



Teaching the Word  
Bruce Edwards Ministries

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

student workbook

### **Book of Hebrews**

*chapter by chapter*

## Second Year General Courses



# **BOOK OF HEBREWS**

# **CHAPTER BY CHAPTER**

## **STUDENT WORKBOOK**

Pastor Bruce R. Edwards

**Equipping the Saints Bible School**

[www.bruce-edwards.com](http://www.bruce-edwards.com)



**BOOK OF HEBREWS  
CHAPTER BY CHAPTER  
STUDENT WORKBOOK**

Copyright © 2023  
by Bruce R. Edwards

All rights reserved. This book or any portion thereof  
may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever  
without the express written permission of the publisher  
except for the use of brief quotations in a book review.

Printed in the United States of America

First Printing, 2021

ISBN: 979-8-90155-575-0

All Scripture quotations contained herein, unless otherwise noted,  
are the New King James Version of the Bible.

Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 Thomas Nelson, Inc., Publishers

[www.bruce-edwards.com](http://www.bruce-edwards.com)

# Book of Hebrews

## *Course Syllabus*

### EQUIPPING THE BELIEVER

Bruce Edwards Ministries  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Course Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Book of Hebrews

2 Credit Hours

#### **Course Description:**

This course offers an in-depth, chapter-by-chapter study of the Book of Hebrews, one of the most theologically rich and profound books of the New Testament. Students will explore its central themes, including the superiority of Christ, the fulfillment of Old Testament promises, the importance of faith, and the call to perseverance in the Christian life.

#### **Course Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Develop a deep understanding of the Book of Hebrews, its structure, and its themes.
2. Explore the connections between Hebrews and the Old Testament, emphasizing its fulfillment in Christ.
3. Gain theological insights into Jesus' role as High Priest, mediator, and ultimate sacrifice.
4. Apply the practical lessons of Hebrews to faith, worship, and perseverance in daily life.

#### **Course Texts and Resources:**

##### **Required:**

1. Edwards, Bruce R, **Book of Hebrews – Chapter by Chapter**

[Click Here](#) to Download free Ebook

#### **Course Procedures:**

**Prerequisite:** None

##### **Requirements:**

1. Completion of all required readings and assignments in addition to the text.
2. Completion of all examinations with a satisfactory grade.

#### **Grading Policy:**

Students must achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (based on 4.0) in order to be considered in good standing.

Each student's grade will be comprised of the following:

- |             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| a. Mid-term | 45% |
| b. Final    | 45% |
| c. Reading  | 10% |

90-100% = 3.5-4.0 = A

80-89% = 2.5-3.49 = B

70-79% = 1.5-2.49 = C

60-69% = .99-.49 = D

0-59% = 0 = F

F = Failure

S = Satisfactory

U = Unsatisfactory

I = Incomplete

N = Non-Credit

# *Book of Hebrews*

## Course and Assignment Schedule

| Week | Subject                                                                             | Assignments |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1    | REVIEW SYLLABUS<br>INTRODUCE HEBREWS                                                |             |
| 2    | CHAPTER ONE - <b>Supremacy of Christ</b>                                            |             |
| 3    | CHAPTER TWO - <b>The Humanity of Christ</b>                                         |             |
| 4    | CHAPTER THREE - <b>Greater Than Moses</b>                                           |             |
| 5    | CHAPTER FOUR - <b>Promise of Rest</b>                                               |             |
| 6    | CHAPTER FIVE - <b>Priesthood of Christ</b>                                          |             |
| 7    | CHAPTER SIX - <b>A Call to Maturity</b>                                             |             |
| 8    | <b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>                                                                |             |
| 9    | CHAPTER SEVEN -<br><b>Priestly Order of Melchizedek</b>                             |             |
| 10   | CHAPTER EIGHT - <b>The New Covenant</b>                                             |             |
| 11   | CHAPTER NINE -<br><b>The Earthly and Heavenly Sanctuaries</b>                       |             |
| 12   | CHAPTER TEN<br><b>Christ's Sacrifice Once for All</b>                               |             |
| 13   | CHAPTER ELEVEN - <b>The Hall of Faith</b>                                           |             |
| 14   | CHAPTER TWELVE -<br><b>Encouragement to Persevere</b>                               |             |
| 15   | CHAPTER THIRTEEN - <b>Final Exhortations<br/>and Benediction</b> and SUMMARY REVIEW |             |
| 16   | <b>FINAL EXAM</b>                                                                   |             |

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON ONE

##### Syllabus and Introduction to Hebrews

#### **I. Review Syllabus**

- A. Course Description
- B. Textbook
  - Reading assignments
- C. Student Workbook
- D. Exams

#### **II. Introduction to Hebrews**

##### **A. Background**

1. Author - The author of Hebrews is unknown. But –
  - He knew Timothy (Hebrews 13:23).
  - He was not an eyewitness of Jesus (see Hebrews 2:1, 3).
  - The author knew his readers and wanted to see them again (Hebrews 13:19).
2. Date - The letter was probably written before AD 70.
3. Title - Early manuscripts bear the title “To the Hebrews,” which reflects the ancient assumption that it was written to Jewish Christians as well as Gentile Christians who previously had been drawn to the Jewish religion.

##### **B. Theme of the Book**

1. The Supremacy of Christ.
  - a) Christ fulfills Old Testament promises.
  - b) Christ offers a better covenant.
2. Encouragement for perseverance.
  - a) Addressing Jewish Christians facing persecution.
  - b) Highlighting faith as the key to endurance.

##### **C. Purpose of Hebrews**

1. To emphasize Christ’s superiority.

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

- b) Superior to angels, Moses, and the priesthood.
- c) Superior sacrifice for eternal redemption.
- 2. To encourage steadfast faith.
  - b) Avoid drifting from salvation.
  - c) Strengthen commitment to Christ.

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

## LESSON TWO

### Chapter 1: The Supremacy of Christ

#### Overview of Chapter One

The author of Hebrews opens the book with a majestic declaration of the **supremacy of Jesus Christ**. In contrast to the partial revelations given through the prophets, God has now spoken fully and finally through His Son. Chapter One emphasizes the divine nature of Christ, His exaltation above angels, and His unique role in creation, redemption, and ruling the universe.

#### I. The Superiority of Christ's Person (Hebrews 1:1–4)

**Overview:** God's final and fullest revelation has come through His Son, Jesus Christ.

##### A. God Spoke in the Past Through the Prophets

1. God's communication was progressive and partial (v.1)
2. The prophets were used in various ways and at various times

##### B. God Has Now Spoken Through His Son

1. Jesus is the appointed heir of all things (v.2)
2. Through Jesus, God created the worlds
3. Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being (v.3a)
4. He sustains all things by His powerful word
5. He made purification for sins
6. He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high (v.3b)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### C. Jesus Is Superior to the Angels

1. He inherited a name more excellent than theirs (v.4)

#### II. The Superiority of Christ's Name and Position (Hebrews 1:5–14)

**Overview:** Jesus is uniquely the Son of God and is worshipped by angels, proving His superiority.

##### A. Jesus' Relationship with the Father

1. "You are My Son, today I have begotten You" (v.5)
2. "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son"

##### B. Angels Worship the Son

1. God commands all angels to worship Him (v.6)
2. Angels are ministering spirits (v.7)
3. The Son has an eternal throne and rules with righteousness (v.8-9)

##### C. Jesus is the Unchanging Creator

1. "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth" (v.10)
2. Creation will perish, but He remains
3. Jesus is eternal and unchanging (v.11-12)

##### D. Jesus' Exaltation Far Above Angels

1. God never said to any angel: "Sit at My right hand..." (v.13)
2. Angels are sent to minister to those who will inherit salvation (v.14)

#### III. Application and Reflection

**Overview:** Chapter One lays a theological foundation for understanding the greatness of Jesus. The implications are practical and profound.

