Lion and Lamb Apologetics

HEBREWS

AN OVERVIEW

Purpose

To present the sufficiency and the superiority of Jesus

Author

Unknown. However, whoever it was speaks of Timothy as "brother."

Date

Hebrews was almost certainly written before AD 70.

Audience

The traditional title "to the Hebrews" reflects the ancient assumption that the original recipients were Jewish Christians.

Setting

These Jewish Christians were probably undergoing fierce persecution, socially and physically, and needed to be reassured that Christianity was true and that Jesus was indeed the Messiah.

Special Features

Hebrews is one of the most stylistically polished books in the New Testament. The author conducts a sustained theological exposition such as modern readers might expect in a debate or in a theology book.



Key Verses

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being." (1:3a NIV)

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart ... For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (4:12, 15-16 ESV)

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." (11:6 NIV)

Key People

Old Testament men and women of faith