

One Bible, One Story

New Testament Survey

Moving Past Paul: Hebrews and James as Jewish Homilies

Last Week's Main Points

- Marks of a true believer- (1) Right belief and confession about Jesus, (2) Obedience resulting in love, and (3) The internal witness of the Holy Spirit.
- The exclusivity of Jesus and our response to religious pluralism
- The antichrist as an always present threat

I. Introduction - Parting of the ways

II. Shared Concepts/Features of Hebrews and James

A. Jewish identity

B. The nature of faith

C. Patient endurance

D. Homiletical form

III. Outlines

James	
<p>James 1:22 "But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sin, Temptation, and Human Nature• Enduring Trials• Faith and Works• Prayer, Confession, Healing• Wealth and Poverty• Taming the Tongue• Use of OT Wisdom, proverbs, examples• Teaching of Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I. Opening (1:1)¹II. Body (1:2-5:11)<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Trials and Christian maturity (1:2-18)B. True Christianity seen in works (1:19-2:26)C. Dissensions within the community (3:1-4:12)D. Implications of a Christian worldview (4:13-5:11)III. Closing exhortations (5:12-20)

¹ D. A. Carson and Douglas J. Moo, *An Introduction to the New Testament* (2nd ed.; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005), 620–621.

Hebrews	
<p>Hebrews 4:14 “Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christology, Son of God • Incarnation, Exaltation • Christ as Priest, Melchizedek, Worship • Warning against Apostasy • Encouragement • Biblical Examples and Citations • Shadow to Substance • Eschatology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. The revelation of God through the Son (1:1-2:18) ² <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warning 2:1-4 hear (believe)³ II. The Son as high priest (3:1-5:10) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Warning 3:7-14 Trust and Obey III. The high priestly office of the Son (5:11-10:39) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Warning 5:11-6:12 Be lifelong learners 4. Warning 10:19-39 Trust and Obey IV. The need for faith and endurance (11:1-12:13) V. The Christian life in a hostile world (12:14-13:25) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Warning 12:14-29 listen (believe)

IV. Backgrounds for Understanding Hebrews

A. Apocalypticism

1. Characteristics

2. Catalyst

3. Categories

i. Vertical/Spatial

ii. Horizontal/Eschatological

iii. Hebrews

B. Qal Wahomer-Light and Heavy: e.g., Matthew 10:29-31; 12:11-12

		Lesser/Light	and	Greater/Heavy
Hebrews	1:1-3	_____	and	_____
	1:4-2:8	_____	and	_____
	3:1-6	_____	and	_____
	4:14-5:10	_____	and	_____
	7:11-22	_____	and	_____
	8:6-18	_____	and	_____
	9:11-14	_____	and	_____
	12:18-24	_____	and	_____

² I. Howard Marshall, *New Testament Theology: Many Witnesses, One Gospel* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004), 606.

³ Warning structure taken from Herbert W. IV Bateman, ed., *Four Views on the Warning Passages in Hebrews* (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2007), 86.

C. Exodus Theology

- 1. Endless Exodus: Psalm 95 and “rest” in Hebrews 3-4**
- 2. Examples of Exodus: Sojourning of the saints**
- 3. Aim of Exodus: From wandering to worship**

VI. Application

1. This week we focused a lot of time on backgrounds that can make it easier to understand God's Word. Take time this week to comprehend a book of the bible. Since we spent time in Hebrews, it could work well, or pick one of next week's books to get us ready.

2. During the Eucharist, we hear so many resonances to the book of Hebrews. We hear of the sacrifice of Jesus as a priest, when the liturgy says “He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world,” and of the eschatological hope when it says “at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.” When you hear these echoes of Hebrews this week, praise the Lord for His heavenly and future ministry of reconciliation.

3. Our context in the North Shore of the greater Chicago area gives us a unique opportunity to develop relationships with and witness to Jewish Americans. In light of this week's books and our discussion of the “parting of the ways,” how can we communicate our faith in a way that does not represent Christianity primarily in terms of competing but rather in terms of completing? Pray and look for an occasion to represent your faith in this way.