

Philemon:
a short
story with
no known
ending.

<u>A little</u> <u>background:</u>

Philemon is a wealthy Christian convert in Colossae

Apphia is his wife and Archippus is his son.

Onesimus is Philemon's slave.

Onesimus has run away from Philemon after apparently stealing something. (Verse18)

This is a letter from Paul to Philemon to plead for mercy from Philemon towards Onesimus.

Since both Philemon and Onesimus are recent converts to Christianity, Paul appeals to Philemon based on love. Philemon has a every legal right to brutally punish his slave. The punishment could be quite harsh.

Paul sends Onesimus back to Philemon. Hopefully, his owner will now accept him as a 'brother' and not as a slave. (Verse12)

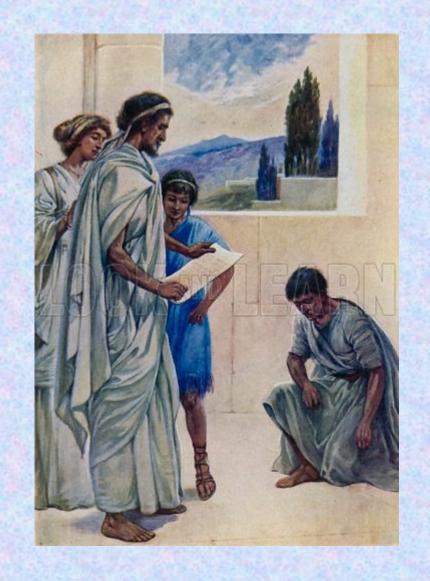
The conclusion of the story is not known.

However, fifty years after this occurred, Ignatius wrote a letter to the church in Ephesus. Part of the letter was praise of their great bishop-named Onesimus.

Our "take away" is this:

"Everyone who has repented of sin and come to Christ should be welcomed as a brother or sister, treated gently, and forgiven by other believers."

Short version: "Forgive and forget."





Three tough questions about Hebrews:

- 1. When was it written? (~66AD?)
- 2. Who wrote it? (Probably not Paul.)
- 3. Who was it originally written to? Perhaps the Jews in Rome.(13:24)





• The key text for Hebrews is found in Chapter 1:1-3.

 The Epistle to the Hebrews proclaims God's Final Word has been spoken through His son, Jesus Christ.

 The rest of the book seeks to show that Jesus is superior to everything in Jewish history.

OUTLINE:

- I. The Superiority of Christ over the Old Testament Prophets (1:1-3)
- II. The Superiority of Christ over Angels (1:4-2:18)
- III. The Superiority of Christ over Moses (3:1-19)
- IV. The Superiority of Christ over Joshua (4:1-11)
- V. The Superiority of Christ over Aaron (4:14-10:18)
- VI. The Practice of Spiritual Endurance (10:19-12:29)
- VII. Final Exhortations (13:1-25)



Christ is superior to angels.

Hebrews 1:14

Jesus is greater than Moses!!

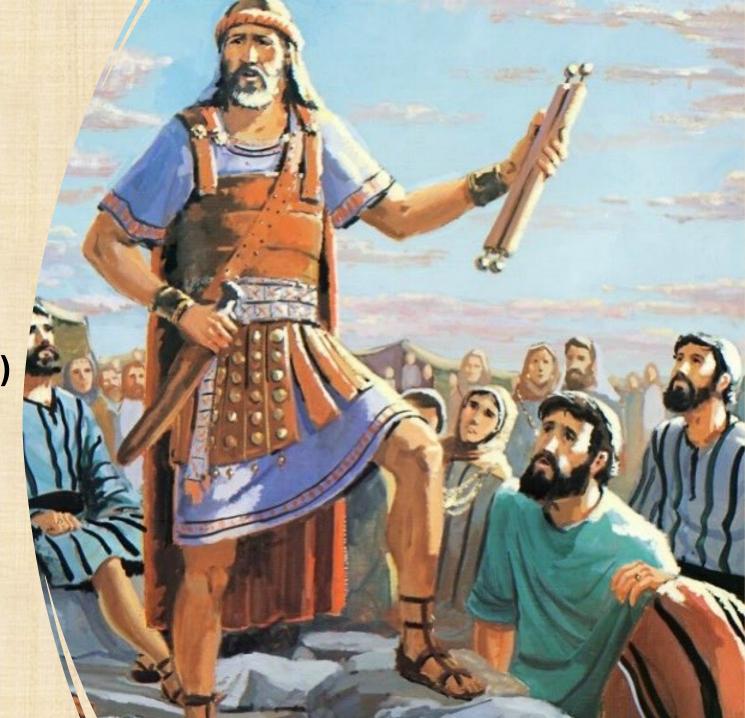
"The builder of the house has greater honor than the house..."