##### A. Recognize the Finality and Fullness of God's Revelation in Christ

1. No further prophet or angelic message surpasses Jesus

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

2. We must listen attentively to Him

#### **B. Worship Jesus as Lord and Sustainer**

1. He is not just a teacher or prophet—He is God
2. All creation and history point to Him

#### **C. Prepare for the Warning in Chapter 2**

1. Do not drift from the truth
2. Pay close attention to what has been revealed

#### **Memory Verse:**

*“He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power.”*

— Hebrews 1:3a (ESV)

#### **NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON THREE

##### The Humanity of Christ

###### Overview of Chapter Two

In Hebrews Chapter Two, the writer shifts from theology to **exhortation and application**. After declaring Christ's superiority in Chapter One, the author gives a **strong warning not to drift away** from the truth. This chapter focuses on the **importance of salvation**, Christ's **identification with humanity**, and His **victory over death**. Jesus is both fully divine and fully human—making Him the perfect Savior and High Priest.

###### I. A Solemn Warning Against Neglect (Hebrews 2:1–4)

**Overview:** Because Christ is greater than angels, His message must not be ignored.

###### A. The Danger of Drifting Away

1. “We must pay much closer attention” (v.1)
2. Drifting is gradual and often unnoticed

###### B. Accountability for the Message

1. The message declared by angels proved reliable (v.2)
2. Disobedience under the Old Covenant was punished
3. How much greater the consequence if we neglect salvation offered by Christ?

###### C. Confirmation of Salvation Through Christ

1. First declared by the Lord (v.3)
2. Confirmed by eyewitnesses
3. Validated by signs, wonders, miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit (v.4)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### II. Jesus Made Lower Than Angels for a Time (Hebrews 2:5–9)

**Overview:** Jesus humbled Himself and became a man to fulfill God’s plan of redemption.

##### A. The World to Come is Subject to Christ, Not Angels

1. Angels were not given dominion over the coming world (v.5)
2. Psalm 8 is quoted to show humanity's intended dominion (v.6-8)

##### B. Jesus’ Humiliation Was Temporary and Purposeful

1. “Made a little lower than the angels” for a time (v.9)
2. He tasted death for everyone
3. His suffering led to glory and honor

#### III. Jesus Became Fully Human to Save Us (Hebrews 2:10–13)

**Overview:** Jesus became one with humanity to bring many sons to glory and to make salvation complete.

##### A. The Captain of Our Salvation

1. It was fitting for God to perfect Jesus through suffering (v.10)
2. Jesus leads many sons to glory

##### B. Jesus Identifies With His Brothers

1. He is not ashamed to call us His brothers (v.11)
2. Quotes from Psalms and Isaiah showing His solidarity with believers (v.12-13)

#### IV. Jesus Conquered Death and the Devil (Hebrews 2:14–16)

**Overview:** Jesus’ humanity allowed Him to defeat Satan and liberate those enslaved by fear and death.

##### A. Jesus Took on Flesh and Blood

1. He shared in our humanity (v.14)
2. By dying, He destroyed the one who had the power of death—Satan

##### B. Jesus Delivered Us From Bondage

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

1. People lived in lifelong slavery due to fear of death (v.15)
2. Jesus came to help the offspring of Abraham—not angels (v.16)

#### V. Jesus Is a Merciful and Faithful High Priest (Hebrews 2:17–18)

**Overview:** Jesus’ humanity enables Him to be both compassionate and effective in helping us when we suffer and are tempted.

##### A. Jesus Was Made Like His Brothers in Every Way

1. He had to be made like us (v.17)
2. This qualified Him to be a merciful and faithful High Priest
3. He made propitiation (atonement) for our sins

##### B. Jesus Understands and Helps Us in Our Temptations

1. Because He suffered when tempted, He is able to help us (v.18)
2. He is not distant from our struggles

#### Key Takeaways:

- Don’t neglect the great salvation offered through Christ.
- Jesus became fully human to identify with us, suffer for us, and save us.
- He conquered death, destroyed Satan’s power, and acts as our High Priest.

#### Memory Verse:

*“For this reason He had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that He might make atonement for the sins of the people.”*

— Hebrews 2:17 (NIV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON FOUR

##### Chapter 3: Christ is Greater Than Moses

###### Overview of Chapter Three

In Hebrews Chapter Three, the author continues to exalt the superiority of Jesus—this time over **Moses**, the most revered leader in Jewish history. While Moses was faithful as a servant in God's house, **Jesus is the Son over the house**. The chapter also introduces a sobering warning: **do not harden your hearts** as Israel did in the wilderness. The failure of the Israelites to enter God's rest because of unbelief is used as a lesson for all believers to remain faithful, obedient, and soft-hearted toward God's voice.

###### I. Jesus Is Greater Than Moses (Hebrews 3:1–6)

**Overview:** Jesus is not only greater than angels but also greater than Moses, the key figure of the Old Covenant.

###### A. Consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest

1. "Holy brothers and sisters" are called to consider Jesus (v.1)
2. Jesus is the Apostle (sent one) and High Priest of our confession
3. This dual title shows His mission and mediating role

###### B. Comparison Between Jesus and Moses

1. Both were faithful in their calling (v.2)
2. Moses was faithful as a servant in God's house
3. Jesus is faithful as a Son over God's house (v.5-6)

###### C. Christ Is Worthy of Greater Glory

1. The builder of a house has more honor than the house itself (v.3)
2. Moses served in the house; Jesus is over the house
3. We are God's house—if we hold fast to our confidence and hope (v.6)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### II. A Warning from Israel's History (Hebrews 3:7–11)

**Overview:** The author quotes Psalm 95 to remind believers of the Israelites' rebellion and the consequences of hardening their hearts.

##### A. The Holy Spirit Speaks Through Scripture

1. The writer attributes Psalm 95 to the Holy Spirit (v.7)
2. The call is for present action: "Today, if you hear His voice..."

##### B. Do Not Harden Your Hearts

1. Like Israel did during the rebellion in the wilderness (v.8)
2. Despite seeing God's works, they tested Him for forty years (v.9)

##### C. God's Judgment on the Rebellious

1. God was angry with that generation (v.10)
2. They went astray in their hearts and did not know His ways
3. God swore they would not enter His rest (v.11)

#### III. Exhortation to Remain Faithful (Hebrews 3:12–15)

**Overview:** Believers are urged to watch out for unbelief, encourage one another daily, and hold on to their faith with perseverance.

