

Tonight we start a new series walking through the book of Hebrews.

It's a book that helps us better understand WHO JESUS IS? Who is this King? Ultimately we see **Jesus is Greater!**

Our theme this year is FREE –we started the year asking why we needed freedom.

And then we set out on a path trying to understand how God works that out.....

We saw a promise in the beginning and then God working out this promise in Samuel

Ultimately we make it to Christmas, the birth of the FOREVER King

Now we come to Hebrews which helps us see how Jesus is Greater. **He is the one that ultimately brings freedom.**

But 2020 sort of felt like we were in chains didn't it? It's been a bit harder to feel as though we're free. Like we're winning Hebrews reminds us of the worth of Jesus and encourages us that we are truly free in Christ. Because Jesus is Greater

So lean in with us as we walk through this book the next 2 months.

In doing so you will grow in your understanding of WHO JESUS IS and really understand WHY JESUS NEEDED TO COME.

THE HOPE IS THAT AT THE END THERE IS THIS HUGE LOVE FOR CHRIST THAT SPILLS OVER TO OUR LIVES...

We're not sure who wrote Hebrews, but we know they knew those who were close to Jesus.

We know they were writing to those who were struggling and discouraged. Jewish Christians.

These people would know the Old Testament. That's clear from the book itself.

The book is written in a way that focuses on some big Jewish people and events...it captures the story of the Torah.

Abraham – People of Israel – Moses/Law -Priests & the Sacrifices, their wandering through the wilderness.

All of these OT things ultimately find their home, hope and Yes in Jesus. That's what the writer is hoping to show

Don't worry, if you're not up to date with these things we'll explain the basics as we'll go through.

Check out the first few verses of this book – They set the trajectory and path of all that follows. READ HEB. 1:1-3

VV.1-3 simply say this: The Main THREAD: Jesus is the greatest expression of who God is and how God loves.

The rest of the book simply shows us this in detail. But these first few verses are huge...

They share with us some things about Jesus. The King...the one who brings freedom

- The writer wants the reader to see Jesus as superior or simply put, that Jesus is Greater.
- The writer wants to show Jesus as the ultimate and final revelation of God.
- But also, to encourage and challenge the reader to remain faithful...we see that in the end...

But just in these first few verses we see 2 words that are extremely important. **(GO FROM SCREENS)**

Radiance – think of the Sun

Imprint – Ringlet/letter way.

The writer is simply saying this – The one we're about to talk about and describe and to see in all his glory is the greatest and ultimate expression from God ever. It's not even close. You see Jesus, you see God. In the flesh!

And all that follows is just further explanations of how this Jesus is THE ONE...but not just that...the GREATER ONE.

SO WHAT NOW?

The hope for us is the same....allow this book to encourage and challenge your heart.

As we exit a crazy year and begin what appears to have started even crazier...take heart!

See Jesus in all His glory and be encouraged and challenged to faithfully follow him

WHY? Because HE has set you free....This same Jesus is for you, not against you,

Stop letting Sin win and drag you down...Jesus is greater than that.

Stop going back to the junk and see that Jesus is greater than that stuff.

Stop allowing the enemy to bring up the past when....Jesus is greater....he's changed your present/future.

Jesus is greater...that should change how you view life and live life. That's the hope.

This book will take some time and understanding but we can't forget the simplicity of it all either.

The reality that this book is about the reality that Jesus is the ultimate and final expression/communication from God.

So then....see this and stop looking anywhere else for what only can be found in Christ Jesus.

Jesus is Greater.

Greater than anything we or this world can muster.

Greater than any issue, problem or pandemic. He's greater.

But...here's the question...What are you doing about it? Like, are you embracing these truths? Applying them?

Life is hard, life without Christ is harder. Don't attempt to walk in your own strength/provision.

RUN TO JESUS, CLING TO HIM – Allow Hebrews to just store up treasure and truths of who Jesus is.

I'd encourage you, read Hebrews. Dive in, discuss it, think through it, bring those questions, thoughts with you as you come to the Rock each week...it will only help.

We have questions on Youversion and on the screen for groups. (leaders, take this and run with it)