



Introduction to Hebrews

Tough to understand

- 1) It uses a lot of illustrations from the OT
 - 2) We are not dealing with the specific issues the Hebrew audience was
- However, the principles under the issues can apply to us

It's always important to have an understanding of the background of a book of the Bible

Author

- We don't know for sure
- *Just because we don't know the answers doesn't make something untrue

Audience

- We know the type of group they were but not their geographic location
- Jewish Christians (Messianic Jews)
- Believed in Jesus as their savior but still followed some of the Jewish traditions and practices to maintain their Jewish identity

Purpose (Hebrews 1:1-3)

- It is good for them to maintain their Jewish practices but remember that Jesus is what's most important

Jesus is

- greater than angels (or any one topic in the Bible)
 - greater than religious heroes (or anyone we look up too)
 - strict disciplined lives (the rules)
 - traditional practices (this is the way we do church)
- Are you making Jesus the main thing in your life and Christian walk or something else?

Small Group

- 1) What are some things we can do when we encounter something that is tough to understand either in the Bible or in life?
- 2) What distracts you from keeping Jesus as the greatest thing in your life?
- 3) What are, or can, you be doing to keep proper priorities in life? (Even beyond just keeping Jesus at #1)