Chapter 3:3-6



 Jesus Christ is greater than Joshua.

 Joshua could not offer the Israelites a rest (Chap.4:8-11)



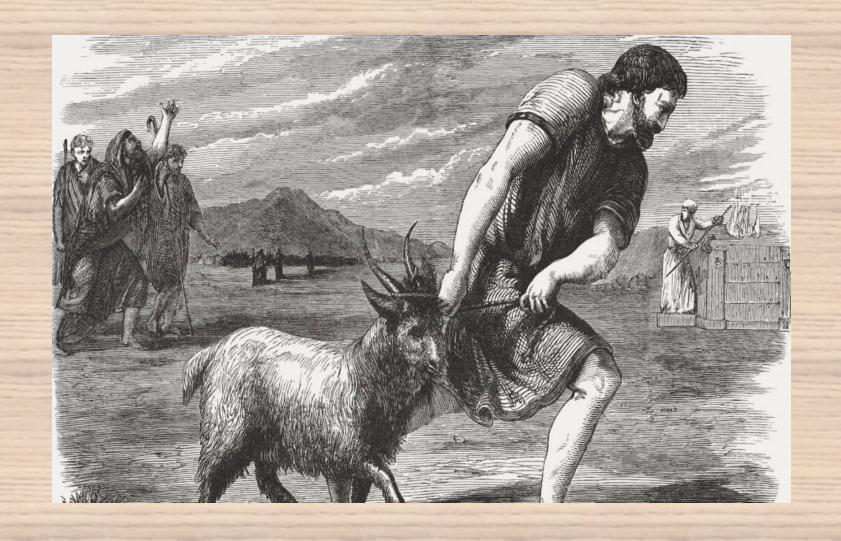


- Jesus is higher than the greatest priests, such as Aaron and Melchizedek.
 Jesus is the high priest of a New Covenant.
- (Chapter 8)
- The 'old' covenant is gone, and a new covenant has been created.

Christ's sacrifice on the cross was a sacrifice offered Once for all and for all time.

Chapter 10:1-4

Animals could never really take our sins away!



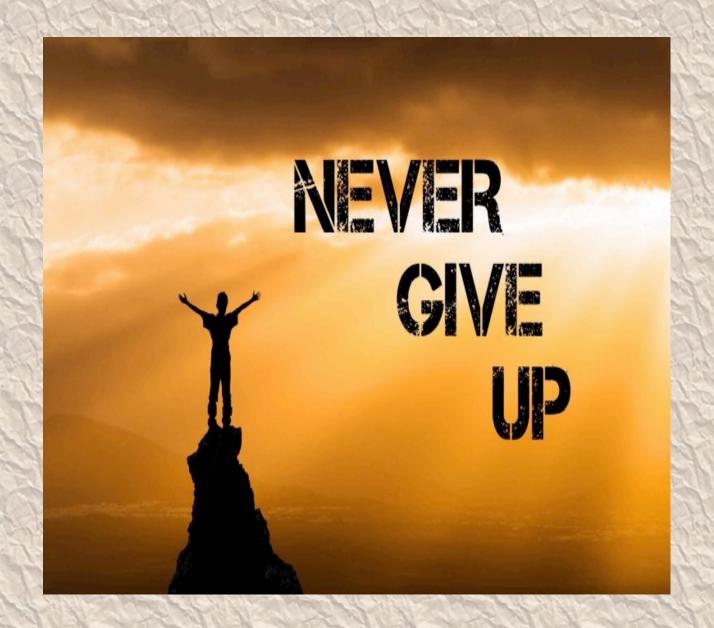
Who forgives sin?

