**Hebrews: An Introduction**

The Epistle of Hebrews, probably written around 70 AD, has no known author. A number of possible writers are identified by various scholars including Paul, Priscilla, Barnabas and others. Whoever the author (s), the writing style suggests that Paul probably influenced the composition.

The letter begins with an inclusive message of Christian and Jewish traditions (Life Application/NIV), asserting that Jesus is Messiah over all. Throughout the 13 chapters, Hebrews points to behaviors to avoid, the importance of faith and devotion, and remembering the history of their salvation which called them to a different walk.

Some Jewish converts to Christianity probably found this message difficult, since they were still privy to Jewish worship traditions. As with other new members of the Christian faith, leaving behind old habits and ingrained traditions was a challenge. This may count for the emphasis on faith and living a renewed life as taught by Jesus the Christ (Ch. 9, 11).

**Terms**:

Abraham

Ancestors

Faith

High Priest

Holy

Jews/Christians

Melchizedek

Moses

Sacrifice

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**Notes**:

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