

Father, Son, & Holy Spirit
Throne of Grace
Heaven

The Letter to the **Hebrews**

Journey
Through Hebrews
Lesson 1
Introduction



Intro for next 5 weeks

- Elder Request
- My Desire
- Our Challenge



- **THE PLAN**

Lesson 1: Introduction to Hebrews.

Lesson 2: God Speaks.

Lesson 3: Drifters...Neglectors...Diseased babies...Fakers...Loafers...Unable to find repentance.

Lesson 4: The hall of faith...what is the real point?

Lesson 5: The Greatest death of all...death of the wealthiest Testator ever to live.




Why Study Hebrews? *Loved by Christian Leaders*

pen of R. C. Sproul:

I have often said that if I were thrown in prison and in solitary confinement, and was allowed to have only one book, the book I would want to have would be the Bible. But if my options were even further restricted, and I was permitted to have only one book of the Bible, the book that I would choose would be the book of Hebrews.

Now that usually surprises people who know me because they assume the book I would want to have would be Romans. But the reason Hebrews is the book I would choose is because it so richly and comprehensively integrates all of the teaching of the Old Testament with the material that is found in the New Testament, serving as the best connecting link between the two. It is also one of the finest books of the New Testament – indeed, of the entire Bible – in terms of its literary quality. The book of Hebrews also gives us a very high Christology since the central theme is the supremacy of Christ. In Hebrews, Christ is compared to various people and things and shown to be superior to them all.



Why Study Hebrews? *One of most quoted in NT*

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 9:27

And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment

Hebrews 12:6

FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES."

Hebrews 11:6


And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him

Hebrews 4:16

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Hebrews 1:3

And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,



Why Study Hebrews? *Author's In Depth knowledge*

- Melchizedek

- Mentioned 2 times in OT. Gen 14:8 and Psalms 110:4a total of 4 verses.
- No google search engine...no concordance...no commentary.
- Yet Author creates a whole chapter on the priesthood of Jesus in the order of Melchizedek.

DO WE KNOW OUR OLD TESTAMENT THIS WAY?





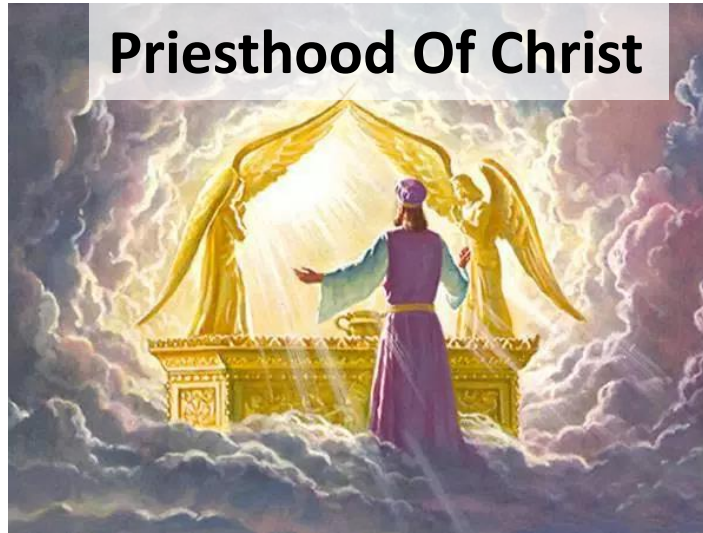
Why Study Hebrews? *Sheer Depth of Theology*