##### A. Beware of an Evil Heart of Unbelief

1. Unbelief causes people to fall away from the living God (v.12)
2. It is an intentional and spiritual departure

##### B. Encourage One Another Daily

1. Fellowship and accountability help prevent hardening of the heart (v.13)
2. Sin is deceitful and can gradually harden the heart

##### C. Hold Firm to the End

1. We are partners with Christ **if** we hold firmly to the end (v.14)
2. Reiterates the call: "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts" (v.15)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### IV. The Tragedy of Unbelief (Hebrews 3:16–19)

**Overview:** The chapter concludes by reflecting on Israel's failure in the wilderness, emphasizing that unbelief, not mere disobedience, was the root of their downfall.

##### A. Who Rebelled After Hearing?

1. All those led out of Egypt by Moses (v.16)
2. They saw God's miracles but still disobeyed

##### B. Who Provoked God's Anger?

1. Those who sinned and whose bodies fell in the wilderness (v.17)

##### C. Who Failed to Enter Rest?

1. Those who did not believe (v.18–19)
2. Unbelief kept them from entering God's rest—**not lack of access, but lack of faith**

#### Key Takeaways:

- Jesus is superior to Moses and worthy of our full trust and obedience.
- Believers must guard against the slow drift of unbelief and hardness of heart.
- Faith is not a one-time act but a lifelong walk that requires encouragement, vigilance, and endurance.

#### Memory Verse:

*"But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are His house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory."*

— Hebrews 3:6 (NIV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON FIVE

##### Chapter 4: The Promise of Rest

##### Overview of Chapter Four

Hebrews Chapter Four continues the theme of entering God's rest, emphasizing that this rest is still available to believers today. The writer urges diligence in faith to avoid missing it, contrasting disobedience with the promise of spiritual rest. The chapter also reveals the **power of God's Word** and introduces Jesus as our **Great High Priest**, who understands our weaknesses and invites us to draw near to God's throne with confidence.

##### I. The Promise of Entering God's Rest Remains (Hebrews 4:1–5)

**Overview:** The rest that God promised Israel is still available. The key to entering it is faith, not works.

##### A. The Warning Not to Miss the Promise

1. "Let us fear lest any... seem to have come short of it" (v.1)
2. The promise still stands for us today

##### B. The Gospel Was Preached to Them and to Us

1. The message was preached to the Israelites in the wilderness (v.2)
2. But it did not profit them because it was not united by faith
3. Only those who believe enter God's rest (v.3)

##### C. God's Rest Established at Creation

1. God rested on the seventh day after creation (v.4)
2. His rest has always been available for His people

##### II. A Rest for the People of God (Hebrews 4:6–10)

**Overview:** The "rest" spoken of is more than the Promised Land—it is a spiritual rest that remains for God's people today.

##### A. Past Generations Missed It Through Disobedience

1. Though the promise was given, many did not enter (v.6)
2. David later speaks of "Today," showing the rest still remains (v.7)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### **B. Joshua Did Not Give the Final Rest**

1. If Joshua had fulfilled it, God would not speak of another day (v.8)

#### **C. A Sabbath-Rest Remains for God's People**

1. This rest is a spiritual rest—a ceasing from our works (v.9)
2. Just as God rested from His, we enter rest by ceasing from striving (v.10)

#### **III. Be Diligent to Enter That Rest (Hebrews 4:11–13)**

**Overview:** Because the promise remains, we must earnestly strive to enter it. The power of God's Word exposes our true condition and keeps us from unbelief.

##### **A. Labor to Enter God's Rest**

1. Avoid the example of disobedience shown by Israel (v.11)
2. Faithful diligence is required—not passive belief

##### **B. The Word of God Is Living and Active**

1. Sharper than any two-edged sword (v.12)
2. Pierces to the division of soul and spirit, joints and marrow
3. Judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart

##### **C. Nothing Is Hidden from God**

1. All creation is exposed before God's eyes (v.13)
2. We must give an account to Him

#### **IV. Jesus, Our Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14–16)**

**Overview:** The chapter ends by introducing Jesus as our sympathetic High Priest, who enables us to approach God boldly and confidently.

##### **A. Hold Fast to Our Confession**

1. Jesus has passed through the heavens (v.14)
2. He is the Son of God and our Great High Priest
3. We must hold firmly to what we profess

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### B. Jesus Understands Our Weaknesses

1. He was tempted in every way, just as we are (v.15)
2. Yet He was without sin
3. He sympathizes with our struggles

#### C. Draw Near to God's Throne

1. We are invited to come boldly to the throne of grace (v.16)
2. We will find mercy and grace to help in time of need
3. Prayer and relationship with God are made possible through Jesus

#### Key Takeaways:

- God's rest is still available—enter by faith, not by works
- The Word of God keeps us aligned with truth and exposes our hearts
- Jesus is our High Priest—He understands, sympathizes, and intercedes
- Because of Him, we can approach God's throne boldly and receive grace

#### Memory Verse:

*"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."*

— Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON SIX

##### Chapter 5: The Priesthood of Christ

###### Overview of Chapter Five

Hebrews Chapter Five focuses on the qualifications of a high priest and shows how Jesus perfectly fulfills and surpasses these qualifications. The writer introduces the priestly order of Melchizedek to explain Jesus' eternal priesthood. The chapter closes with a strong rebuke of the readers' spiritual immaturity and a call to grow in understanding and discernment.

###### I. Qualifications of the High Priest (Hebrews 5:1–4)

**Overview:** The high priest is appointed to represent the people before God, offering sacrifices and dealing gently with the ignorant and wayward. He must be chosen by God, not self-appointed.

###### A. Appointed to Represent People Before God

1. Offers both gifts and sacrifices for sins (v.1)
2. Mediates between sinful humanity and a holy God

###### B. Deals Gently with the Ignorant and Wayward

1. Because he himself is subject to weakness (v.2)
2. His human nature allows him to empathize

###### C. Offers Sacrifices for Himself and Others

1. Because of his own sin, he must offer sacrifices for himself (v.3)
2. His role is as much for his own need as for the people's

###### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### D. Must Be Called by God

1. No one takes this honor upon himself (v.4)
2. Aaron was called by God—so must every high priest be

#### II. Jesus as the Divine and Eternal High Priest (Hebrews 5:5–10)

**Overview:** Jesus did not glorify Himself but was appointed by God as High Priest in the order of Melchizedek. He learned obedience through suffering and became the source of eternal salvation.

##### A. Jesus Did Not Exalt Himself

1. He was appointed by God: “You are My Son...” (v.5)
2. Fulfills Psalm 2 and Psalm 110

##### B. A Priest Forever in the Order of Melchizedek

1. A superior, eternal priesthood (v.6)
2. Unlike the Levitical priesthood, it is everlasting

##### C. Jesus Learned Obedience Through Suffering

1. He prayed with loud cries and tears (v.7)
2. Though He was God’s Son, He learned obedience through what He suffered (v.8)

##### D. Made Perfect, He Became the Source of Salvation

1. “Perfected” in the sense of being fully equipped as Savior (v.9)
2. He is the eternal source of salvation to all who obey Him

##### E. Declared a Priest by God

1. Again affirmed as priest in the order of Melchizedek (v.10)

#### III. A Rebuke for Spiritual Immaturity (Hebrews 5:11–14)

**Overview:** The writer expresses frustration that the readers have become dull in understanding. Though they should be teachers by now, they still need basic instruction. The call is to grow and mature in the Word.

