



# HEBREWS

## THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST



## An icon of St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a golden mitre and a white chiton with a blue and gold checkered pattern. He has a beard and long hair, and a halo around his head. He is holding a book in his left hand, which contains the text: "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, shall live in me, and I in him." The background is a solid gold color. The text "THE GREAT" is on the left and "ARCHBISHOP" is on the right. The Greek letters "IC" and "XC" are in the top corners.



# ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND







**ST. PAUL**

# THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

400–1600

EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE HEBREWS

+ HIS NAME? (HEB. 13:22, 23)

+ SIMILAR TO 1 THESS. 3:2

AFTER 1600

PAUL NOT THE WRITER SINCE:

+ WRITING STYLE DIFFERS

+ PAUL ALWAYS ID'S SELF

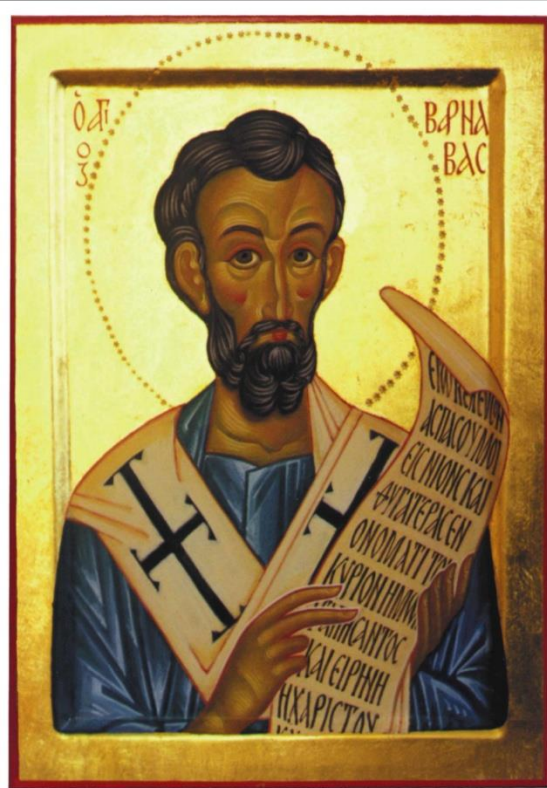
# THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

TERTULLIAN

QUOTES FROM THE EPISTLE OF  
BARNABAS TO THE HEBREWS (200  
A.D.)

COULD BE BARNABAS

- + HE WAS AN INTELLECTUAL  
HEBREW CHRISTIAN; A LEVITE
- + HE KNEW THE O.T. VERY WELL



**BARNABAS**

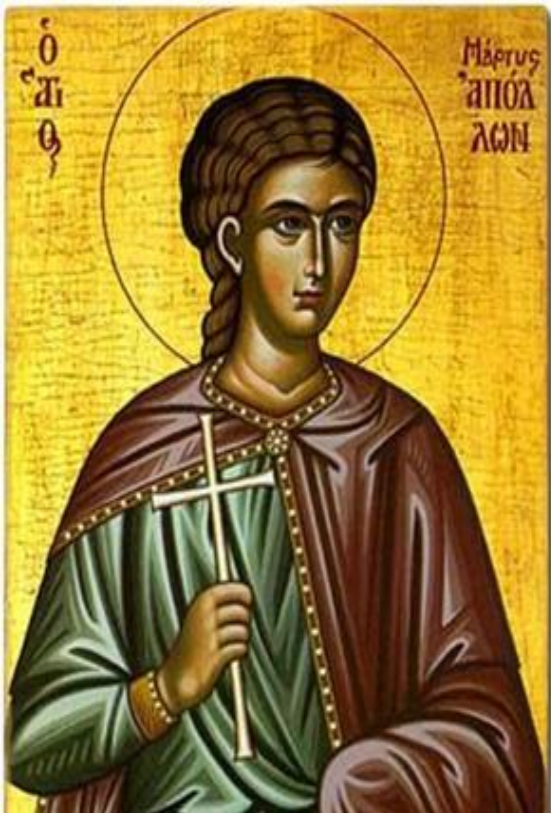


# THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

## APOLLOS

- + ALSO A LEARNED HEBREW CHRISTIAN (ACTS 18:24)
- + AN ASSOCIATE OF PAUL'S DURING THE FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY (1 COR. 1:12; 3:4-6, 22)
- + LUTHER BELIEVED APOLLOS WAS THE AUTHOR

