

# The Argument of Hebrews<sup>1</sup>

- I. The Exalted Son and a Rest for the People of God (1:1–4:13)
  - A. Exordium (1:1–4)
  - B. **Exposition:** The Exalted Status of the Son (1:5–14)
  - C. **Exhortation:** Take Hold of Your Great Salvation (2:1–4) [and *warning* 2:3 – *mw*]
  - D. **Exposition:** The Humanity of the Son and its Significance (2:5–18)
    - 1. The Son of Man of Psalm 8 (2:5–9)
    - 2. Jesus’s Identification with Humans (2:10–18)
  - E. **Exhortation:** Focus on the Faithful Son (3:1–6)
  - F. **Exhortation:** Avoid the Fate of the Wilderness Generation (3:7–4:11)
    - 1. The **Warning** from Scripture (3:7–11)
    - 2. The Disaster of Unbelief (3:12–19)
    - 3. Entering the Rest (4:1–11)
  - G. **Exposition:** The Power of the Word of God (4:12–13)
- II. Our Great High Priest and His Ministry (4:14–10:31)
  - A. **Exhortation:** Persevere through the Power of our Exalted High Priest (4:14–16)
  - B. **Exposition:** High Priests and our High Priest (5:1–10)
  - C. **Exhortation:** Move on to Maturity (5:11–6:20)
    - 1. Avoiding Spiritual Stagnation (5:11–6:12)
      - a. Growing by Feeding on Solid Food (5:11–6:3)
      - b. **Warning** and Promise (6:4–12) [and *encouragement* 9–12 – *mw*]
    - 2. The Dependable Promises of God (6:13–20)
  - D. **Exposition:** A High Priest “According to the Order of Melchizedek” (7:1–28)
    - 1. Melchizedek’s Supremacy Over Abraham (Genesis 14:17–20) (7:1–10)
    - 2. The Supremacy and Sufficiency of our High Priest (Psalm 110:4) (7:11–25)
    - 3. The High Priest who is Also the Son (7:26–28)
  - E. **Exposition:** The Ministry of our High Priest (8:1–10:18)
    - 1. Overview: Sanctuary, Sacrifice, and Covenant (8:1–6)
    - 2. Covenant (8:7–13)
    - 3. The Earthly Sanctuary and Its Regulations: An Illustration of the New (9:1–10)
    - 4. Eternal Redemption: Heavenly Sanctuary, Decisive Sacrifice, and New Covenant (9:11–28)
    - 5. The Ultimate Sacrifice (10:1–18)
  - F. **Exhortation** and **Warning:** Appropriating the Benefits of our High Priest’s Ministry (10:19–31)
    - 1. **Encouragement** to Appropriate and Act on Christ’s high-priestly work (10:19–25)
    - 2. **Warning** about Rejecting Christ’s high-priestly Work (10:26–31)
- III. **Exhortation:** Follow and Serve the Pioneer of our Faith through Endurance and Faith (10:32–13:25)
  - A. Introductory Call to Endurance and Faith (10:32–39)
  - B. The Nature and Power of Faith Illustrated in Salvation History (11:1–40)
    - 1. The Ancients Commended for the Faith that Sees the Unseen (11:1–7)
    - 2. Faith in the Patriarchal Era (11:8–22)
    - 3. Faith in the Era of the Exodus and Conquest (11:23–31)
    - 4. The Faith of Judges, Prophets, Women, and Martyrs (11:32–38)
    - 5. The Ancients Commended for Faith that Looks to the Future (11:39–40)
  - C. Run the Race with Endurance, remembering that you are Children of God (12:1–17) [and *warning* 12:15 *mw*]
  - D. Coming to Mount Zion and Inheriting the Unshakeable Kingdom (12:18–29) [*encouragement* – *mw*]
  - E. Letter Closing (13:1–25)
    - 1. Concluding **Exhortations** and **Encouragement** (13:1–17)
    - 2. Concluding Epistolary Matters (13:18–25)

<sup>1</sup> Based on Douglas Moo, *The Letter to the Hebrews*; Denver Seminary Shannon Preaching Lectureship and Seminar, 2023. Used by permission.