

A Spoonful of Hebrews

A daily devotional on the book of Hebrews



Bill Brinkworth

A Spoonful Of Hebrews

*By
Bill Brinkworth*

***This is a partial sample of the contents
of A Spoonful of Hebrews.***

The actual book is 50 pages long.

All quoted scripture is from the King James Bible.

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Purpose

One of the most life-changing and life-guiding influences any person can have is reading the Word of God. Within its pages the reader will find God's words on how to live; how to die; who to have as friends; how to get to heaven; how to have an exciting, successful life; how to please God; how to know God's plan for your life, and hosts of other important revelations. Yet, as valuable as the Bible's contents are, too few read its preserved words and advice.

In an attempt to get more to read the Bible and understand it, I have created this short, devotional series. Although there are many daily devotionals available, this one is different. Most other devotionals have a short, uplifting paragraph or two to bless the reader, several verses, and a recommended reading for the day.

The "Spoonful Devotional" encourages the reader to read at least one chapter a day. A chapter from the King James Bible is included in the day's reading. No matter how busy one's life, if it is a priority to know God's will and way, all should be able read one chapter of the King James Bible in this devotional.

To help more understand what the Bible teaches, there is a short commentary included explaining one principle taught from the day's chapter. It may not necessarily be the most important doctrine taught in that chapter, but it is a teaching from the day's reading. After reading each brief explanation and the Scripture, one will certainly have more of an understanding of the Word of God, when the book is finished.

After completing this book, the reader will have learned several biblical doctrines. The one thing I have noticed, since being a Christian, is that many Christians do not have a knowledge of biblical teachings. Many have only a basic knowledge of God's Word that they may have gotten out of a church service, or another source rather than their own reading and studying. Some just assume they know what the Bible says, or what they think is right or wrong. It is God's Word, and it is up to us to read, study it, and learn what God has preserved for us to learn.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15

Unfortunately, many today are not big readers. That may be why so few have not read the entire Word of God. To help those type of readers still glean principles from God's Word, I have kept all discussions of the chapters' contents short — usually from 300-800 words. Because of these size restraints, much of what is discussed is very brief.

Also, to be helpful, a short "Thought for the Day" is included. The quote is one short quip, which may encourage one to contemplate what was taught in the commentary for the day's reading.

Prior to reading of the day's chapter, there are a few words, and phrases, that should be understood when reading the Word of God. This short list is not intended to be a dictionary, but an attempt to define some words that may be used differently in the reading than what is commonly understood today.

After each reading there are short exercises, or puzzles to help the readers comprehend some of what they have just read. The answers to the questions are found at the back of the book.

The size of the devotional is larger for a reason. In hopes that more will read and study the Bible, I have designed it so a Sunday school teacher, pastor, classroom teacher, or any ministry that is encouraging their people to study the Bible, will make copies of the lesson and freely distribute them. It can be copied on normal 8 x 11.5" paper on a copy machine or printed out on a computer printer. The graphics in most lessons are black and white, so they will print well on non-commercial, monochrome printing devices. I am giving the purchaser of this devotional permission to make as many copies as they can use, and hand out to their people.

This world is changing for the worse — on a daily basis. If more knew, believed, and obeyed the words of God there would be less decline in morality, less sin, and more godly living. I have made an attempt to portion biblical doctrine in small palatable portions so more would read it.

Is God's Word important to you? Have you always wanted to read it, but never "got around to it"? Well, here is an opportunity for you to read and learn more about the Bible — one small "spoonful" a day!

Hebrews 1

Daily Nugget:

In Paul's letter to the Hebrews, he started off telling them who Jesus is. There are at least thirteen points he made about the Saviour, including:

1. Jesus was there at creation with the Father (vss. 1, 10). He made the worlds (vss. 2, 10).
2. God has spoken to people through His Son, Jesus (vs. 2).
3. Jesus is heir of all things (vss. 2, 4).
4. Jesus is the brightness of God's glory (vs. 3).
5. Jesus is the express (to show by resemblance or copy) image of God (vs. 3).
6. Jesus upholds (elevates) all things by His word (vs. 3).
7. Jesus purged us of our sins (vs. 3).

8. Jesus has finished what He was sent to do (vs. 3).
9. Jesus is sitting at the right hand of His Father (vs. 3). God honors His son (vs. 9).
10. Jesus is better than the angels (vss. 4, 5, 6, 13).
11. Jesus' throne is forever (vs. 8).
12. Jesus loves righteousness and hates sin (vs. 9).
13. Jesus will never change (vss. 11-13).