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### A. The Audience Is Spiritually Dull

1. “We have much to say... but it is hard to explain” (v.11)
2. The readers have become sluggish in hearing

#### B. They Should Be Teachers by Now

1. Instead, they need someone to teach them basic truths again (v.12)
2. They are still on spiritual “milk,” not “solid food”

#### C. Immaturity Limits Discernment

1. Milk is for infants—those unskilled in the word of righteousness (v.13)
2. Solid food is for the mature—those who have trained their senses to discern good and evil (v.14)

#### Key Takeaways:

- High priests must be appointed by God and be able to sympathize with human weakness
- Jesus, though divine, was appointed by God and perfected through suffering
- His priesthood is eternal—after the order of Melchizedek
- Believers are called to grow in spiritual understanding and discernment, not remain in immaturity

#### Memory Verse:

*“Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”*  
— Hebrews 5:8 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON SEVEN

##### Chapter 6: A Call to Maturity

#### Overview of Chapter Six

Hebrews Chapter Six contains one of the most sobering warnings in the New Testament about the danger of falling away from the faith. It urges believers to press on to spiritual maturity, reminds them of the severe consequences of apostasy, and reassures them of God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises. The chapter concludes with a powerful reminder of the believer's hope anchored in the unchanging nature of God and the priesthood of Christ.

#### I. Pressing On to Spiritual Maturity (Hebrews 6:1–3)

**Overview:** The author exhorts believers to move beyond foundational teachings and grow into spiritual maturity. These elementary teachings are essential, but maturity requires building upon them.

##### A. Leave the Elementary Teachings Behind

1. "Let us go on to perfection (maturity)" (v.1)
2. Not laying again the foundation, but building upon it

##### B. Review of Foundational Doctrines

1. Repentance from dead works
2. Faith toward God
3. Doctrine of baptisms
4. Laying on of hands
5. Resurrection of the dead
6. Eternal judgment

##### C. Growth Depends on God's Enabling

1. "And this we will do if God permits" (v.3)
2. Spiritual maturity is a work of grace and cooperation

#### NOTES

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### II. A Serious Warning Against Apostasy (Hebrews 6:4–8)

**Overview:** These verses give a stern warning about the impossibility of restoring those who have fully experienced the faith and then deliberately reject it. The writer uses a metaphor of land and its fruit to explain the difference between those who are fruitful and those who are cursed.

##### A. Description of Those Who Fall Away

1. Once enlightened
2. Tasted the heavenly gift
3. Partakers of the Holy Spirit
4. Tasted the good word of God
5. Experienced the powers of the age to come

##### B. The Danger of Apostasy

1. If such people fall away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance (v.6)
2. They crucify the Son of God afresh and put Him to open shame

##### C. Illustration of Fruitfulness vs. Worthlessness

1. Land that drinks rain and produces useful herbs is blessed (v.7)
2. But if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed (v.8)

#### III. Encouragement and Assurance of Hope (Hebrews 6:9–12)

**Overview:** After the strong warning, the author reassures the readers of better things—things that accompany salvation. He encourages them to continue serving faithfully and not become sluggish in their hope.

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### A. Confident of Better Things

1. Though harsh words were spoken, the author believes in their salvation (v.9)
2. Their lives are showing fruit consistent with salvation

#### B. God Is Not Unjust

1. He will not forget their work and labor of love (v.10)
2. They have ministered to the saints and continue to do so

#### C. A Call to Diligence and Imitation

1. Show the same diligence until the end (v.11)
2. Do not become sluggish
3. Imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises (v.12)

#### IV. The Certainty of God's Promise (Hebrews 6:13–20)

**Overview:** The chapter concludes with a powerful reminder that God's promises are sure and unchanging. God's oath to Abraham illustrates the certainty of His word, and the believer's hope is described as an anchor, firmly secured in Christ, our High Priest.

#### A. God's Promise to Abraham

1. God swore by Himself because He could swear by no greater (v.13)
2. "Surely blessing I will bless you..." (v.14)
3. Abraham patiently endured and obtained the promise (v.15)

#### B. The Unchangeable Nature of God's Purpose

1. Oaths are for confirmation and to end disputes (v.16)
2. God confirmed His promise with an oath to show the heirs its unchangeable nature (v.17)

#### C. Two Immutable Things

1. God's promise and God's oath—it is impossible for God to lie (v.18)
2. These give strong encouragement to those who have fled to Him for refuge



# **Equipping the Saints**

Course by Course

## **BOOK OF HEBREWS**

### **LESSON EIGHT**

### **MIDTERM EXAM**

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON NINE

##### Chapter 7: The Priestly Order of Melchizedek

###### Overview of Chapter Seven

Hebrews Chapter Seven focuses on the mysterious figure of Melchizedek and how his priesthood is a type or foreshadowing of the eternal priesthood of Jesus Christ. The writer compares the Levitical priesthood with the priesthood of Melchizedek to show that Jesus' priesthood is far superior—eternal, unchangeable, and based not on ancestry, but on divine appointment. This chapter is central to the author's argument that Jesus is our perfect High Priest forever.

###### I. The Greatness of Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:1–10)

**Overview:** The chapter begins by reviewing who Melchizedek is and how even Abraham, the father of the Jews, honored him with a tithe. This shows Melchizedek's greatness, which points to the superiority of the priesthood he represents.

###### A. Melchizedek's Identity and Roles

1. King of Salem (peace) and priest of the Most High God (v.1)
2. Met Abraham and blessed him after the victory over kings (v.1–2)
3. Name means “King of Righteousness” and “King of Peace” (v.2)

###### B. Melchizedek's Unique Characteristics

1. No recorded genealogy—no father, mother, or lineage (v.3)
2. No beginning or end of life; a type of the eternal Son of God (v.3)

###### C. Abraham's Tithes Prove Melchizedek's Superiority

1. Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils (v.4)
2. The Levites (Abraham's descendants) also received tithes, but through Abraham they paid tithes to Melchizedek (v.5–9)
3. Levi “paid tithes” while still in Abraham's body (v.10)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### II. The Need for a New Priesthood (Hebrews 7:11–19)

**Overview:** The Levitical priesthood could not bring perfection, so a new priesthood was necessary. Jesus' priesthood, after the order of Melchizedek, introduces a better hope.

##### A. The Law Could Not Perfect the People

1. If perfection came through the Levitical priesthood, there would be no need for another (v.11)
2. A change in priesthood requires a change in the law (v.12)

##### B. Jesus Did Not Come from the Tribe of Levi

1. He arose from the tribe of Judah, about which Moses said nothing regarding priesthood (v.13–14)

##### C. A New Priest Like Melchizedek

1. Not appointed by legal requirement or ancestry (v.15–16)
2. Appointed by the power of an indestructible life (v.16)

##### D. The Superiority of the New Covenant

1. The former commandment was weak and unprofitable (v.18)
2. The new hope brings us near to God (v.19)

#### III. God's Oath Establishes a Better Priest (Hebrews 7:20–22)

**Overview:** Unlike the Levitical priests, Jesus was made a priest with an oath from God. This divine oath establishes Jesus as the guarantee of a better covenant.