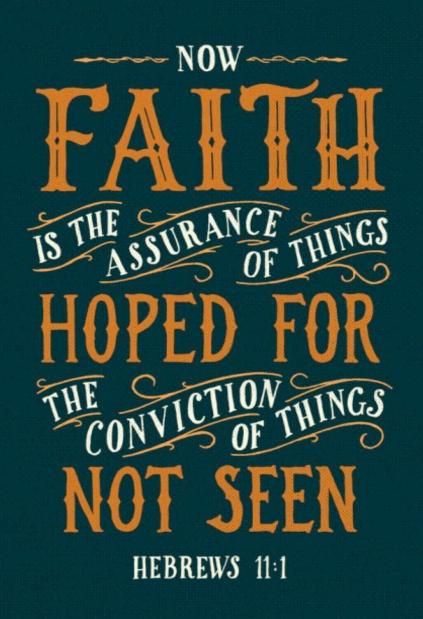
Christ's universal sacrifice described In chapter 10:11-18.



Perseverance in Faith.

This is the heart and reason for Hebrews. (verses 10:23-25)





Perseverance brings about faith and faith brings forth perseverance.



HEROES OF FAITH

Hebrens II

Abel **Enoch** Noah **Abraham** Isaac Jacob Joseph Moses Rahab Gideon Barak Samuel **Jephthah**

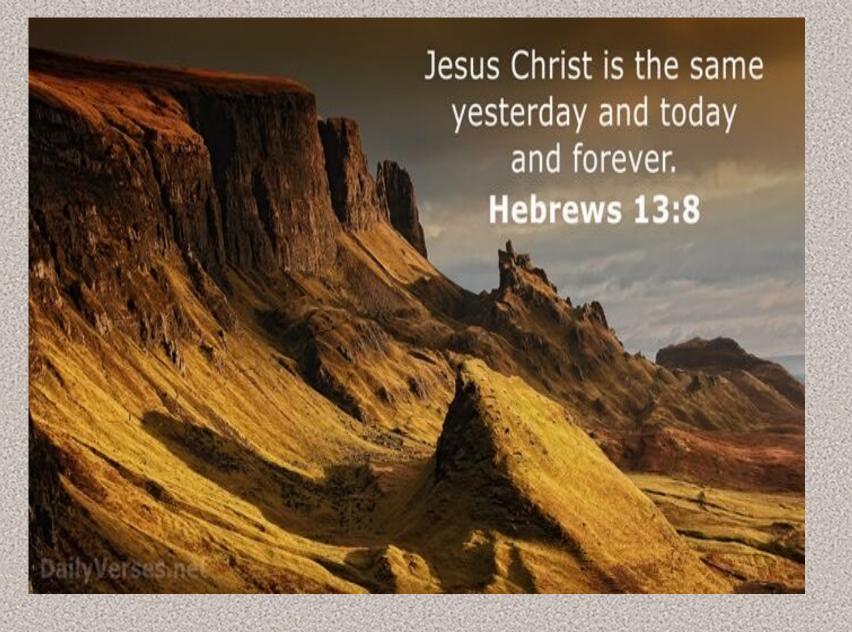


Let's run the race with eyes on Jesus the prize of all time!



The Book of Hebrews concludes with some exhortations found in Chap. 13.





We can persevere because Jesus never changes and is always there. The Final greeting mentions Timothy and greetings to those from Italy.

Hebrews 13:23-24

- ²³ I want you to know that our brother

 Timothy has been released. If he arrives soon, I
 will come with him to see you.
- ²⁴ Greet all your leaders and all the Lord's people. Those from Italy send you their greetings.

"Grace and be with you all."

Hebrews 13:25

Questions, Comments, Concerns

