

# New Testament Overview

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## Hebrews – II Peter

(He 5:11-14)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons covering the "New Testament Overview."
  - a. We will be looking at "Hebrews – II Peter."
3. Let us begin looking at our lessons tonight.

### I. Hebrews

#### A. History

1. Disputed writer
  - i. Most say Paul...some say other.
2. Written before A.D. 70 – **He 10:25**.
3. Written to Jewish Christians.
  - i. Being persecuted.
  - ii. Looking at going back to Judaism.
4. Key word in Hebrews is “better.”

#### B. Outline

1. **(1:1-2:18)** Christ is superior to angels
2. **(3:1-4:13)** Christ is superior to Moses & Joshua
3. **(4:14-10:18)** Christ is superior to the Mosaic priesthood
4. **(10:19-11:40)** Exhortations to faith
5. **(12:1-13:19)** Exhortations to faithful Christian living
6. **(13:20-25)** Closing remarks

#### C. Lessons Learned

1. If we don't grow spiritually we drift away.
  - i. **He 2:1** "Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away."<sup>1</sup>
  - ii. **He 5:12-14** "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."
2. If Christians drift away it is hard to come back.
  - i. **He 6:4-6** "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame."

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<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are taken from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.

# New Testament Overview

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- ii. **II Pt 2:20-22** "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.""

## II. James

### A. History

1. Classified as a "General Epistle" because it was not written to anyone specifically...just Christians.
  - i. Much like Book of John
2. Was written most likely by Jesus' half brother James who became a Christian after the resurrection.
  - i. **Mt 13:55; Ac 1:14**
3. This book was probably written early in the Christian age.
4. Has been called by some the Proverbs of the N.T.
  - i. Based of the many moral precepts given.

### B. Outline

1. **(1:1)** Greeting
2. **(1:2-16)** Facing tests, trials, & temptations
3. **(1:17-27)** The saving word must be enacted as daily religion
4. **(2:1-13)** Exhibit impartial love for everyone
5. **(2:14-26)** Faith must act
6. **(3:1-12)** Control the tongue
7. **(3:13-18)** Wisdom is indispensable to Christian conduct.
8. **(4:1-5:6)** Worldliness is antagonistic to Christian wisdom
9. **(5:7-12)** Exercise patience
10. **(5:13-18)** Pray
11. **(5:19-20)** Encourage others to remain faithful

### C. Lessons Learned

1. Be doers of the Word not just hears.
  - i. **Ja 1:22** "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."
  - ii. **Ja 2:20** "But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?"

# New Testament Overview

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## III. I Peter

### A. History

1. Written by the apostle Peter.
  - i. In the early 60's .
2. Was written to the scattered Christians throughout the Roman Empire.
  - i. He calls them sojourners or pilgrims.
3. I Peter was written to teach that the grace of God is the Christian religion.
  - i. That these mostly Gentile Christians should have joy, hope, and courage as faithful Christians.

### B. Outline

1. **(1:1-2)** Greeting
2. **(1:3-12)** Praise to God & Christ for the gospel & salvation
3. **(1:13-5:11)** What it means to stand in God's grace ie live holy lives
4. **(5:12)** Thematic statement
5. **(5:13-14)** Closing greetings

### C. Lessons Learned

1. We must be ready to defend God joyfully.
  - i. **I Pt 3:15** "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear"
    - a. Make God Holy in your hearts.
    - b. Defend God based on your hope.

## IV. II Peter

### A. History

1. Written by the apostle Peter again.
  - i. Written in the mid to late 60's.
  - ii. Peter was likely nearing the end of his life.
2. II Peter as well was written to the scattered Christians of the Roman Empire.
3. Peter was very concerned about the development and growth of these Christians.
  - i. Peter warned them to avoid those false teachers and remember the teachings.

### B. Outline

1. **(1:1-2)** Greeting
2. **(1:3-11)** Thematic elaboration "grow spiritually"
3. **(1:12-21)** Reminders regarding the certainty of divine knowledge
4. **(2)** Warning against false teachers
5. **(3:1-13)** Clarification regarding the end of time
6. **(3:14-18)** Closing admonitions

### C. Lessons Learned

1. Repetition is vital to Christianity
  - i. **II Pt 1:12** "For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth."

## New Testament Overview

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- ii. **II Pt 3:1** "Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder"
- iii. **I Co 9:27** "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

### CONCLUSION

1. What a wonderful set of books with so much to glean from. Our God truly is a great and awe inspiring God.
2. Question: Am I thankful each and every day from my Lord and Savior?
  - a. If so continue and grow therein.
  - b. If not make it right.
3. Invitation
  - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
    - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
  - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
    - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
    - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
    - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
    - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
    - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
    - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**