



THE BOOK OF
HEBREWS

Hebrews: Outline & Place In the Canon

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Themes

- The basic theme of Hebrews is found in the word “better,” occurring 13 times in 12 verses.
- The word “better” is used to describe the superiority of Christ in His Person and His work.
 - Heb. 1:4; 6:9; 7:7, 19, 22; 8:6; 9:23; 10:34; 11:16, 35, 40; 12:24.
- Christ offers better revelation, position, priesthood, covenant, sacrifice, and power.
- Finality is a second theme, the finality of Christ, and of the Cross, and of the New Covenant. The word “once” occurs 11 times in 11 verses.
 - Heb. 6:4; 7:27; 9:7, 12, 26-28; 10:2, 10; 12:26-27
- “Perfect” is another theme in the book of Hebrews occurring 9 times in 9 verses.
 - Heb. 2:10; 5:9; 7:19; 9:9, 11; 10:1; 11:40; 12:23; 13:21

Themes

- “Heavenly” is a fourth theme occurring 6 times in 6 verses.
 - Heb. 3:1; 6:4; 8:5; 9:23; 11:16; 12:22
- Hebrews presents Christ as the divine-human Prophet, Priest, and King.
- Christ’s deity (Heb. 1:3, 8) and humanity (2:9, 14, 17-18) are asserted with equal force.
- 20 titles are used to describe Christ’s attributes and accomplishments in the book of Hebrews.

Titles For Christ in Hebrews

- Heir of All Things (1:2)
- Creator (1:2)
- Son (Son of God) (1:2, 5, 8)
- The Brightness of God's Glory / Express Image of His Person (1:3)
- Upholder of All Things (1:3)
- Purger of Sins (1:3)
- Seated at the Right Hand of God (1:3; 8:1)
- Firstbegotten (1:6)
- God (1:8)
- King / Enthroned One (1:8; 12:2)
- Lord (Heb. 1:10)
- The One Who Sanctifies (2:11)
- Apostle and High Priest of Our Profession (3:1)
- Great High Priest (4:4; 7:26)
- Sinless / Holy One (4:15; 7:26)
- Author of Eternal Salvation (5:9)
- Forerunner (6:20)
- Surety of a Better Testament (7:22)
- Mediator of a Better Covenant (8:6; 9:15)
- The Great Shepherd (13:20)

Outline

HEBREWS AT A GLANCE									
Focus	Christ's Person			Christ's Work			The Walk Of Faith		
Reference	1:1-----1:4-----3:1-----4:14-----			8:1-----9:1-----10:19-----			12:1-----13:1-----13:25		
Division	Christ Over Prophets	Christ Over Angels	Christ Over Moses	Priest-hood	Cov-enant	Sanctu-ary And Sacrifice	Assurance Of Faith	Endurance Of Faith	Exhortation To Love
Topic	Majesty Of Christ			Ministry Of Christ			Ministers For Christ		
	Doctrine						Discipline		
Location	Place Of Writing Unknown								
Time	C. A.D. 64—68								

Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts, 446

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS
CHRIST THE "NEW AND LIVING WAY."

Key words, "better" and "perfect." Focal passage x. 19-22.

1. JESUS—THE NEW AND "BETTER" DELIVERER (i.-vii.).

Jesus the God-Man—better than angels (i., ii.).

Jesus the new Apostle—better than Moses (iii.).

Jesus the new Leader—better than Joshua (iv. 1-13).

Jesus the new Priest—better than Aaron (iv. 14-vii.).

2. CALVARY—THE NEW AND "BETTER" COVENANT (viii.-x. 18)

New covenant has better promises (viii. 6-13).

And it opens up a better sanctuary (ix. 1-14).

And is sealed by a better sacrifice (ix. 15-28).

And it achieves far better results (x. 1-18).

3. FAITH—THE TRUE AND "BETTER" PRINCIPLE (x. 19-xiii.).

Faith the true response to these "better" things (x. 19-39)

It has always been vindicated as such: examples (xi.).

Is now to endure, patiently looking to Jesus (xii. 1-13).

Is to express itself in practical sanctity (xii. 14-xiii. 21).

Parting words xiii. 22-5.

Place In The Canon

- Ephesians 2:7—The “Ages to Come” is the focus of Hebrews through Revelation. These books focus on the final stage of Israel’s prophetic program.
- Israel’s need for the instructions contained in these books was anticipated by the Lord Jesus Christ during his earthly ministry.
 - John 14:25-26; 16:12-13
 - Daniel 12:4—this book will be highly relevant in the “time of the end.”
- The emphasis in Hebrews to Revelation is on the final fulfillment of Israel’s earthly program.
- Hebrews 1:1-2—the people to whom this book is addressed have a history in God’s prophetic dealings.
 - Romans 15:8
 - Acts 2:16-21—Hebrews picks up where we last observed the nation of Israel in the book of Acts, i.e., facing the fulfillment of the last days of her prophetic Scriptures.

