

“VOICE OF PAUL-x-LUKE” SERIES

This series shows how the writings of the apostle Paul and his traveling-&-writing assistant Luke, all tie in together to construct “the basic frame of the entire New Testament” from 16 of its books. Under Paul’s unique influence, all these writings emphasize *God forging His People into a new kind of Followership whose “growth policy” involves embodying every kind of people & heritage.* It is within the framework of this people-building endeavor that (1) the Forgiving-&-Restoring Power of Jesus especially gets to be displayed, and where (2) its best participants are those whose lives have God’s Presence “pouring forth” within them.

study #34: Does Paul Write **Hebrews** (“Cosmic Brothers”, cont.) to Priests in Antioch? — covering **Hebrews 7-13** —

ACTION #1. The very 1st-half of **Hebrews** shows its readers how the legacies of both ¹Moses and ²Joshua were *always* meant to be massive examples of **the even-better characteristics of the coming Messiah, Jesus**. The 2nd-half of **Hebrews** doubles down on that theme, describing the legacy of “the original Hebrew/Jew” ³Abraham, plus his descendants’ tribal ⁴Priesthood, and even the original ⁵Temple-&-Sacrifices system: these, too, were all meant to point out **the even-better characteristics of the coming Messiah, Jesus**. As a group, discuss:

- what do folks in your group know about any of the 5 Hebrew/Jewish names or themes in blue above?
- why might it be smart or important to connect those Jewish themes with “how the Messiah works”?

ACTION #2. Read **Hebrews 10:19-25** & **32-29** and then discuss:

- re-describe in your own words what each of these 2 batches of verses is saying
- what does it sound like the readers of this book have already been through and experienced in the past?
- would you say the author’s spirit sounds more “sympathetic,” or “hurry-up-&-get-back-up-&-go-again”?

ACTION #3. One of people’s most favorite sections in the entire Bible is **Hebrews chapter 11**—a long list of Hebrew ⁶World-Changers who were really just living bravely for God. Browse through it—each on your own for just a minute—then read **Hebrews 12:1-11** all together and discuss:

- how is the author using the list of World-Changers in **chapter 11** to exhort readers to “step it up”?
- in your own words, what all is the author saying here in his teaching about God’s “discipline”?
- (from browsing **chapter 11** briefly, which verse or person in it connects with you the most?)

ACTION #4. The author wants to show readers that **Jesus’ Messiahship has a more excellent Hebrew DNA than each of the 6 massive Hebrew themes above**. (Basically, a bold and daring relationship with Jesus literally brings us everything we should ever need or want). Read **Hebrews 12:18-24** & **13:10-14** and then discuss:

- in **Hebrews 12:18-24**, *what exactly* have those following Christ successfully “come to”?
- in **Hebrews 13:10-14**, how was Jesus an “outsider” and why is it good to know this?

EXTRA... FOR THOSE MOTIVATED, DEVOTED, & WITH SOME SELF-COMMAND:

GOLD CHALLENGE ...read ahead (& maybe journal about) for next study: **Philippians**

PENGUIN CHALLENGE ... (=daily reading + cover full NT+Psalms during series): read **GC** plus **Revelation 15-18**