Sabbath Rest



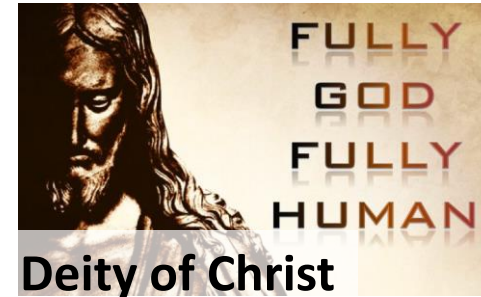
Melchizedek

Priesthood Of Christ

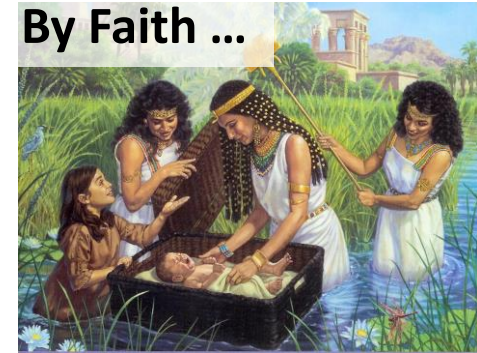


FULLY
GOD
FULLY
HUMAN

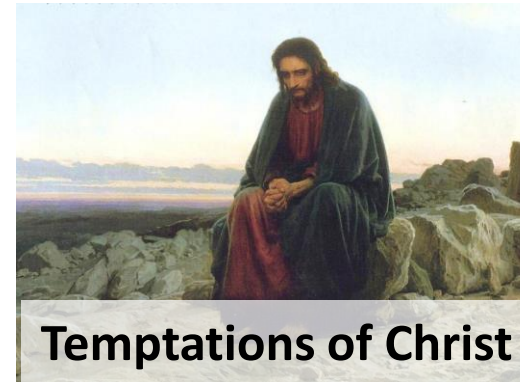
Deity of Christ



By Faith ...



