
    - **1 John 2:1-2 (NKJV)**   
      1  My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.   
      2  And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.
    - **Romans 3:25 (NKJV)**   
      25  whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,
  + Our Lord Jesus made an atonement for sin by His death on the cross
  + He shed His blood for our sins
  + Now listen this is important to understand
    - Sin is a moral issue
    - People are:
      * Personal
      * Rational
      * Moral
    - You cannot separate those 3 things
    - That is what we are
    - Do you know what that is saying?
      * You are moral
      * Sin is a moral problem
      * You cannot separate the sin from the sinner
      * God says the only remedy for sin is death
      * Someone has to die because of sin
      * Strong punishment but that is what is required by God
      * There is no such thing as hate the sin and love the sinner
      * They are inseparable so sin has to have a sacrifice
    - Jesus Died for sin
      * His death was sufficient for the whole world
      * But the whole world is not saved
      * Why?
        + You have to have faith in Christ for the death to apply to your account
        + Thus His death is sufficient for your sins but will only be efficient for your sins if you trust Him as your savior
        + Trusting Jesus is not passive it is acting on the Message of Christ
        + It is believing to the point that you call out to Him to forgive you of your sin
        + That you repent of your sins
    - If you believe than a legal transaction takes place called justification  
      * This is a legal transaction between God and the believer
      * It is accomplished by imputation
      * It causes the believer to die with Christ, buried, and rise positionally
      * This allows the believer to be no longer a sinner but a saint
      * Therefore morally the saint is changed from a sinner to a holiness