

Hebrews Pt 01 - God Speaks

Why and to Whom was Hebrews Written

- Hebrews written to Jewish believers - had lost so much already - they still were facing **persecution**
- Thinking of turning back to Judaism, it was **familiar** - it was **safe** - still accepted under Roman law
- This means **turning away from Christ - letter calls them to fix their eyes on Jesus never turn back**

Heb 10:32-36 NLT **Think back** on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering. 33 Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things. 34 You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. **You knew there were better things** waiting for you that will last forever. 35 **So do not throw away this confident trust** in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! 36 **Patient endurance is what you need now**, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

- Think Back remained faithful (even though) - Suffering is part of following (You Knew sustained them)
- So Do Not Throw Away Confident Trust in the Lord → patient endurance is what you need now

HE BEGINS - GOD IS NOT SILENT -we would not know Him if not

Heb 1:1-2 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,

HIS REVELATION IS DIVIDED INTO TWO ERAS

Long Ago (a time), **to our fathers** (an audience) **by the prophets** (a means)

- **Many Times &** = "in many portions" - "many parts" or "in multiple segments - fragmented"...some are mentioned in Hebrews (prophets, angels, covenants, priests, sacrifices, laws, tabernacles, and shadows) **Many Ways** = "in many modes" - visions, dreams, prophesy, laws, covenants

In These Last Days (a time) **to us** (an audience) **by His Son** (Greek literally **In Son** - no article))

- **Last days** (not the end of world, but the culmination of His redemptive plan)
- (Greek literally **In Son** - no article) If the author had written "**by the Son**," it would suggest that Jesus was merely **another instrument or messenger** through whom God spoke.
- But he wrote "**in [a] Son**," meaning that **the revelation itself is embodied in the Son** — the Son *is* the message - God's final and complete self-disclosure.
- Prophets were messengers (thus says the Lord), Jesus is word made flesh (I say unto you)

There is nothing more to reveal...He speaks in Son and reveals (1) his person, (2) power, (3) & purpose

Heb 1:2(b)-3 whom he appointed the **heir** of all things, through whom also he **created the world**. (3) 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**. After making **purification for sins**, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

- "Radiance" - outshining of God's glory, and "exact imprint" - perfect representation of His being

All Arrows - Testimony of the Son - all past revelation points to Jesus Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Testimony of the Father - HEAR HIM Mar 9:7 ... "**This is my dearly loved Son. Listen to him.**" 8

Suddenly, when they looked around, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they saw only Jesus with them.

There is **no special revelation** - no new prophet or book, no hidden mystery to discover...so Hebrews tells us

- Heb 2:1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.
- Heb 12:25 - "See that you do not refuse Him who is speaking."

Don't drift, Don't seek a new revelation, Don't return to what's easier if it gets difficult...press deeper into Jesus