Temptations of Christ



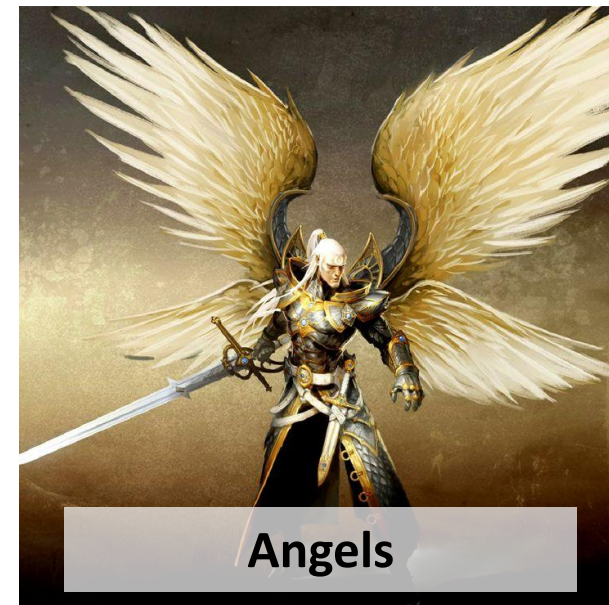
Efficacy of the
Death Of Christ



Mediator of New Covenant



Angels





Why Study Hebrews? *Relevance to us*

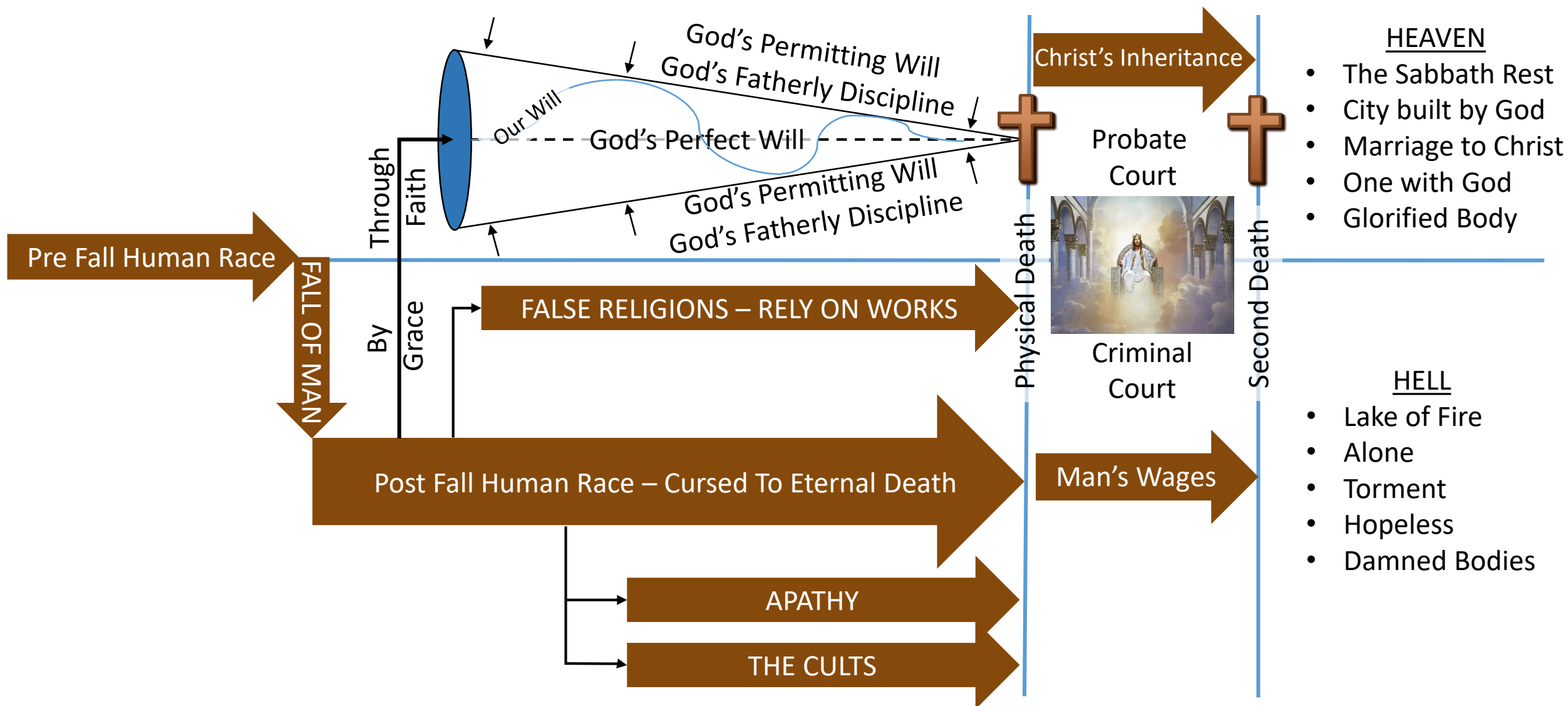
- Have you been a Christian for some time but now find you are lacking interest in doctrinal topics?
 - Have you been coming to church for some time but never really made a personal and public confession of faith in Jesus Christ?
 - Has an addiction to a particular sin hardened your heart almost to a point of spiritual numbness and ambivalence?
 - Do you feel apathy gaining a grip on your soul?
- Are you growing in your faith and now hunger for deeper truths?

Then this is the journey for you!

It promises to test your theology...your faith...your deepest desires...what you hope for...where you are spending your time...how you view authority...and what awaits us after death!



Hebrew's View of Salvation/Discipleship



BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

Context
Context
Context





Genre

- Sermon / Letter....“Argument for The Faith” / To people he knows



“Literary Work of Art”



Who wrote it, to whom and when?

Author



- Origen, the successor to Clement, who uttered his now-famous agnostic confession: "Whoever wrote the epistle, God only knows for sure."
- Paul, Stephen, Luke, Clement, Barnabas, Apollos, Paul /Luke combo, and etc.
- Accepted by early church as Canon.
- Implied author is enough.

