

Introduction– 40 AD, 70 AD and the Book of Hebrews

- I. Prolegomena (“clearing the throat”)
 - A. What is the book of Hebrews?
 - B. Authorship
 - C. Why and to whom it was written

- II. Jesus is Better, Then and Now
 - A. Ways in which Jesus is better
 1. Jesus is *better than* the angels (Heb 1:4)
 2. Jesus is *better than* Melchizedek (Heb 7:7)
 3. Jesus, and the New Covenant He has inaugurated, is a *better hope* than the law of Moses (Heb 7:19)
 4. Jesus is the guarantor of a *better* covenant (Heb 7:22), enacted on better promises (8:6), based on a better sacrifice than the OC sacrifices (Heb 9:23)
 5. Jesus gives us a better *possession* than any possession here (Heb 10:34). This better possession is that better country (Heb 11:16), better city (Heb 11:16), that better life (Heb 11:35) that awaits us in heaven.
 - B. Applying this to us today
 1. Read the passage before coming to SS and think through any questions you have about it.
 2. Realize that the real threat of “falling away” is not limited to “going back to Judaism.”
 3. Pay attention to the actions and attitudes that accompany “falling away” and guard your heart from them
 - a. Cherishing *angels* over Christ
 - b. Cherishing *Moses* over Christ
 - c. Making a habit of forsaking corporate worship (Heb 10:24, 25)
 - d. Expecting complete utopian contentment in the here and now *before* the eschaton (See Heb 3 and 4)
 - e. They had become *stunted* in their growth (Heb 5:11–14)
 - f. They were not showing respect, honor, and cooperation with the leaders of the church (Heb 13:7, 17)
 - g. They were growing weary in their endurance and chafing at discipline (Heb 12:3–17; 10:35–36)
 - h. Warning against sexual immorality (Heb 12:16-17)
 4. Answer to all of this: Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever