THE PURPOSE OF HEBREWS (Cont.)

- **10:22-23 To warn the Hebrews to hold fast:** "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering. (vs 23).
 - 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is.

Persecution and hardship was causing some believers to turn away from the church and return to Judaism.

To warn the Hebrews not to get caught up in false doctrines: "Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines."

"...it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats."

- This contrasts the Old Testament Law with the New Testament Grace.
- **2:1** Give heed. Don't let the truths you've heard slip.
- 2:4 Don't settle for a small portion of what God offers. Don't come short.

OUTLINE OF HEBREWS

- 1. Christ, the Son of God in His manhood (1:1-2:4).
- 2. Christ in His humiliation to death for His brethren (2:5-4:13).
- 3. Christ as Priest in the heavenly sanctuary (4:14-10:39).
- 4. Examples of faith (chapter 11).
- 5. Responsibilities of the faithful (chapters 12 and 13).

FIVE WARNINGS IN HEBREWS

- 1. Drifting from the word of God through neglect (2:1-4).
- 2. Doubting the word of God through hardness of heart (3:7-4:13).
- 3. Dullness to the word of God through sluggishness (5:11-6:20).
- 4. Despising the word of God through self-will (10:26-39).
- 5. Disobeying the word by refusing to hear it (12:14-29).

BETTER THINGS IN HEBREWS

- 1. **A better revelation** (1:1-3). In the Old Testament, God spoke through prophets. Today He has spoken by His own Son, Jesus Christ.
- 2. Jesus is better than angels (chpt 1).
- 3. Jesus is better than all other humans (chpt 2).
- 4. Jesus is better than Moses (chpt 3).
- 5. Jesus is better than Joshua (chpt 4).
- 6. New Testament believers have better things (6:9).
- 7. Jesus is better than Judaism (chpt 6).
- 8. Jesus is better than Aaron and the Old Testament Priesthood (chpt 7).

- 9. Jesus is a better blesser (7:7).
- 10. We have a better hope (7:19).
- 11. We have a better testament (7:22).
- 12. We have a better covenant (8:6).
- 13. We have better promises (8:6).
- 14. Jesus is better than the Law (chpt 10).
- 15. We have a better substance (10:34).
- 16. We have a better country (11:16).
- 17. We have a better resurrection (11:35).
- 18. The New Testament blood (Christ's) is better than the Old Testament blood (animals) (12:24).

Scripture reading:

7:19

8:6

9:23

10:34

11:16

11:35

11:40

12:24

JESUS IS PRESENTED AS A NEW ORDER OF PRIEST

- The Old Testament priesthood was established by God for the Jewish people (not the Gentiles).
 - o The Jews had the one true God, but God never spoke to the Jewish people.
 - He spoke directly only to a handful of men. The Jews never got close to God. In fact, they were terrified of Him.
 - The High Priest was the only one to enter the presence of God for the people, but only once a year.
- Jesus came and replaced that God-given priesthood.
 - Now these people are being told to abandon that priesthood (previously their only connection with God) to follow Jesus.
 - If they don't believe Jesus is better than all of that, they are not going to give it up.