Hebrews L9, Lessons 1-8 Study Summary

Lesson 1 – Hebrews 1:1-14 The Supremacy of Jesus: God the Son!

Q1, 3 – God changed His method of communicating to the world: He sent Jesus. In the past we find examples where He spoke to prophets through a burning bush, dreams, a voice, a vision, etc….

Q4 – Jesus is the radiance of God's glory, the exact imprint of God's nature. He created the world and upholds it by the power of His Word. He now sits at the authoritative right hand of the Father.

Q6, 7 – God the Father declares Jesus to be superior to all angels. Jesus is the Son, and His Name is above all names. The Father commands the angels to worship Jesus, His Son!

Q9 – Angels are "ministering servants" to God, whom God also sends to serve human believers.

Lesson 2 – Hebrews 2:1-9 Don't Neglect the Salvation Offered by Jesus

Q1, 2 – God's previous messages came through prophets and angels. Now that we have His message through Jesus, we must pay even closer attention and not 'drift away' from our salvation.

Q5 – Jesus is the only one who can save people. Jesus stated in John 14:6 that He is, "…the Way, the Truth and the Life." Our Christian insistence that salvation only comes for people who trust in Jesus puts us at odds with other people and religious ideas.

Q6, 7 – God the Father authenticated Jesus by signs, wonders and miracles, and Jesus' followers were likewise authenticated in carrying His message, the Gospel. Even so, many (most) reject God's grace and offer of salvation. Narrow is the road that leads to salvation, and few will find it.

Lesson 3 – Hebrews 2:10-18 Jesus Sanctifies His "Brothers"

Q2, 5 – Jesus is the Founder of human salvation, made perfect for this accomplishment through His suffering. By His human death and resurrection, Jesus destroyed the devil's power to use death to control people and cause them fear.

Q6, 7 – Jesus came not to help angels, but humankind. He delivered us from a lifelong slavery caused by the fear of death. People don't really know what happens at death, and they fear it and make guesses. Do we reincarnate? Do we cease to exist? Go to heaven or hell? Go to paradise?

Q8 – Jesus came in human form to be like His brothers, those He came to save. He is the merciful High Priest for mankind, having made the "acceptable atoning sacrifice" (propitiation) for the Father.

Q9 – Jesus suffered through temptations, and today He helps us face our own temptations and not sin.

Lesson 4 – Hebrews 3:1-4:1 Hardened Hearts and Sin's Deceitfulness

Q1, 2 – Both Jesus and Moses were faithful in Father's "house," Moses as a servant, and Jesus as the Son (owner). To be part of God's house, we must hold fast to our confidence and hope in God.

Q3 – Hardened hearts are the result of people's choices. The Israelites in the wilderness did not know God's ways, always going astray and chasing their own interests. Even with God's presence among them and all the miracles they saw, they were a complaining and disobedient people.

Q4, 5 – Sadly Christians may "fall away" from God, so the Christian Church needs to be a place where believers encourage, exhort and challenge one another to remain firm in the faith to the end.

Q7 – Christians become like 'rebellious Israelites' when we hear God's voice, then harden our hearts by refusing to listen or obey.

Lesson 5 – Hebrews 4:2-13 Entering God's Rest

Q1 – People remain unsaved because they don't unite God's message of salvation through Jesus (the Gospel) with personal faith.

Q2 – According to the Parable of the Sower, God's Word is often snatched away by the devil before it can be believed. Others who respond quickly may begin to believe, only to discover they have no stability of faith (roots) when tested or encountering difficulties (i.e., they quit quickly, too).

Q4 – God offers a "rest" to believers. As He rested on the 7th day from Creation, He beckons people to rest from trying to "work their way to heaven" (i.e., earn it). Salvation is God's gift to us, given by grace (God's love and kindness) in response to our faith in the Gospel. Jesus is described as the propitiation, the 'acceptable' sacrifice that satisfied God's wrath for the sin of all mankind.

Q7 – God's Word penetrates our lives like a sharp, 2-edged sword. It discerns our heart thoughts and intentions. It will keep us honest, humble and grounded. Over time we mature by letting God's Word teach us, reprove us, correct us, and train us to become complete and obedient believers.

Lesson 6 – Hebrews 4:14-5:10 Jesus the Great High Priest

Q2, 3 – Jesus was tempted in every way as we are while here in human form --- BUT WITHOUT SINNING! He is fully able to sympathize with our weaknesses and temptations. Therefore, believers must hold fast to their confession about Jesus as God and His role as Mankind's Intercessor, and draw near to Him with confidence that He will help us in our times of need.

Q7 – Jesus prayed for us as a High Priest in John 17, asking that through our unity the world would come to recognize that God the Father sent Him, God the Son.

Q8 – Jesus is the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. He is the Way to the Father, and the only Mediator between God and Mankind.

Lesson 7 – Hebrews 5:11-6:8 Grow Up!...In God's Word

Q1 – Christians who have been coming to church a long time sometimes become "dull of hearing," no longer applying lessons they're learning from the weekly sermons and SS classes to their lives. The expectation is that as they grow in Biblical knowledge and mature in Christ, they ought to become teachers and mentors in their fellowships.

Q4 – Christians mature as they "practice" discerning the principles of God's Word against the activities in their culture to understand right from wrong. Obedience is an action on our part derived from understanding and applying God's Word to our life issues.

Q5 – Elementary Bible teachings include: 1) Salvation NOT being by works; 2) Faith in Jesus required to be saved; 3) Rituals and Sacraments as temporary guides pointing to God's work; 4) Praying for people by laying on of hands; 5) Resurrection from the dead; and 6) Final judgment before God.

Q6 – 1) God's Word teaches us God's ways; 2) It convicts us and rebukes us for wrong behavior and faulty thinking; 3) It shows us God's correct way to think and act; and 4) It trains and guides us to live righteously in an unrighteous world, drawing others to God because of our life testimony.

Q7, 8 – Believers are always worried about folks in church who seem to walk away from the faith. God knows who will and will not be saved. We should pray for, perhaps chat with, folks we miss!

Lesson 8 – Hebrews 6:9-20 Certainty of God's Promises

Q2 – God cares about good works. We are not saved by them, but He created us to do them. He has an expectation for each believer, and James adds that our faith is proven by our works.

Q4 – To avoid becoming sluggish in our faith, we need to hold onto our earnest commitment, assurance, and hope --- to the very end. We are to imitate believers who through trust in God's promises and by perseverance have experienced much in life without giving up on their faith.

Q4, 5 – Abraham waited 25 years for God's promise of an heir to be fulfilled through his wife, Sarah. It's hard to wait this long without genuine faith. 25 years is 1/3 of a normal lifetime today….

Q6 – It is impossible for God to lie.

Q7 – God's character and Word are unchanging. We who seek refuge in Him must hold fast to this hope.

Q8 – Jesus has opened up the Holy of Holies --- the inner room of God's presence --- to all believers, and He encourages us to approach God boldly today in prayer.