Recipients

...most likely



Early Church w Jewish background

When

**Before
70 AD**





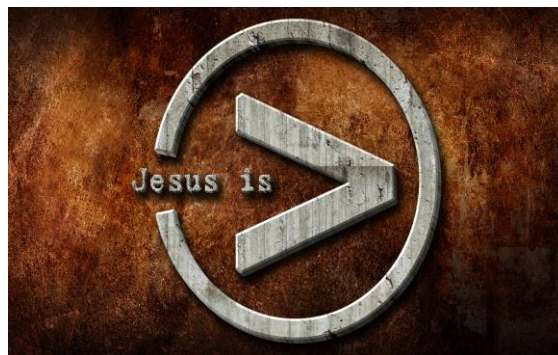
Purpose for Letter

- Clearly stated in Hebrews 13:22... a word of exhortation...Literally “I have exhorted you”.
 - Acts 13:15
- What kind of exhortations do we see?
 - 45 imperatives, prohibitions and pure exhortations
 - Imperatives: Strengthen...make every effort to...live a new and living way...etc.
 - Prohibitions: Do not...
 - Pure exhortations...in Greek...Hortatory Subjunctives: Let us...
- Exhortations appear to center around 5 basic warning passages
 1. 2:1-4 Pay careful attention.... so that we do not drift away
 2. 3:1-4:16 Do not harden....no unbelieving heart among you... enter the Sabbath rest.
 3. 5:11 – 6:12 Leave elementary teaching...Go on to maturity...
 4. 10:19 – 39 Let us draw near...hold...consider...remember...don't throw away confidence...
 5. 12:1-29 Let us run...don't grow weary or lose heart when disciplined...make level paths...etc.
- The purpose for his writing is clearly to get everyone from a state of unbelief to a state of spiritual maturity enduring to the end. ***“We call this discipleship!”***

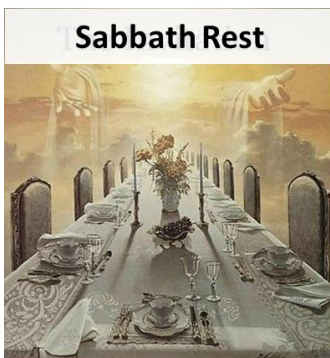


Themes

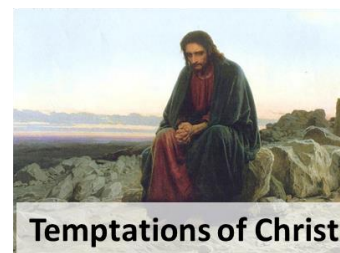
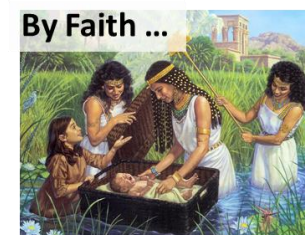
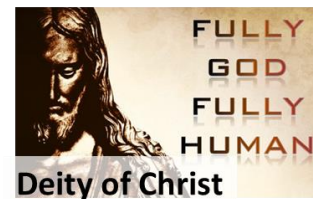
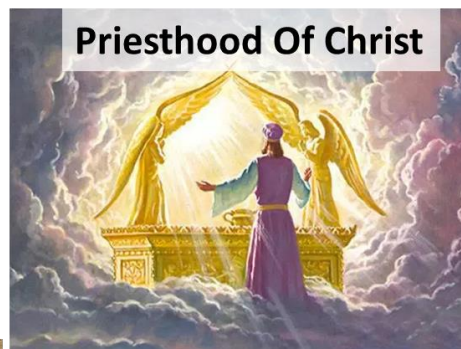
- Major



- Minor



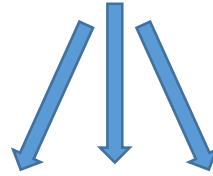
Milchizedek





Basic Flow of Book

OLD TESTAMENT



- 1. JESUS FULFILLS AND IS GREATER**
- 2. WARNINGS AND ENCOURAGEMENT**



LUKE 24:13-35
Road To Emmaus

Acts 2 – Peter
Acts 7- Stephen
Acts 13:15 - Paul
Paul uses OT to Exhort



Basic Flow of Book – OT MetaNarrative

Old Testament

God is, God Speaks, God Creates, God rests

Man created...Man called to rule...Man Falls...Man is cursed.

God begins to work again

...redeeming his people

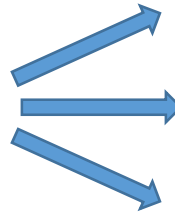
...showing them how to live...and to worship

...leading them to promised land

Israel expanded...prospered...ruled...sinned...was
exiled...and returned...

But full restoration wasn't achieved

God continues to work and promises something more...