Place In The Canon

- Hebrews 2:3-4—the context of this book is the earthly ministry of Christ. The salvation spoken of here was first spoken by the Lord and confirmed by signs, wonders, divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Historically when did these things happen? In the gospels during the earthly ministry of Christ and the early Acts period after the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.
- Hebrews 2:5—writer explicitly states that he is speaking about the world “to come.”
- James 1:1—who is James writing to?
- I Peter 2:9—who is the royal priesthood, and holy nation?
 - Exodus 19:5-6

Place In The Canon

- II Peter 3:1-4—Peter instructs his readers to take comfort in the prophetic Scriptures.
 - Matthew 24—the Lord warned about such things in the Olivet Discourse.
- Jude 17-18
- Revelation 1:1-3, 9-10
- In Hebrews through Revelation the time past distinction between Israel and the Gentiles has been reinstated and the “Middle Wall” is back up.
 - James 1:1
 - I Peter 1:1
 - I Peter 2:9-13
 - Revelation 2:9; 7:3-8

Changes to Expect with UBS6/NA29

Posted by Peter Gurry at 12:00 · 27 

While doing some work yesterday on the history of the Nestle-Aland, I decided to take a peek at the upcoming NA29/UBS6 editions. I couldn't find a page for the NA29 at the Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft website and the UBS6 isn't set for release until Oct. 19. What is available now is the **reader's edition** that shares the same text. I've given a screenshot of the page below. Besides the very obvious typographic change (which may be unique to the reader's edition), the most notable updates are these:

- The text adopts the ECM text for all available books. That means Mark, Acts, Catholic Letters, and Revelation. (ECM Matthew is not set for release until December, so it does not include that.)
- The order of books does not follow Erasmus any more but reverts to what is found in earlier MSS (and editions like WH). That means Gospels, Acts, Catholic Letters, Paul (with Hebrews *before* the Pastorals), Revelation.
- Previously “missing verses” are back in the main text with double brackets. This is the most surprising update and one I did not know about until now. Here's how the intro explains it: “Unlike in earlier editions of the Nestle-Aland and the UBS Greek New Testament, including the Reader's Edition, all verses assigned a number within the New Testament are now integrated into the text in double brackets. Previously this was only the case for individual passages which traditionally enjoyed an exceptional position in the church (e.g. Mk 16.9–20; Jn 7.53–8.11).”

You can [read the introduction here](#). Also don't forget about the release of the new *Textual Commentary* that will accompany the UBS6. 2025 is shaping up to be a banner year for NTTC.

THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

A Reader's Edition

Revised Edition

Based on the text of
THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT,
Sixth Revised Edition (UBS6)

Edited by
HOLGER STRUTWOLF, HUGH HOUGHTON, CHRISTOS KARAKOLIS, DAVID PARKER,
STEPHEN PISANO, DAVID TROBISCH, KLAUS WACHTEL

RUNNING GREEK-ENGLISH DICTIONARY

Compiled by
BARCLAY M. NEWMAN

DEUTSCHE BIBELGESELLSCHAFT
UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES

Text and Running Greek-English Dictionary

Κατὰ Μαθθαῖον	<i>Math.</i>	1
Κατὰ Μάρκον	<i>Mark</i>	82
Κατὰ Λουκᾶν	<i>Luke</i>	133
Κατὰ Ἰωάννην	<i>John</i>	222
Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων	<i>Acts</i>	277
Ἰακώβου	<i>James</i>	363
Πέτρου α΄	<i>I Peter</i>	373
Πέτρου β΄	<i>II Peter</i>	383
Ἰωάννου α΄	<i>I John</i>	389
Ἰωάννου β΄	<i>II John</i>	396
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Ἰούδα	<i>Jude</i>	399
Πρὸς Ῥωμαίους	<i>Romans</i>	402
Πρὸς Κορινθίους α΄	<i>I Cor.</i>	433
Πρὸς Κορινθίους β΄	<i>II Cor.</i>	460
Πρὸς Γαλάτας	<i>Gal.</i>	481
Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους	<i>Eph.</i>	491
Πρὸς Φιλιππησίους	<i>Phil.</i>	502
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Πρὸς Θεσσαλονικεῖς α΄	<i>I Thes.</i>	518
Πρὸς Θεσσαλονικεῖς β΄	<i>II Thes.</i>	524
Πρὸς Ἑβραίους	<i>Hebrews</i>	528
Πρὸς Τιμόθεον α΄	<i>I Tim.</i>	555

*Suggested new order for the
N.T. books in new Critical
Editions of the Greek N.T.*

NA-29

UBS-6

Πρὸς Τιμόθεον β΄	<i>II Tim.</i>	565
Πρὸς Τίτον	<i>Titus</i>	572
Πρὸς Φιλήμονα	<i>Philemon</i>	576
Ἀποκάλυψις Ἰωάννου	<i>Revelation</i>	578