

The Epistle to the Hebrews

Use of the Old Testament

- Questions

1. The author of Hebrews refers to many OT scriptures throughout the book of Hebrews to make his point. What main point does the author make from the following OT scriptures?

Psalm 2:7 (Heb. 1:5; 5:5) –

Psalm 8:4-6 (Heb. 2:6-8) –

Psalm 95:7-11 (Heb. 3:7-11, 15; 4:3, 7) –

Psalm 110: 1, 4 (Heb. 1:13; 5:6; 7:17, 20) –

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Heb. 8:8-12; 10:16-17) –

Proverbs 3:11-12 (Heb. 12:5-6) -

2. The author of Hebrews refers to many OT examples throughout the book of Hebrews to make his point. What main point does the author make from the following OT examples?

Moses (Heb. 3:1-6) –

Israel in the wilderness (3:7 – 4:11) –

OT priests (4:14 – 5:5; 7:26 – 8:3; 9:6-7, 11-14, 23-26; 10:11-14) –

Melchizedek (Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:1-10) –

Abraham (Heb. 6:12-18) –

Abel to Samuel and the prophets (Heb. 10:39 – 12:1) –

Esau (Heb. 12:14-17) –

3. While the author of Hebrews refers to OT scriptures and OT examples many times, he also makes it very clear that the Old Law (Covenant) has passed away. The Old Law (Covenant) is no longer in force: *“He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second”* (10:9). What main point about the passing of the Old Law does the author make from the following passages?

A change in the priesthood (Heb. 7:11-17) –

A lack of perfection (Heb. 7:11, 18-28; 8:7-8; 9:9; 10:1-14) –

The copy, shadow, figure, and pattern of the priesthood and tabernacle (Heb. 8:1-5; 9:1-10, 11, 23-24; 10:1) –

The prophecy of a new covenant (Heb. 8:6-13; 10:15-18) –

- Applications for Today

1. Christians should use the OT to demonstrate the coming of Jesus Christ (Lk. 4:16-21; 24:25-27, 32, 44-46; Jn. 1:45; 5:39-47; Acts 8:26ff; 13:26ff; 17:2-3; 18:24-28; 28:23-24; Gal. 3:24-25).
2. Christians should use the OT to demonstrate the unfolding plan of God to save mankind (Rom. 1:2; 16:26; Gal. 3:8; Col. 2:17; Heb. 8:5; 10:1; 1 Pet. 1:10-12).
3. Christians should use the OT to be admonished by its examples, both good and bad (Mt. 12:41-42; Rom. 4:23-25; 1 Cor. 10:1-11; Heb. 4:1ff; 11:4ff; Jas. 5:10, 17-18; 2 Pet. 2:6; Jude 7, 11).
4. Christians should use the OT to be warned about disobedience (Acts 7:39; Rom. 11:22; Heb. 2:1-3; 10:28-29) and to be warned about the Devil (2 Cor. 11:3).
5. Christians should use the OT for comfort and hope (Rom. 15:4, 13).
6. Christians should not use the OT as a binding covenant for salvation or for worship to God (Rom. 7:1-6; 2 Cor. 3:6-18; Gal. 5:1-4; Eph. 2:14; Col. 2:14; Heb. 10:9).