Jesus was not just a good man, as some cults portray Him. He is God in the flesh and God's son at the same time. To deny Jesus is God in the flesh, one would have to deny most of this chapter, and many other scriptures.

Today's Thought:

"If you want to be more like the Father, follow His Son."

Words to Understand:

divers: different
sundry: more than one
vesture: clothing

Today's Reading:

- 1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,
- 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;
- 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;
- 4 ¶ Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.
- 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?
- 6 And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten

Christ aboute Tothe Hebrewes. the Angels.	
<p>me, even thine owne selfe besides: 20 Wea, brother, let mee haue toy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowles in the Lord.</p> <p>21 Having confidence in thy obedience, I wrote vnto thee, knowing that thou wilt also doe more then I say.</p> <p>22 But wilt thou prepare mee also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be giuen vnto you.</p>	<p>23 There salute thee Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Iesus: 24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellow labourers.</p> <p>25 The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C Written from Rome to Philemon, by Onesimus a seruant.</p>
	
<h3>THE EPISTLE OF PAVL</h3> <p>the Apostle to the Hebrewes.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">CHAP. I.</p> <p>1 Christ in these last times coming to vs from the Father, is preferred aboue the Angels, both in Person and Office.</p> <p>Had who at sundry times, and in diuers manners, spake in time past vnto the Fathers by the Prophets.</p> <p>2 Hath in these last dayes spoken vnto vs by his Sonne, whom he hath appointed heire of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.</p> <p>3 ¶ Who being the brightnesse of his glory, and the expresse image of his person, and vpholding all things by the word of his power, when hee had by himselfe purged our finnes, sate down on the right hand of the Father on high.</p> <p>4 Being made so much better then the Angels, as hee hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name then they.</p> <p>5 For vnto which of the Angels said hee at any time, Thou art my sonne, this day haue I begotten thee: And againe, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Sonne.</p> <p>6 And againe, when hee bringeth in the first begotten into the world, hee saith, And let all the Angels of God worship him.</p> <p>7 And of these Angels hee saith: who</p>	<p>maketh his Angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.</p> <p>8 But vnto the Sonne, hee saith, Thy throne, O God, is for euer and euer: a scepter of righteousnesse is the scepter of thy kingdom.</p> <p>9 Thou hast loued righteousnesse, and hated iniquitie, therefore God, euen thy God hath anointed thee with the oyle of gladnesse aboue thy fellows.</p> <p>10 And, thou Lord in the beginning hadst layed the foundation of the earth: and the heauens are the works of thine hands.</p> <p>11 They shall perish, but thou remainest: and they all shall waxe old as doth a garment.</p> <p>12 And as a vesture that thou fold them vp, and they shall be changed, but thou art the same, and thy yeeres shall not faile.</p> <p>13 But to which of the Angels said hee at any time, Sit on my right hand, but I will make thine enemies thy footstool:</p> <p>14 Are they not all ministring spirits, sent forth to minister for them, who shall be heires of saluation?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHAP. II.</p> <p>1 Wee ought to be obedient to Christ Iesus, 5 and that because hee vouchsafed to take our nature vpon him, 14 as it was necessarie.</p> <p>Therefore we ought to giue the more earnest heede to the things which we haue heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.</p>

into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

7 And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

11 They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Understandest thou what thou readest?

1. What is one way God spoke to the Old Testament Jews? _____
2. Other than believers, who else is to worship Jesus? _____
3. What is one ministry of angels, as described in this chapter? _____

Hebrews 5

Daily Nugget:

During Old Testament times, there were priests that served as mediators between God and man presenting their prayers and sacrifices to Him. Before Moses, the priests' duties were often done by the head of a household as did Job, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. During Moses' day God appointed priests from the Levite lineage, and this practice was intended to continue until the perfect priest came, Jesus Christ.

The old testament priests were not perfect. Their limitations were because:

- ✿ They were ordained ("appointed by") by men, although they were of an ancestry ordered by God (vs. 1). Not just any man could be a priest.
- ✿ They had to go to God with sacrifices and gifts (vss. 1, 3). The offerings were not a one-time gift. They had to be offered more than once. They were only temporary appeasements to a Holy God.
- ✿ The priests themselves were sinners. They also had to give an offering for themselves (vss. 2, 3).
- ✿ Soon the priesthood stopped. The sacrifices halted. Intercessory prayers and gifts to God ceased, but man was still in desperate need of a mediator between him and God.
- ✿ God then sent man the perfect priest. He was not appointed by man. He only had to make one offering for all of man's sins. That sacrifice covered sins past, present, and even into the



future. This priest was not of Levi's lineage. He was very much like a priest of Abraham's time — Melchisedec. Like Melchisedec, who's name means "king of righteousness", this God-appointed priest was the real King of righteousness. This priest was the only God-appointed priest. This priest was God's only begotten son — Jesus! Jesus' one-time sacrifice, that never had to be re-offered, was His own life.

