



## Christian Advantages – 1 A Study of Hebrews: Chapters 1 - 6

*Psalms 89:26-27 -- "He will cry to Me, 'Thou art My Father, My God, and the rock of My salvation.' I also shall make Him My first-born, the highest of the kings of the earth."*

### Introduction

1. One of, if not the main theme of the book of Hebrews, is to show the superior nature of the New Covenant of Christ over the Old Covenant by Moses.
2. What the Hebrew writer's arguments do is show the greater privileges the Christian enjoys over all other men, whether in past or future covenants, and remains not only a vibrant catalyst for encouraging the Christian, but also a weighty judgment against any other religion, of the past, present or future.

### A. A Covenant by the Son as Opposed to mere Prophets

1. This primarily fixes the authority of the New Testament over any other law, lawgiver or prophet.
2. It supercedes all others and there is none to come who have the approval of God to change it.

*Hebrews 1:1-2 -- God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son...*

*Colossians 1:17 -- He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.*

### B. A Covenant by the Son superior to Angels

1. Even angels do not possess authority over the Son.
2. This also shows the authority of the New Covenant over the Old, since the Old was delivered by angels.

*Hebrews 1:8 -- But of the Son He says, "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever..."*

*Hebrews 1:13 -- But to which of the angels has He ever said, "Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a footstool for Thy feet."*

*Galatians 3:19 -- Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels...*

### C. A Covenant with Greater Attestation/Proof Concerning

1. If the Law had enough signs, wonders, and various proofs to establish it as the Word of God, then the New Covenant has far more.
2. One of the questions asked by the people when the rulers argued that Jesus could not be the Messiah was "Will the Messiah do more than this man?"

*Hebrews 2:2-4 -- For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.*

### D. The Son as a Greater Savior

1. If the Israelites thought they had a savior in Moses, the Scriptures attest to the fact that the Son is far greater.
2. As a family member is superior to the position of a servant, so Jesus is far greater than Moses.
3. Plus Jesus proved himself far superior in many other ways, including in His keeping of the Law, even His perfect obedience unto death.

*Hebrews 3:5-6 -- Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence...*

*Hebrews 3:3 -- For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.*

*Hebrews 2:10 -- For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.*

### E. The Son as a Greater High Priest

1. The High Priest was only allowed to enter into the Holy Place once a year, but Jesus is constantly before God offering propitiation for the sins of the people.
2. He is also not a man and can never be replaced by another.

*Hebrews 2:17-18 -- Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.*

*Hebrews 4:14-15 -- Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.*

### F. A Greater Possibility of Entering the Rest

1. Neither Moses nor Joshua was able to take the people into the promised rest and they themselves did not enter.
2. However, there is greater hope for God's people since Jesus now has entered that rest and can therefore take in others also.

*Hebrews 4:8-10 -- For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that. There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God. For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.*

### G. A Greater Source of Salvation

1. Jesus is able to offer a greater salvation than any Old Testament figure.
2. He offers a salvation that is spiritual and far better than just physical freedom.
3. It is also assured because of His piety that His prayers will be heard by the Father.

*Hebrews 5:7-9 -- In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation.*

*Colossians 1:22 -- Yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach.*

### H. Greater Expectations

1. With more assurance comes greater expectation that promises will be fulfilled and hope will be realized.
2. Because of this also, greater diligence is expected on behalf of those working toward the reward.

*Hebrews 6:9 -- But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.*

*Hebrews 6:4-5 -- For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come...*

*Hebrews 6:11-12 -- And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*