

Paul's World 2025 C&Y sheet The Letter to the Hebrews — August 2025

Background information www.rootsforchurches.com/paulsworld2025

Did you know?

The writer of this 'letter' was probably not Paul, the writing style is quite different. We know that the writer knew about Jewish teaching and Greek philosophy. And that they loved Jesus and wanted others to follow him. Lots of stories from the Hebrew Jewish scriptures (the Old Testament in the Bible) are included, so that's why it was later called the letter to the Hebrews.

We think it was written for a group of Jewish Christians in around AD 60-70, when Christians in the Greek/Roman Empire were suffering because of their faith, under Emperors like Nero.

Imagine

You are living at a time when it's dangerous to be a Christian. You are outnumbered by others with different beliefs and customs. It's not fashionable to believe in just one thing and stick with it – people change which god they believe in regularly, depending on where they live and what they need. It would be a lot easier to forget about following Jesus. The writer wants you to take heart and not give up on Jesus, who is unchanging and steady. They remind you that Jesus is God's Son and the greatest person ever. You should keep trusting, even though you cannot see God. They explain that you can be close to God for ever, thanks to Jesus.

The writer recalls the Jewish heroes: Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Samuel, David – witnesses who stayed faithful to God. These heroes are cheering you on in your life's race, reminding you that Jesus is waiting at the finish line. God is with you and will save you.

Life today

It can still be challenging to follow Jesus. The image below of being cheered on by a crowd of witnesses is also encouraging news for many Christians today.

- Can you be a cheerleader for your Christian friends?
- How can you encourage them to keep going in faith?



Let us run the race that is set before us, not giving up but looking to Jesus the starter and finisher of our faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Hebrews 13:8