New Testament

Jesus is God, Jesus greatest word of God, Jesus created
with God, Jesus sat down at the right hand of God

Jesus paid for sins and reversed curse...A Righteous
Man now rules again with God...as His Obedient Son
and our Savior

Jesus is working again.

...gathering a new Israel as His people...His bride...the
church.

...showing us how to live and to worship in His
kingdom as His betrothed bride... now but not yet.

...leading us to Heaven...the true rest...now but not yet.

Jesus promises to return to usher in New Heavens and
New Earth...a City built by God without Sin...with new
glorified bodies...one with the Triune God.



Basic Flow of Book

Old Testament

- Genesis
 - God Created
 - God Spoke
 - Abrahamic Covenant
- Exodus
 - Moses – Prophet
 - Mt. Zion Giving of Law
 - Desert
- Leviticus
 - Tabernacle
 - Levitical Priesthood
 - OT Covenant Rituals
- Joshua
 - Entering promised land
- David
 - Kingship/Rule
- Jeremiah
 - New Covenant
- All the many stories of the OT



LUKE 24:13-35
Road To Emmaus

Acts 2 – Peter
Acts 7- Stephen
Acts 13:15 – Paul
Paul uses OT to Exhort

New Testament

- Jesus was God
- Jesus Created with God
- Jesus is the Greatest Word of God
- Jesus paid for sins
- Jesus now rules with God as His Son and our Savior
- Jesus is greater than prophets
- Jesus is greater than Angels
- Jesus is greater than Moses
- Jesus is greater than OT priests
- Jesus is a greater sacrifice
- Jesus offers a greater Rest than the promised land
- Jesus had a greater priestly calling than Aaron
- Jesus fulfills the Abrahamic covenant
- Jesus is a greater High Priest than Levitical High Priest
- Jesus is the guarantee of a better covenant
- Jesus reigns over a better ministry
- Jesus entered a better Tabernacle
- Jesus offers a better inheritance
- Jesus offers a new and living way
- Jesus faith is greater than OT saints
- Jesus lives in a better kingdom than Mt Zion



Theological Preparations

- OT Knowledge Ps. 2; 8; 95; 110; Jer. 31; Ps. 40; Hab. 2
- Systematic Theological Threads Woven Into Text
 - Promise Fulfillment
 - Already but not Yet
 - Escalatory Typology
- Cautions-
 - Experienced theologians can be needed to see the flowers and avoid ruts
 - Example: Hebrews 1:1...alliteration in Greek with 5 different words starting with “p” or π in greek.
πολυμερως και πολυτροπως παλαι ο θεος λαλησας τοις πατρασιν εν τοις προφηταις
επ εσχατωντων ημερων τουτων ελαλησεν ημιν εν υιω
 - At different times...in different ways...long ago...fathers...and prophets
 - Some have erroneously jumped to unbiblical conclusions on whether you can lose your salvation.
 - Careful interpretation of its own theology can prove this author doesn’t believe you can lose your salvation
 - Let the Bible interpret the Bible...Let Black and White text interpret Grey text...but also let book of Hebrews shed light on Hebrews.

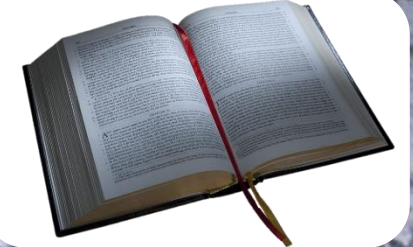
MT EVEREST / MT HEBREWS

PREPARATIONS FOR YOUR TRIP

STEP 4



STEP 3



STEP 2

1. Confess any sin which is unrepentant.
2. Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead you to maturity.
3. Read Hebrews all the way through in one sitting as many times as you are able...3..4..10 times.
4. If you run into a story you don't know in the Old Testament...Stop and Read the story.
5. OPTIONAL – Take a friend with you.

STEP 1



THIS WAY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

KHUMBU ICE FALLS

● BASECAMP

● CAMP 4

● CAMP 3

● CAMP 2

● CAMP 1



Happy Trails...
See you at the top!

Hebrews
Here
We
Come