##### A. The Levitical Priests Were Not Appointed by an Oath

1. They became priests without an oath (v.20–21a)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### **B. Jesus Was Appointed with an Oath**

1. “The Lord has sworn and will not relent...” (Psalm 110:4 quoted in v.21)
2. God Himself confirmed the appointment of Jesus

#### **C. Jesus Is the Guarantee of a Better Covenant**

1. His priesthood brings a superior promise and unbreakable covenant (v.22)

#### **IV. The Superiority of Christ’s Eternal Priesthood (Hebrews 7:23–28)**

**Overview:** The chapter concludes by emphasizing the eternal and unchangeable nature of Jesus’ priesthood. He alone meets all our needs and offers the perfect sacrifice—Himself.

#### **A. The Levitical Priests Were Many and Mortal**

1. Death prevented them from continuing in office (v.23)

#### **B. Jesus’ Priesthood Is Unchangeable and Eternal**

1. He continues forever (v.24)
2. He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him (v.25)

#### **C. Jesus Meets Our Every Need**

1. He is holy, blameless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and exalted above the heavens (v.26)
2. Unlike other priests, He does not need to offer daily sacrifices (v.27)
3. He offered Himself once for all

#### **NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### D. The Final Contrast

1. The law appoints weak men as priests (v.28)
2. God's oath appoints the Son, who has been perfected forever (v.28)

#### Key Takeaways:

- Melchizedek serves as a type of Christ—righteous, peaceful, and eternal
- The Levitical priesthood was temporary and could not bring perfection
- Jesus' priesthood is permanent, powerful, and based on God's oath
- Christ is the perfect High Priest who intercedes for us forever

#### Memory Verse:

*"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."*

— Hebrews 7:25 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON TEN

##### Chapter 8: The New Covenant

###### Overview of Chapter Eight

Hebrews Chapter Eight emphasizes the supremacy of Jesus' high priestly ministry under a **better covenant**, established on **better promises**. The author highlights that Jesus ministers in the true heavenly tabernacle, not the earthly copy. The chapter also quotes Jeremiah 31 to contrast the **Old Covenant**, which was temporary and external, with the **New Covenant**, which is internal, spiritual, and eternal. This chapter marks a turning point in the epistle, moving from the person of Jesus to the **better covenant He mediates**.

###### I. The Main Point: We Have a Superior High Priest (Hebrews 8:1–2)

**Overview:** The author summarizes the central point—Jesus is our exalted High Priest who ministers in the true tabernacle in heaven.

###### A. Jesus Is Our High Priest at God's Right Hand

1. He is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens (v.1)
2. His position shows honor, authority, and completion of His redemptive work

###### B. Jesus Ministers in the Heavenly Sanctuary

1. A minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle (v.2)
2. This tabernacle was set up by the Lord, not by man

###### II. Earthly Priests Serve in a Copy and Shadow (Hebrews 8:3–5)

**Overview:** The earthly priests serve in a man-made tabernacle that merely reflects the heavenly reality. Jesus' priesthood is therefore more excellent.

###### A. Every High Priest Offers Gifts and Sacrifices

1. It is necessary for a priest to have something to offer (v.3)
2. Jesus' offering is superior and eternal

###### B. Jesus Would Not Be a Priest on Earth

1. The earthly tabernacle already has priests from the tribe of Levi (v.4)
2. Jesus' priesthood is heavenly, not earthly

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### C. The Earthly Tabernacle Was a Copy of the Heavenly One

1. Moses was instructed to follow the divine pattern (v.5)
2. The earthly sanctuary was a shadow of the true heavenly tabernacle

#### III. Jesus Is the Mediator of a Better Covenant (Hebrews 8:6–7)

**Overview:** Jesus' ministry is more excellent because He mediates a better covenant, founded on better promises—unlike the Old Covenant, which proved faulty.

##### A. Jesus Has a More Excellent Ministry

1. He is the mediator of the New Covenant (v.6)
2. His covenant surpasses the old one in every way

##### B. The Old Covenant Was Not Faultless

1. If the first covenant had been faultless, there would be no need for a second (v.7)
2. Its weakness was exposed by the people's inability to keep it

#### IV. God Promises a New Covenant (Hebrews 8:8–12)

**Overview:** The writer quotes Jeremiah 31:31–34 to show that God foretold a New Covenant that would be internal, transformational, and personal.

##### A. The Old Covenant Was Replaced by Divine Promise

1. God found fault with the people, not the law (v.8)
2. The promise of a new covenant was made with Israel and Judah (v.8)

##### B. Differences Between the Old and New Covenants

1. The Old Covenant: written on stone, external commands (v.9)
2. The New Covenant: written on hearts and minds (v.10)
  - God will be their God
  - They shall be His people

##### C. Spiritual Transformation in the New Covenant

1. All will know the Lord—from the least to the greatest (v.11)
2. God will forgive iniquity and remember sin no more (v.12)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### V. The Old Covenant Is Now Obsolete (Hebrews 8:13)

**Overview:** The chapter closes with the declaration that the Old Covenant is obsolete and fading away, making room for the New.

##### A. Declaring the Covenant “New” Makes the First One Obsolete

1. A change in covenants signals a change in relationship with God (v.13)

##### B. What Is Obsolete Is Fading Away

1. The Old Covenant was temporary and destined to vanish (v.13)
2. The New Covenant is eternal and firmly established in Christ

#### Key Takeaways:

- Jesus is our exalted High Priest, ministering in the heavenly tabernacle
- The New Covenant is superior to the Old because it transforms the heart
- God's eternal promises include forgiveness, relationship, and personal knowledge of Him
- The Old Covenant served its purpose but has now been replaced by something far better in Christ

#### Memory Verse:

*“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord:*

*I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts;  
and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”*

— Hebrews 8:10 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

## LESSON ELEVEN

### Chapter 9: The Earthly and Heavenly Sanctuaries

#### Overview of Chapter Nine

Hebrews Chapter Nine contrasts the **earthly tabernacle** and its **temporary rituals** with the **heavenly sanctuary** and the **once-for-all atoning work of Christ**. The chapter emphasizes that the old system, with its repetitive sacrifices and external cleansing, could never perfect the conscience. In contrast, Jesus entered the **true Most Holy Place in heaven** with **His own blood**, securing **eternal redemption**. The chapter culminates with the powerful truth that **Christ was offered once** to bear the sins of many and will appear again—not to deal with sin—but to bring salvation to those waiting for Him.

#### I. The Earthly Tabernacle and Its Regulations (Hebrews 9:1–5)

**Overview:** The chapter begins with a description of the old covenant sanctuary and its furnishings, which symbolized the limitations of the former system.

##### A. The First Covenant Had Earthly Ordinances

1. It included divine regulations for worship (v.1)
2. It centered around an earthly, man-made sanctuary

##### B. Description of the Tabernacle and Its Parts

1. The outer room – the Holy Place (v.2)
  - Lampstand
  - Table
  - Showbread
2. The inner room – the Most Holy Place (v.3–5)
  - Golden censer
  - Ark of the Covenant
  - Items inside: manna, Aaron's rod, tablets of the covenant
  - Mercy seat and overshadowing cherubim
3. These were symbols, not the reality itself

#### II. Limitations of the Old Covenant Rituals (Hebrews 9:6–10)

**Overview:** The daily and yearly rituals performed by priests could never cleanse the conscience or bring full access to God. They were temporary and symbolic.

