

## Hebrews 1:1-4

# The Promise and Presence of Real Hope

## I. THE CONTEXT OF THE LETTER

- Pain and Suffering

a. Date and Authorship

- i. Unknown, but probably Not Pauline
- ii. Pre-fall of Jerusalem probably around 60 - 65 AD
- iii. Written from Italy
- iv. God knew the details, human author did not

b. Fall and Ruin of Jerusalem is Coming

Although the human author gives no indication that he had received a special revelation from God about coming events, to anyone with calm eyes and serious contemplation the storm was gathering.

There seemed to be no way of escape for the

nation of Israel... they could see nothing on the horizon but sorrow.

c. Destruction of Temple is Coming (70 AD)

While it had happened before, there would be a savagery that would completely undo all that the temple was. And now, nearly 2000 years later, it is still undone. Rome set out to wipe all of Israel off the face of the earth.

d. The Scattering of the Jews and Christians over the earth is Coming

## **II. THE INTENT OF THE LETTER**

- Comfort and Hope

a. Cling to Christ NOT anything or anyone else

b. Understand and believe that He is enough

c. Grapple with the truth that the purpose has been satisfied and the roles have changed

Part of our greatest dilemma is that we see the world with temporal eyes. We cannot see all that God is doing, and want our meaning and purpose RIGHT NOW thank you very much! This has not changed, being human nature and all, but God is doing something. We don't have to be able to see it to see it. It will be revealed in the fullness of time, and this current trial would be easier if we just rested on the truth that God has ordained this day and these pains and that the reasons will one day be made plain to us.

- i. God had prepared the Jews to produce the Messiah –
- ii. He was to be a blessing to the whole world
- iii. He was to rule Israel as King - but the only King Israel was to have was God
- iv. Messiah HAS come - the old things no longer function in the same way
- v. The priesthood and temple worship have been superseded by Christ

### **III. GOD'S PREVIOUS REVELATION WAS ISRAEL**

- Purpose and Promise

a. Fathers - Promised to be a blessing to the whole world –

**Romans 15:7-13**

b. Law - to lead us to Christ –

**Galatians 3:21- 25**

c. Prophets - Spoke to us about Jesus –

**1Peter 1:10-12**

### **IV. GOD'S CURRENT AND FINAL REVELATION IS JESUS**

- God Made Flesh

Christ is the perfect and absolute display of God and His purposes. God's intent is made plain in Jesus, He is the God who saves!

## **V. HE IS SUPREME OVER ALL THINGS**

- Sustainer of All Creation, Ruler of All Heaven

All things are placed under Him, and in His authority. All things are by His express will. This includes our circumstances, no matter what they may be, they are in His will and for His glory and our good.