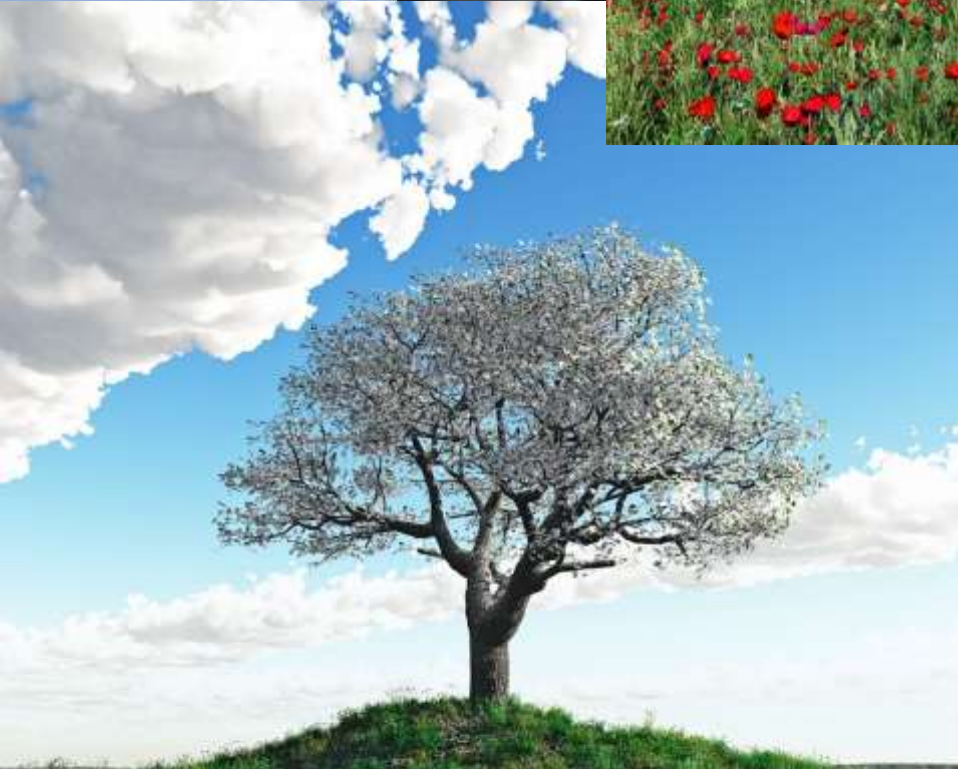


The background of the image is a dramatic, dark scene of a stormy sea under a heavy, dark sky. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. The water in the foreground is dark and turbulent, with white-capped waves. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS



SUMMER

- Full bloom, some summer crops
- Often a harsh, hot period
- Need to survive drought
- Time for pruning



8 steps of the “Path”

1. Faith
2. Excellence
3. Knowledge
4. Self-control
5. **Perseverance**
6. **Godliness**
7. Brotherly affection
8. Unselfish love

Perseverance is when we choose to trust God in every test, temptation, and trial

Godliness is when we work to align our character, ethics, worldview, and thought patterns with Christ



Outline of Hebrews

Part 1 – Jesus the Son (1:1–14)

Warning #1 (2:1–4)

Part 2 – Jesus the Man (2:5 – 3:6)

Warning #2 (3:7 – 4:13)

Part 3 – Jesus the High Priest (1) (4:14 – 5:10)

Warning #3 (5:11 – 6:12)

Outline of Hebrews

Part 4 – Jesus the High Priest (2) (6:13 – 10:25)

Warning #4 (10:26–39)

Part 5 – Encouragement to Persevere (11:1 – 12:13)

Warning #5 (12:14–29)

Part 6 – Final Instructions & Encouragement (13:1–25)

“Far from undermining the eternal security of the true believer, this epistle is freighted with many words, expressions, and concepts which affirm this truth in no uncertain terms, as well as to encourage all to personally enter into its full reality. The great irony of the misinterpretations of Hebrews is that this book has more words like *confidence/boldness* (4x), *assurance* (6x), *confirmation* (8x), *access* (3x), *promises* (17x), *hope* (6x),

than any other Bible book. The author not only spoke of Christ's eternal redemption (9:12), eternal salvation (5:9), eternal inheritance (9:15), but furthermore that He saves us forever (7:25), and that we are perfected for all time (10:4). In sum, Christ was sacrificed once-for-all that we might be saved once-for-all (7:25–27; 9:12, 25–6; 10:10–14).”

-- C. Gordon Olson

Writer and recipients

- The original audience was Jewish Christians, probably in Rome
- They were facing the beginning stages of Emperor Nero's persecution against Christians (and later, Jews) in AD 64–68
- We don't know the writer, but they knew him very well. It was almost certainly not Paul but someone close to him.

Why is Hebrews still so relevant and practical?

- 1) The writer never questioned the salvation of his readers; he always assumed they were believers
- 2) The readers were not satisfied with just a “spiritual” Christianity
- 3) The readers were tempted to hide their faith when it became inconvenient



*Jesus is better than
anything and anyone else*

Chase the Son!

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HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

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