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### A. Priestly Duties in the Earthly Tabernacle

1. Daily ministry in the Holy Place by priests (v.6)
2. Only the high priest entered the Most Holy Place, once a year (v.7)
  - Never without blood
  - Offered for his sins and the people's

#### B. Symbolism of Restricted Access

1. The way to the true Holy of Holies was not yet revealed (v.8)
2. The tabernacle symbolized the limits of the old system

#### C. Inability to Perfect the Conscience

1. Gifts and sacrifices were external, not internal (v.9)
2. They related to food, drink, and ceremonial washings (v.10)
3. Imposed until the time of reformation (new order)

### III. Christ's Superior Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary (Hebrews 9:11–14)

**Overview:** Jesus, the perfect High Priest, entered the heavenly tabernacle and obtained eternal redemption through His own blood, purifying the conscience.

#### A. Christ Appeared as the High Priest of Good Things

1. He came with better promises and realities (v.11)
2. He entered a greater, heavenly tabernacle not made by hands

#### B. He Offered His Own Blood, Not Animal Blood

1. Not by blood of goats and calves (v.12)
2. By His own blood, He entered once for all
3. Secured eternal redemption

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### C. Power of Christ's Blood to Cleanse the Conscience

1. Animal blood only purified outwardly (v.13)
2. Christ's blood cleanses the inner man (v.14)
  - Purges the conscience from dead works
  - Enables true service to the living God

#### IV. Christ the Mediator of the New Covenant (Hebrews 9:15–22)

**Overview:** Christ's death initiated the New Covenant, fulfilling what the first covenant could not. His blood inaugurates the covenant and brings forgiveness.

##### A. Jesus Is the Mediator of the New Covenant

1. He died to redeem those under the first covenant (v.15)
2. Called ones receive the eternal inheritance

##### B. A Testament Requires the Death of the Testator

1. A will only takes effect after death (v.16–17)
2. Christ's death activates the promises of the covenant

##### C. The First Covenant Was Also Inaugurated with Blood

1. Moses sprinkled the people and the tabernacle with blood (v.18–21)
2. "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission" (v.22)

#### V. Christ's Once-for-All Sacrifice in Heaven (Hebrews 9:23–28)

**Overview:** Jesus entered the true heavenly sanctuary with His own blood. Unlike the repeated sacrifices of the old covenant, His was a once-for-all offering that removes sin completely and will be consummated at His second coming.

##### A. The Heavenly Things Required Better Sacrifices

1. Earthly copies were purified by animal blood (v.23)
2. The heavenly reality purified by Christ's better sacrifice

##### B. Jesus Entered Heaven Itself to Appear Before God for Us

1. Not into earthly holy places (v.24)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

2. He appears in heaven now on our behalf

#### C. Christ's Sacrifice Was Once for All

1. Not repeatedly offered, like earthly priests (v.25)
2. He appeared once at the end of the ages (v.26)
  - To put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself

#### D. Two Appointments: Death and Judgment

1. Everyone dies once and then faces judgment (v.27)
2. Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many (v.28)
  - He will appear a second time for salvation
  - Not to deal with sin, but to bring full redemption to those who eagerly await Him

#### Key Takeaways:

- The old tabernacle and its rituals were symbolic and temporary
- Christ's sacrifice is final, effective, and eternal
- His blood cleanses not only the body but the conscience
- Jesus is the mediator of a New Covenant established through His death
- He will return to complete the salvation of His people

#### Memory Verse:

*"So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation."*

— Hebrews 9:28 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON TWELVE

##### Chapter 10: Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

###### Overview of Chapter Ten

Hebrews 10 presents the culmination of the argument that **Jesus' once-for-all sacrifice is superior to the repeated animal sacrifices** of the Old Covenant. It emphasizes that **the Law was only a shadow** of the good things to come and could never fully cleanse or perfect the worshiper. The chapter explains how **Christ fulfilled God's will**, offering Himself to sanctify us eternally. It calls believers to live confidently and faithfully in response to Christ's finished work, with a stern warning about the consequences of rejecting that grace.

###### I. The Law Could Not Perfect the Worshiper (Hebrews 10:1–4)

**Overview:** The Law was only a shadow, not the substance. Its sacrifices were repeated yearly but could never truly remove sin or purify the conscience.

###### A. The Law as a Shadow of Good Things to Come

1. It was not the very image of the reality (v.1)
2. Repetitive sacrifices could never make worshipers perfect

###### B. The Ongoing Reminder of Sins

1. If sacrifices worked, they would have ceased (v.2)
2. Instead, they reminded people of sin each year (v.3)

###### C. The Blood of Animals Cannot Remove Sin

1. Animal sacrifices were insufficient (v.4)
2. They only temporarily covered, not cleansed sin

###### II. Christ's Once-for-All Sacrifice (Hebrews 10:5–18)

**Overview:** Christ came to fulfill God's will by offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice, replacing the old system with a better covenant that brings total forgiveness.

###### A. Christ Came to Do God's Will

1. Quoting Psalm 40 – "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire" (v.5–7)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

2. A body was prepared for Him to offer Himself

#### **B. He Abolished the Old to Establish the New**

1. He took away the first covenant (v.8–9)
2. Through His obedience, we are sanctified (v.10)

#### **C. His One Sacrifice Is Final and Sufficient**

1. Priests stood daily offering the same sacrifices (v.11)
2. Christ sat down after offering one sacrifice for sins forever (v.12–13)
3. He perfected forever those being sanctified (v.14)

#### **D. The Holy Spirit Confirms the New Covenant**

1. Quoting Jeremiah – God's law written on hearts (v.15–16)
2. God remembers sins no more (v.17)
3. Where there is forgiveness, no more offering is needed (v.18)

### **III. Exhortation to Live in Confidence and Faithfulness (Hebrews 10:19–25)**

**Overview:** Because of Christ's perfect work, believers are urged to draw near to God, hold fast their confession, and encourage one another in love and good works.

#### **A. Confidence to Enter the Holiest Place**

1. By the blood of Jesus (v.19)
2. A new and living way through the veil—His flesh (v.20)
3. We have a great High Priest over God's house (v.21)

#### **NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### B. Call to Draw Near with a True Heart

1. In full assurance of faith (v.22)
2. Hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience
3. Bodies washed with pure water

#### C. Hold Fast and Encourage One Another

1. Hold fast the confession of hope without wavering (v.23)
2. Stir up one another to love and good works (v.24)
3. Do not forsake assembling together (v.25)
  - Encourage one another more as the Day approaches

#### IV. Warning Against Willful Sin and Apostasy (Hebrews 10:26–31)

**Overview:** A serious warning against rejecting Christ's sacrifice. Willful, continued sin after knowing the truth brings fearful judgment, not mercy.