**AUTHOR UNKNOWN!**





DATE:

+ Before A.D.70

+ The Roman  
destruction of  
the temple not  
mentioned

+ The use of  
present tense  
verbs when  
referencing  
the Temple or  
Priestly duties



DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE BY TITUS IN 70 A.D.



# TO WHOM IS HEBREWS WRITTEN?

**+ To Jewish  
converts who  
were being  
tempted to  
return to  
Judaism**

**(cf. Gal. Ch.2)**



1. ABSOLUTE SUPREMACY &  
SUFFICIENCY OF JESUS AS  
THE REVEALER AND  
MEDIATOR OF GOD'S GRACE.

2. THE O.T. PROPHECIES ARE  
FULFILLED IN THE N.T.; OF  
WHICH FINDS ITS  
COMPLETION IN JESUS.



3. JESUS IS SHOWN TO BE FAR SUPERIOR TO THE ANCIENT PROPHETS, TO THE ANGELS, TO MOSES AND AARON, AND THE PRIESTLY SUCCESSION FROM AARON.

4. THE WORDS "*BETTER*" AND "*SUPERIOR*" ARE USED OVER 15 TIMES.

# PURPOSE OF HEBREWS

1. THE READER MUST NEVER RETURN TO OR CONTINUE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM, SINCE JESUS HAS NOW FULFILLED AND ABROGATED IT.
2. GOD'S CHILDREN MUST ONLY LOOK TO JESUS WHOSE ATONING DEATH, HIS RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION HAVE OPENED THE WAY TO THE TRUE HEAVENLY SANCTUARY WHERE, IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD, HIS CHILDREN WILL BE FOREVER IN COMMUNION WITH HIM.



# PURPOSE OF HEBREWS

3. THE CHRISTIAN MUST RESIST TEMPTATIONS TO GIVE UP.
4. BELIEVERS MUST PERSEVERE IN THE SPIRITUAL CONTEST IN WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN COMMITTED.
5. FAILURE TO REMAIN FAITHFUL WILL RESULT IN SEVERE JUDGMENT AS HAPPENED TO THE REBELLIOUS ISRAELITES.

THIS "LETTER" TO THE  
HEBREWS DIFFERS FROM PAUL'S  
EPISTLES IN THAT THERE IS NO  
INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

THEREFORE, THE STYLE OF THE  
COMPOSITION IS IN AN ANCIENT  
FORM OF SERMON, SINCE IT IS  
AN EXHORTATION TO A  
CONGREGATION.

WE WILL DISCUSS THIS WHEN WE  
STUDY HEB. 13:20-25.

HEBREWS:

A LETTER  
OR...



# THE STRUCTURE OF THE SERMON TO THE HEBREWS

THE  
FACT  
IS:

**GOD  
SPEAKS**

ἐλάλησεν  
(HE HAS SPOKEN)

Exposition 7

Exposition 6

(10:31-36; 12:3-17, 25-27) (13:1-9, 16-19)

Exposition 5

Exhortation (7:4)

Exposition 4

Exposition 3

Exhortation (3:1-6, 7-12)

Exposition 2

Exposition 1

**THE BASE**

JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD  
(HEBREWS 1:2)

Final Remarks  
& Greetings  
(13:22-25)

Participate in Divine Service  
(12:28-13:21)

Faith in Jesus; Hope in God  
(10:26-12:27)

Jesus, The High Priest  
(7:1-10:25)

Patient Faith Inherits God's  
Blessings (5:11-6:20)

God's Promised Rest  
(2:5-5:10)

God Who Speaks  
(1:1-2:4)