Unfortunately, many have not allowed God's High priest to be the sacrifice for their sins. Too many have rejected Jesus and are still appointing their own priests. No matter what those sincere people offer to God, it will be refused by the Creator. They are doing it their way and are refusing the one-time sacrifice Jesus made for them on Calvary's cross.

The Old Testament priesthood was for another time — a time before the perfect priest had been sent by God. Today we have the privilege of going to that High Priest, which is not sitting in some earthly temple or church, but is sitting at the right hand of the Father, in Heaven. We can accept His offering on the cross to cover all our sins. After we have accepted Him as our Saviour, we can go to Him anytime with our prayers and needs. We no longer need an imperfect middle man. We have the perfect mediator — Christ Jesus.

Today's Thought:

"Jesus knew that He had come to kindle a fire on earth ... He saw that what was exalted among man was an abomination before God." — Walter Rauschenbush

Words to Understand:

begotten: to bring into existence; to procreate

"dull of hearing": Will not understand. Much of the time it is not in reference to a hearing problem.

ordained: appointed by

Today's Reading:

1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:

2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.

3 And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.

4 And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee.

6 As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

10 ¶ Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Understandest thou what thou readest?

1. Who was Aaron (vs. 4)? _____
 2. Who was Melchisedec? _____
 3. What does it mean: "useth milk"? _____
-

Hebrews 10

Daily Nugget:

For the early Hebrews, and those that still do not understand what Paul had said about the practice of the Mosaic law in earlier times being a glimpse of a futuristic better worship, one more word was used to describe that time. Paul describes that practice as a “shadow” of good things to come (vs. 1).

When a person approaches you in the dusk of a fall evening, and is several hundred feet away, he is but a shadow. One can see that it is a person approaching, but the details of what the person looks like, and what he is wearing cannot be made out. This is how those practicing the Mosaic laws saw the future worship, as a distant shadow. They could see the furniture of the temple worship, the priest, and all the sacrifices. They knew they stood for something and were somehow prophetic, but they did not grasp their whole meaning until Christ came. Then many saw clearly what God had planned to show them for a long time.

They knew their sacrifices were not enough to take away their sins (vss. 4, 11) permanently,

even as they were offering them. If the sacrifices could have taken away their sins, they would have had no more concern (guilt) for them (vs. 2). If the sacrifices could have taken away their sins permanently, they would not have had to repeat the sacrifices each year (vs. 3). They also knew that the offered blood of bulls and of goats did not take away sins (vs. 4).

So if deep in their hearts they knew that their offerings were not permanent and were only picturing a future way of worshipping, why did they annually offer those sacrifices to the Lord? The Hebrews performed the worship as they were instructed to. They were obedient. Their obedience was much like “credit”, as Oliver B Greene describes it. When Jesus came and sacrificed His life for all mankind’s sin, He paid man’s sin debt in full (John 1:29)! The Old Testament saints’ sins were paid for, and all after them also. We have a perfect sacrifice when we accept Jesus’ offering. He paid it all on Calvary’s cross!

Today’s Thought:

Those saved before Jesus’ sacrifice looked forward by faith to the cross. Those saved after His sacrifice looked back by faith to the cross.

Words to Understand:

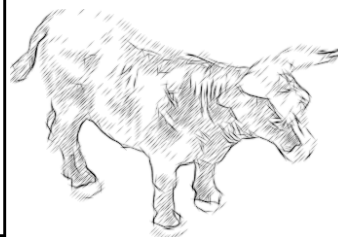
adversaries: enemies
gazingstock: a person looked at with contempt
perdition: eternal misery
remission: forgiveness

Today’s Reading:

1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.
2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.
3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.
4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.
5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me:
6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.
7 ¶ Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;
9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.
10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:
12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.
14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.
15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,
16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;
17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.
18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.
19 ¶ Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;
21 And having an high priest over the house of God;
22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)
24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,
27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.
28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:
29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?
30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.
31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
32 But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;
33 Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.
34 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.
35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.
36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.
37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.
38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.
39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Understandest thou what thou readest?



