The Heart of the Matter
Hebrews, although among the largest and most significant letters in the New Testament, remains one of the least appreciated. Profound, mysterious, deep, and sometimes difficult to understand, this book deserves our time and attention. Rich in Jewish history and filled with quotations from and allusions to the Old Testament, the study of Hebrews requires concentration plus a fairly firm grasp of how God revealed Himself to His people in ancient times. Those who master this book are keen students of such subjects as the priestly system, sacrifices, traditional Jewish feasts, and the tabernacle. Bedside reading, Hebrews is not. But for those who go to the trouble of working their way through these thirteen chapters, the investment yields rich and rewarding benefits.

Discovering the Way
1. Introductory Questions
We begin with four questions: Who wrote it? Who received it? Why was it written? And when was it written?

2. The Theme of Hebrews: Christ Is Lord
Christ is superior in every way: in His person (chapters 1–4), as our priest (chapters 5–10), and through all of life (chapters 11–13). Christ is sufficient in all experiences.

Starting Your Journey
Two great issues are addressed in Hebrews. First, our greatest need is to discover what God has said about our desires, issues, or struggles. Second, our greatest task is to align our lives according to what He has said.
Jesus Christ: Superior in His Person
   Superior to:
   - Prophets
   - Angels
   - Moses
   - The Sabbath
   - Other priests

Jesus Christ: Superior as Our Priest
   Better than:
   - Earthly priesthood
   - Old covenant (Mosaic system)
   - Animal sacrifices
   - Daily offerings

Jesus Christ: Superior for Life
   Let us have:
   - Faith to believe God
   - Hope to endure trials
   - Love to encourage others

CHAPERS
1:1–4:13

Instruction

Emphasis

Key Words
"Much better than" 1:4
"Better" 7:19
"Let us" 12:1

Warnings
2:1–4
3:7–4:13
5:11–6:20
10:19–39
12:25–29

Theme
The absolute superiority of Jesus Christ

Key Verse
4:14

Christ in Hebrews
Jesus is the absolutely superior revelation of God and our eternal High Priest (1:1–14; 3:1).

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