##### A. No Sacrifice Remains for Willful Sin

1. If we sin deliberately after knowing the truth (v.26)
2. There remains only a fearful expectation of judgment (v.27)

##### B. Greater Punishment for Rejecting Christ

1. Those who despised Moses' law died without mercy (v.28)
2. How much worse for those who:
  - Trample the Son of God (v.29)
  - Treat His blood as unholy
  - Insult the Spirit of grace

##### C. Vengeance Belongs to the Lord

1. God will judge His people (v.30)
2. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (v.31)

#### V. Call to Perseverance and Endurance (Hebrews 10:32–39)

**Overview:** The chapter closes with encouragement to remember past endurance, remain confident, and live by faith—not by shrinking back.

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### A. Remember Your Former Endurance

1. After being enlightened, they endured suffering (v.32–33)
2. They had compassion on prisoners and accepted loss joyfully (v.34)

#### B. Don't Throw Away Your Confidence

1. It has great reward (v.35)
2. You need endurance to receive the promise (v.36)

#### C. The Righteous Shall Live by Faith

1. Christ will come soon and not delay (v.37)
2. “The just shall live by faith” (v.38)
3. God has no pleasure in those who shrink back
4. “But we are not of those who draw back to perdition...” (v.39)
  - “But of those who believe to the saving of the soul”

#### Key Takeaways:

- Christ's one sacrifice is all-sufficient for forgiveness and eternal redemption
- The Old Covenant was a shadow; the New Covenant brings true access to God
- Believers must respond with faith, confidence, perseverance, and mutual encouragement
- Rejection of Christ's sacrifice leads to terrifying judgment
- True faith endures and does not draw back

#### Memory Verse:

*“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”*

— Hebrews 10:23 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON THIRTEEN

##### Chapter 11: The Hall of Faith

#### Overview of Chapter Eleven

Hebrews 11 is famously known as the “Faith Chapter” or the “Hall of Faith.” It provides a comprehensive biblical definition of faith and celebrates the exemplary faith of Old Testament believers. This chapter illustrates how faith enabled these individuals to please God and endure trials, demonstrating that faith is essential for living a victorious Christian life. It encourages believers to trust God’s promises even when they are not yet fulfilled.

#### I. The Definition and Importance of Faith (Hebrews 11:1–3)

**Overview:** The chapter begins with a clear definition of faith and emphasizes its foundational role in understanding God’s creation and His promises.

##### A. What Faith Is

1. The assurance of things hoped for (v.1a)
2. The conviction of things not seen (v.1b)

##### B. Faith’s Role in Pleasing God

1. Without faith, it is impossible to please God (v.6a) — see v.6 in later section
2. Faith is the evidence that God’s promises are real

##### C. Faith in Creation

1. By faith, we understand the universe was created by God’s command (v.3)
2. The visible came from the invisible

#### II. The Exemplary Faith of the Ancients (Hebrews 11:4–40)

**Overview:** This section profiles numerous Old Testament heroes whose faith shaped history and demonstrated trust in God’s promises despite trials, suffering, and death.

##### A. Faith in Action: Examples from Genesis to Exodus

1. Abel’s faith offered acceptable sacrifice (v.4)
2. Enoch’s faith pleased God and he was taken to heaven (v.5–6)
3. Noah’s faith built the ark, saving his household (v.7)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

4. Abraham's faith obeyed God's call to a new land (v.8–10)
5. Sarah's faith trusted God's promise of a child (v.11–12)
6. Abraham's faith offered Isaac in obedience (v.17–19)

#### **B. Faith in the Patriarchs and Judges**

1. Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau by faith (v.20)
2. Jacob blessed his sons (v.21)
3. Joseph gave instructions about his bones (v.22)
4. Moses' parents hid him by faith (v.23)
5. Moses chose to identify with Israel by faith (v.24–26)
6. Moses led the Exodus by faith (v.27–29)
7. Israelites crossed the Red Sea by faith (v.29)
8. Walls of Jericho fell by faith (v.30)
9. Rahab showed faith by hiding spies (v.31)

#### **C. Faith in Endurance Through Trials and Suffering**

1. Many faced torture, mocking, chains, and death for their faith (v.32–38)
2. Some were stoned, sawed, tempted, or killed with the sword (v.37)
3. They endured suffering, accepting it as better than worldly pleasures (v.34–38)

#### **D. Faith Looking Beyond Earthly Life**

1. These saints confessed they were strangers and pilgrims on earth (v.13–16)
2. They sought a heavenly homeland (v.16)
3. God is not ashamed to be called their God (v.16)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### III. The Promise of God and the Reward of Faith (Hebrews 11:39–40)

**Overview:** The chapter closes by affirming that these faithful did not receive the fullness of God's promises in their lifetime but were part of a greater plan that includes believers today.

##### A. The Faithful Did Not Receive All Promises in Their Lifetime

1. They were commended for their faith (v.39)
2. Their faith speaks to us as an example

##### B. God Has Provided a Better Resurrection and Completion

1. God prepared something better for us (v.40)
2. Without us, they would not be made perfect
3. Together, we are part of God's redemptive plan

#### Key Takeaways:

- Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see
- Faith is essential to please God and to live according to His will
- Biblical heroes serve as models of faith through obedience, endurance, and hope
- Faith looks beyond current circumstances to God's eternal promises
- The journey of faith is ongoing, connecting past saints with present believers

#### Memory Verse:

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."*  
— Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON FOURTEEN

##### Chapter 12: Encouragement to Persevere

###### Overview of Chapter Twelve

Hebrews 12 encourages believers to persevere in faith by focusing on Jesus as the ultimate example of endurance and faithfulness. The chapter contrasts God's loving discipline with the discipline of the world and calls Christians to live in peace and holiness. It exhorts believers to strengthen their resolve in the race of faith, warns against rejecting God's grace, and points to the heavenly city as their eternal home.

###### I. Exhortation to Endure and Run the Race of Faith (Hebrews 12:1–3)

**Overview:** The chapter opens by urging believers to cast off every hindrance and keep their eyes fixed on Jesus, who exemplifies perfect endurance through suffering.

###### A. The Call to Persevere

1. Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses (v.1a)
2. Lay aside every weight and sin that entangles (v.1b)
3. Run with endurance the race set before us (v.1c)

###### B. Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

1. Jesus is the author and perfecter of faith (v.2a)
2. He endured the cross, despising its shame (v.2b)
3. He is now seated at the right hand of God (v.2c)

###### C. Consider Jesus' Endurance to Avoid Discouragement

1. He endured hostility from sinners (v.3a)
2. Do not grow weary or lose heart (v.3b)

###### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### II. The Purpose and Value of God's Discipline (Hebrews 12:4–11)

**Overview:** This section explains that God disciplines His children out of love to produce holiness and righteousness, contrasting divine discipline with worldly punishment.

##### A. Struggles of Believers and Discipline from God

1. Believers have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood (v.4)
2. God disciplines those He loves (v.5–6)
3. Discipline is a sign of legitimate sonship (v.7)

##### B. Endure Discipline as Training

1. God's discipline produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness (v.11a)
2. Though painful at the moment, it yields growth and maturity (v.11b)

#### III. Exhortations to Live in Peace and Holiness (Hebrews 12:12–17)

**Overview:** The author calls believers to strengthen themselves spiritually and maintain peace with others, warning against bitterness and moral failure.