Find the words for Hebrews 10:4:

*“For
it
is
not
possible
that*

*the
blood
of
bulls
and
of*

*goats
should
take
away
sins.”*

Glossary

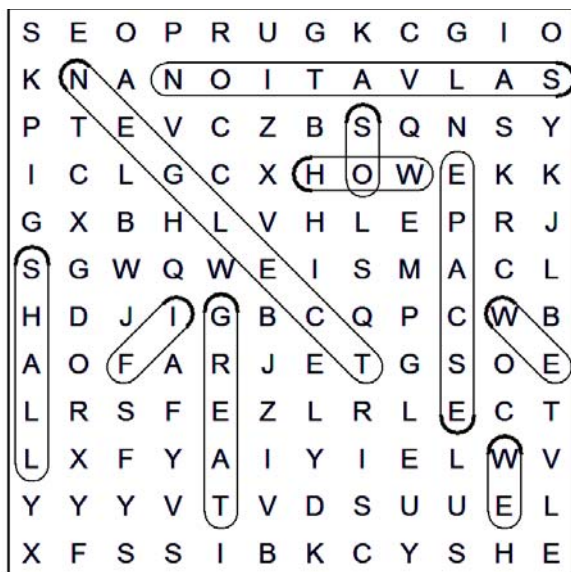
“dull of hearing”: Will not understand. Much of the time it is not in reference to a hearing problem.
“foundation of the world”: when the world was created
“in the provocation”: the days that the Jews struggled with following God while in the wilderness
“laying on of hands”: when elders of church, ministers, or apostles were used, by the Spirit of God, to heal a person just by touching them.
admonished: taught, counseled correctly
adversaries: enemies
asunder: divided in pieces, separated
begotten: to bring into existence, to procreate
brethren: those that are saved
chastening: discipline, correction
cherubim: a created creature that flies with its two wings. It is not an angel, but a different creature.
consecrated: separated from a worldly to a holy purpose, dedicated to service and worshipping of God
consolation: comforting
covenant: binding agreement. The “first covenant” referred to those agreements spoken about in the Old Testament
disannulling: to nullify, to annul, to get rid of
divers: different
esteeming: putting value to, to prize
exhort: encourage
fornicator: person who committed sexual sin, usually between unmarried partners
gazingstock: a person looked at with contempt
immutability: inability to change
mediator: the representative of the people, the “middle man” between God and man
ordained: appointed by
ordinances: requirements, laws
perdition: eternal misery
remission: forgiveness
repentance: a genuine sorrow for doing something wrong or sinful. This sorrow and grief are strong enough to drive the person to do their best to not commit that wrongful act again.
sanctified: cleansed, purified
sanctuary: refers to the place in the back of the tabernacle that only the High Priest could enter
scourgeth: heavily disciplines, corrects, punishes, whips
shadow: not the actual thing, but a picture (or example) of the thing
similitude: similar to, much like
sojourned: lived in a place
succour: help, especially in time of need
sundry: more than one
sware: promise, make a pledge
testator: a person who leaves a will (testament) for his death
tithe: one tenth of earnings that are given to the Lord.
transgressions: sins
translated: moved from one place to another
vesture: clothing
whoremongers: those who have committed sexual sin. lewdness
wrath: anger

Answers to Questions

Hebrews 1:

1. By using the prophets.
2. The angels (vs. 6)
3. To minister to those that are saved (vs. 14)

Hebrews 2:



Hebrews 3:

1. Christ Jesus
2. Every time a person refuses to obey what the Holy Spirit is saying to their “conscience”, one can get more set in their refusal to obey His commands.
1. Unbelief (vs. 12), sin (vs. 13)

Hebrews 4

1. By getting saved (vs.3)
2. Not laboring for the Lord (vs. 11)
3. Jesus (vs. 14)

A Spoonful of

Hebrews

This daily devotional is different than most other devotionals. Instead of reading a random verse and a short illustration about the principle taught in the verse, this devotional is designed to get the reader to read at least one chapter a day from the book of Hebrews and to teach him at least one important lesson from the day's reading.

A short, 200-500 word commentary highlights one of the principles taught in the day's chapter. This study is not a complete long-winded study of the chapter.

Following the commentary is a short quote about a principle taught in the commentary, several definitions of difficult or unusual words found in the King James chapter of Hebrews, and several short questions requiring the reader to think about what they have read.

This study is also designed for the Sunday school teacher's or pastor's usage. As many as required pages can be printed or copied, and given out to a class that is studying Hebrews. It is a handout that will help the class or congregation learn principles taught in the book.

Reading the Bible is wonderful; but learning something from it is far more important. Get more out of your daily devotions as you read this devotional.