

## *“The Divine Object of our faith”*

### **Introduction:**

The question is not whether or not we have faith. The question is: *is our faith Biblical, the kind of faith that can save and keep us unto eternal life, so that we will live for the glory of God in all things?*

- The problem of the Hebrew believers was that their Biblical **faith** was under attack and they were *in danger of abandoning Christ*.
- They were being tempted to abandon their Biblical faith for **unBiblical** faith.

*What did they need?*

- Their Biblical **faith** needed to be adjusted and strengthened and encouraged.
- They were being tempted to look to the wrong source or object as the solution to their problems which would have allowed them to be swallowed by their problems.

*How was their Biblical faith encouraged and strengthened?*

It had to be re-directed **from** looking to the wrong source **to** looking to the correct Source.

The difference between natural faith and Biblical faith is not in its function, but in its object and its result.

**Biblical** faith is never abstract. It is always specific as to its Object and its result. Faith is Biblical only when it is faith in the Person and work of Jesus Christ. All other faith is spurious and destructive.

Therefore, the Hebrew believers had to have their Biblical faith protected and strengthened.

### **An outline of Hebrews:**

*How was the Biblical faith of the believers strengthened and encouraged?*

Through the encouragement of the Scriptures:

**Romans 15:4** *“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the **encouragement** of the **Scriptures** we might have hope”*

...and what do the Scriptures teach?

*The Person of Christ is the True Object of Biblical faith.*

1. Christ is superior in His Person: **(1:1-4:13)**
  - a. As the Son of God: **(1:1-2:4)**
  - b. As the Son of Man: **(2:5-4:13)**
  
2. Christ is superior in His work [the confirmation of His Person as the eternal Son]: **(4:14-13:25)**
  - a. His finished priestly work:-the cross: **(4:14-10:18)**
  - b. His continuing priestly work-the Holy Spirit: **(10:19-13:25)**
  - As we see, **all of Hebrews** has but one **Subject**: Jesus Christ and His work.
  - As we see, **all of Hebrews** has but one **Source of information**: The Scriptures

If we want our faith to be matured we look to know Jesus more intimately. If we want to know more about Him ,we look to the Word.

## Christ is Superior:

*Jesus is presented as Superior in two categories: As the Son of God and as the Son of Man*

The first and *most important* issue about Jesus’ superiority is that **He is divine**.  
Everything about Christianity rests on this one central truth:

Jesus is, has been and always will be *divine in himself, forever*. Jesus’ divinity is the first issue of **Hebrews**:

**Ch. 1:1-4:** *The Person of Christ is introduced:*

- v. 1: God revealed Himself partially before the coming of Jesus
- v. 2: Jesus is now God’s literal language to us.

Following this is a list of several facts about the Person of Christ

- v. 2: The Son is the heir of all things through His obedience and submission to the Father [John 5]
- v. 2.: He is the Creator of all things [John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16]
- v. 3: He is the exact representation [image: Gen. 1:26; Col. 1:15; Rom. 8:29] of the Father’s nature [John 14:9]
  - He sustains the universe through the “word of His power”
  - He is the Purifier of all sin [ John1:29;13:10; 1John 1:7; 2:2 5:3; 1 Peter 1:18]
  - He is the Finisher of God’s work having sat down at God’s Right Hand.

v. 4: God has given Him a “much better Name” than all others in heaven and earth:[Phil. 2: 9-11]

**Ch. 1:5-14:** *As the Son of God, Jesus is shown to be superior to the angels in at least five categories:*

- (1) His is the unique relationship to God (v. 5)
  - (a) Jesus is the only begotten Son [Ps. 2:7; Phil 2:5-8]
  - (b) God is uniquely Jesus’ Father [2 Sam. 7:14]
- (2) He is worthy to be worshiped and praised (v. 6-7)
  - (a) Jesus is worshiped by the angels [Ps. 97:7]
  - (b) Jesus is served by the angels [Ps. 104:4]
- (3) He is exalted (v. 8-9)
  - (a) Jesus has an exalted Throne [Ps. 45:6]
  - (b) Jesus has loved righteousness [Ps. 45:7]
  - (c) Jesus has been anointed by God [Is. 61:1,3]
- (4) He has power to create (v. 10-12)
  - (a) Jesus has created all creation [Ps. 102:25;]
  - (b) Jesus is timeless while His creation will become old [Ps. 102:26-27; Is. 51:6]
- (5) He is glorified (v. 13-14)
  - (a) Jesus is seated at the Right Hand of God [Ps. 110:1]
  - (b) Jesus is ruling over all His enemies [Ps. 110:1; Eph 1:22]

Jesus is not only Superior as the Son of God, but also as the Son of Man, the God-Man. Jesus is the Son of Man, God dwelling among us as a REAL Man:

**John 1:1:** *“In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God and the Word was God”*

This single verse presents the Divinity of Jesus in three statements:

1. He is eternal: *in the beginning was the Word*
2. He is a distinct Person: *the Word was with God*
3. He is God: *the Word was God*

Then in John 1:14, the Holy Spirit tells us:

*“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth”*

**Ch. 2:5-4:13:** *Now, as the Man Jesus, the Eternal Son of God, God the Son has become a Man and is superior to all others:*

1.) Jesus took upon Himself our humanity (2:5-8)

- As a Man all things are subject to Him
- The subjection of all things in reality is not yet realized
- He became a little lower than the angels

2.) As a Man, Jesus is the Redeemer of man (2:9-18)

- He was made a Man, little lower than the angels for a little period of time
- He suffered man's death for man
- He broke Satan's weapon of death, thereby delivering men from the fear of death
- He is the merciful and faithful High Priest Who helps men, not angels
- He made propitiation for the sin of mankind
- Therefore, He was qualified to come to the aid of man

3.) As a the Son of Man is shown to be superior even to Moses who was a servant in God's house, but Jesus is the Son over the House of God (3:1-6)

**Therefore**, the church is encouraged to consider Jesus as the only True Object of their faith because HE is the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.

## What are we to do with all of this information?

Knowing all of this about Jesus, Who He is and ever will be, is it any wonder why Paul says what he does in Romans 8: 31-39?

1. Develop an exalted understanding of Jesus by studying what the Word says about Him NOW.
2. Learn how faithful Jesus was as a Man and remember He still is as faithful.
3. Remember Jesus' power over all things, storms, diseases, demons, mean people, sin and know that He still has the power over all things.
4. Seek to have a greater experience of Jesus' love for you so that His love can melt away the issues of sin in your life.
5. Recall the prayers of Jesus and how God answered them and remember that we now have the privilege and responsibility to pray in His Name.
6. Remember that as He came the first time, He's coming back.
7. Seek for the gifting He had to be yours.
8. As He walked in holiness, know that we also can walk holy.

## How to do all of this?

- We must place our faith in Him, not as a doctrine, a theory but as the Living Man in the Heavens Who is there for us.
- We must have faith that Who He was on earth for us, He is now the same in Heaven for us.
- We must remember that HE is our strength our supply our shield, our sword, our everything as we welcome and walk **with** Him through life.