##### A. Strengthen and Support One Another

1. Strengthen weak hands and feeble knees (v.12)
2. Make straight paths for your feet (v.13)
3. Pursue peace with everyone and holiness (v.14)

##### B. Avoid Bitterness and Immorality

1. Do not let any root of bitterness spring up (v.15a)
2. No immoral or godless person like Esau who sold his inheritance (v.15b–17)
3. Esau's example is a warning against short-term gratification over eternal blessing

#### IV. Contrast Between the Old and New Covenants (Hebrews 12:18–29)

**Overview:** The chapter concludes by contrasting the terrifying covenant at Mount Sinai with the gracious, unshakable kingdom believers now belong to, urging reverence and worship.

##### A. The Terrifying Covenant at Sinai

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

1. Earthquake, fire, darkness, storm, trumpet, and voice (v.18–21)
2. God’s people asked not to touch the mountain (v.18–20)
3. A fearful experience emphasizing God’s holiness (v.21)

#### B. The Gracious New Covenant and Kingdom

1. Approaching Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem (v.22)
2. The city of the living God with angels and the church of the firstborn (v.22–23)
3. Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant (v.24)

#### C. Call to Reverence and Worship

1. God is a consuming fire (v.29)
2. Worship God with reverence and awe (v.28)
3. Receive the unshakable kingdom with gratitude (v.28)

#### Key Takeaways:

- Perseverance requires focus on Jesus, who endured suffering for our sake
- God’s discipline is an expression of His love, meant to refine and mature us
- Christians must pursue peace, holiness, and guard against bitterness
- The new covenant offers access to an unshakable kingdom, calling for reverent worship

#### Memory Verse:

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”*

— Hebrews 12:1 (ESV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

#### LESSON FIFTEEN

##### Chapter 13: Final Exhortations and Benediction

###### Overview of Chapter 13

Hebrews 13 serves as a practical conclusion to the letter, offering final ethical instructions and encouragement for Christian living. It highlights key principles such as love, hospitality, contentment, respect for leaders, and enduring faith. The chapter also urges believers to continue in faithfulness, reminds them of Jesus' once-for-all sacrifice, and closes with benedictions and personal remarks.

###### I. Christian Conduct and Ethical Instructions (Hebrews 13:1–6)

**Overview:** The chapter begins by encouraging practical expressions of love, hospitality, faithfulness, and contentment in everyday life.

###### A. Continue Brotherly Love and Hospitality

1. Let brotherly love continue (v.1)
2. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers (v.2)
3. Some have entertained angels unknowingly (v.2)

###### B. Remember and Imitate Faithful Leaders

1. Remember those who led you spiritually (v.7a)
2. Consider the outcome of their way of life (v.7b)

###### C. Submit to Leaders and Live Peaceably

1. Obey your leaders and submit to them (v.17a)
2. Leaders watch over your souls (v.17b)

###### D. Avoid Love of Money and Practice Contentment

1. Keep your life free from the love of money (v.5a)
2. Be content with what you have (v.5b)
3. God promises never to leave or forsake (v.5c)
4. Therefore, confidently say, "The Lord is my helper" (v.6)

###### II. Exhortations Regarding Marriage, Honor, and Worship (Hebrews 13:7–16)

**Overview:** The writer provides guidance on personal holiness, marriage, honoring leaders, and offering sacrifices of praise.

###### A. Remember Your Spiritual Leaders and Their Faith (v.7)

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

1. Recall their faith and conduct (v.7)
2. Imitate their faithfulness (implied)

#### **B. Obey and Submit to Leaders (v.17)**

1. Leaders watch over your souls (v.17a)
2. Obey to have joy, not grief (v.17b)

#### **C. Maintain Marriage Purity (v.4)**

1. Marriage honored by all (v.4a)
2. Keep the marriage bed undefiled (v.4b)
3. God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers (v.4c)

#### **D. Practice Love and Hospitality (v.1–2 repeated for emphasis)**

#### **E. Offer Sacrifices of Praise and Do Good (v.15–16)**

1. Continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God (v.15)
2. Do not neglect doing good and sharing (v.16)

### **III. Jesus' Once-for-All Sacrifice and Our Approach to God (Hebrews 13:17–21)**

**Overview:** The writer reminds believers of Jesus' final, perfect sacrifice and encourages them to live in obedience empowered by God.

#### **A. Remember Jesus' Sacrifice (v.20–21)**

1. God of peace who brought Jesus back from the dead (v.20a)
2. Through the blood of the eternal covenant (v.20b)
3. Equip believers with everything good to do His will (v.21a)
4. Work in believers what is pleasing in His sight (v.21b)

#### **B. Live in Obedience and Good Works (v.21)**

1. Through Jesus Christ (v.21c)
2. To whom be glory forever (v.21d)

### **IV. Final Exhortations, Greetings, and Benediction (Hebrews 13:22–25)**

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course

### BOOK OF HEBREWS

**Overview:** The letter closes with a personal request for readers to bear with the author's word, final greetings, and a benediction of grace.

#### A. Appeal for Readers' Patience (v.22)

1. Author asks readers to bear with his word of exhortation (v.22)

#### B. Personal Greetings (v.23–24)

1. Mention of Timothy's release and hope to see readers soon (v.23)
2. Greetings from those of Italy (v.24)

#### C. Final Benediction (v.25)

1. Grace be with all the readers (v.25)

#### Key Takeaways:

- Persevere in love, hospitality, and contentment grounded in faith
- Honor and submit to spiritual leaders who guide your growth
- Maintain purity and offer praise and good works continually
- Remember Jesus' perfect sacrifice and live obediently empowered by God
- Receive the final blessings and encouragement to remain faithful

#### Memory Verse:

*"Let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."*

— Hebrews 13:15 (NIV)

#### NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Equipping the Saints

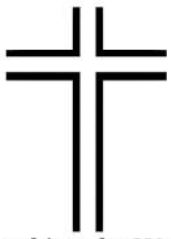
Course by Course

## BOOK OF HEBREWS

### LESSON SIXTEEN

### FINAL EXAM





Teaching the Word  
Bruce Edwards Ministries

**General Courses** - How to be Led by the Spirit, Understanding Bible Covenants, Bible Doctrines, Foundations of Faith, Divine Healing, World Religions, Kingdom Principles, Book of Romans, Acts of the Apostles, Book of Hebrews, New Creation Realities, Authority of Believer, and more

**Pastoral Courses** - Principles of Ministry, Pastoral Care, Homiletics, Hermeneutics, How to Lead Your Church, Be a Disciple Making Pastor, and more

**NextGen Course** - Introduction to Next Generation Ministries, Empowering the Next Generation, NextGen Ministry Opportunities Outside the Church, Understanding Youth Culture, Purpose Driven Youth Ministry

**Worship/media Courses** - Principles of Worship, Audio/Visual Basics, Video Production,

**Spirit-Led Business Courses** - Doing Business God's Way, Kingdom Economics, Biblical Purpose of Wealth, Faith Driven Entrepreneurship, Upgrade Business to the Supernatural

**World Missions Courses** - Introduction to World Evangelism, Intro to Being a Missionary, Resource Development, Global Church Planting

# Equipping the Saints

## Course by Course