

# **The Book of Hebrews Speaks to Christian Men about Living with Integrity and Honesty in Today's World.**

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## **Introduction:**

The book of Hebrews purports to be written to Old Testament, Law believing, Jews in an attempt to convince them that the Covenant of Grace replaced the Law. It outlines how rewards for following Laws and giving animal sacrifices (carnal) fades in comparison to Salvation via the Gospel, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, resulting in purity of heart.

In today's world, no one says what they truly mean. Instead people are motivated to be private, secretive, selfish, devious, and down right dishonest. The drive to get-ahead or be-successful is at the heart and in the mind of nearly everyone you meet. When asked a simple question people are more likely to evaluate why the question is being asked, how they should "feel" about the question, what answer would produce least conflict, and how a given answer would produce most personal gain. While all this analysis is going on, reality and truth takes a back seat.

It pains me that discussions are not direct, that I shouldn't show my weaknesses, and I'm not allowed to ask for, and expect to get, real and truthful answers. In this world where self is king, feelings are regarded as more substantive than truth and reality. So, for a long time, I have asked God to reveal some means to deal with this struggle short of isolating myself from the world.

The author of the Book of Hebrews seems to be dealing with this struggle. As I said, the book is written to the Hebrews that tended to align with the Old Testament Law rather than New Testament Grace. God had changed the means of saving His people with a new Covenant through His Son. And some of His "chosen people" refused to "get it." At times the author makes inferences rather than a direct rebuke of the Jews. Struggling with how to deliver the news and encourage God's chosen people to accept and practice this Covenant of purity and Grace. I believe this struggle is in Christen Men today:

- Being indirect to cover the true intents of our heart.
- Being politically correct as opposed to honest.
- Doing the least possible to stay within the worlds rules as opposed to being pure of intent.
- To what degree can Man reach the purity of Christ?
- What is integrity?

My goal in this study is to traverse the Book of Hebrews while eliciting discussion on two things:

- 1.) How the Book of Hebrews views the difference between OT Law and NT Grace.
- 2.) How Christen Men can maintain Christ's sinless example in a World that penalizes, and even holds as foolish total honesty and fairness.

Be Blessed, Pat Turner

P.S. This is the first Bible study I have ever written. My questions and answers may be naïve, and for that please forgive me. I was looking for answers and felt I was being told that this was the place to start. Please partake of this study with the wonderment with which it was written.