



HE READS TRUTH
BIBLE

CHRISTIAN
STANDARD
BIBLE®



HE READS TRUTH

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Something curious takes place when you go to the beach and get out into the ocean. After you spend some time floating with your goggles on, looking underwater for fish, or after you ride a few waves back to shore, you look up and think, *Wait a second. Who moved my stuff?* You're no longer looking straight to shore at your umbrella. Your towels and beach bag and chairs aren't where you left them. Then, in a split second, you realize that your stuff is just fine. You were the one who moved. While you were in the water, you drifted with the current down the shoreline, and this drift was imperceptible to you. What do you do next? You recenter yourself. You get back in line with the place you staked out on the shore.

The currents of this world, in ways imperceptible to us, are always driving us one way or another. We need a daily reminder of who God is, who we are, what a great salvation we've received, and how we're called to live. When we open God's Word on a daily basis, we are recentering ourselves on God's Word. We're saying: This is our anchor. This is our reference point. We are disciples of Jesus Christ—men who submit to the authority of whatever He says in His Word.

The Word is not only an anchor; it's also a weapon. The author of Hebrews describes the Word of God as "living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." The apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians: "Take the sword of the Spirit—which is the word of God." God's Word is described here as the spiritual weapon with which men of faith battle the powers and principalities that have arrayed themselves against the living God.

Unfortunately, research shows that many Christians own a Bible but rarely read it. No wonder we feel adrift in this world, without an anchor when the cultural winds blow and storm waters rise. No wonder we feel ill-equipped for our battle against sin; the sword God has given us sits sheathed on a shelf, collecting dust.

The Truth of God does not change, regardless of current, culture, or circumstance. But when we read the Bible regularly and apply it to our lives, we are changed. That's why He Reads Truth is committed to a singular mission: men in the Word of God every day.

This Bible is built on that mission. Everything about it is designed to draw you deeper into Scripture. From the type selection and page layout, to the Key Verses, charts, maps, and reading plans—everything here is meant to help you read the Word of God on a daily basis so that you come to recognize the awesome wonder and power of the God who speaks in these pages. Each book of the Bible includes an introduction that offers cultural and geographical context, and shows how it fits into the rest of Scripture. Each book also has a reading plan with supplemental passages because Scripture is the best interpreter of Scripture.

Our prayer is not that you would master this Book, but that this Book would master you—that in reading the Word of God you would grow in faith, hope, and love, until you resemble more and more the Savior who loves you and gave Himself for you.

Trevin Wax, PhD

PUBLISHER

2019

**HOLMAN**
BIBLES



HE READS TRUTH | BIBLE

The CSB *He Reads Truth Bible* includes robust, well-crafted theological extras to draw the reader back to Scripture, increase biblical literacy, and foster a growing affection for God and His Word. Color coded by genre, each book of the Bible features a detailed book introduction, a reading plan with supplemental passages for deeper understanding, and full-color maps, charts, and timelines by the He Reads Truth team. In addition, the *He Reads Truth Bible* features 66 key verses, artfully lettered to aid in Scripture memorization. This Bible invites every man to count himself as part of the He Reads Truth community of “Men in the Word of God every day.”

FEATURES INCLUDE:

66 hand-lettered key verses, 17 full-color timelines, 21 maps, 125 charts (including infographics and lists), and 4 illustrations, reading plans for every book of the Bible, one-year Bible reading plan, detailed book introductions, key verse list, Smyth-sewn binding, two colored ribbon markers, and wide margins for journaling and note taking.

The He Reads Truth Bible features the highly readable, highly reliable text of the Christian Standard Bible® (CSB). The CSB stays as literal as possible to the Bible’s original meaning without sacrificing clarity, making it easier to engage with Scripture’s life-transforming message and to share it with others.

HeReadsTruthBible.com

KEY VERSE

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed, and

Genesis

GENRE INDICATOR

Because each literary style should be approached differently, we've color-coded the various genres to make them easy to locate and identify.

ON THE TITLE PAGE: Authorship of the Book of Genesis is attributed to Moses, an influential Jewish leader from the 13th century BC. Though the text was written during the Babylonian Exile (6th-5th century BC), the events described are believed to have taken place in the 2nd millennium BC.

A LITTLE BACKGROUND: The Book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible. It tells the story of the world's first family, from the beginning of time to the birth of Isaac. It is divided into 50 chapters and is the longest book in the Bible. It is written in Hebrew and is the foundation of the Jewish faith.

MESSAGE AND PURPOSE: The Book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible. It tells the story of the world's first family, from the beginning of time to the birth of Isaac. It is divided into 50 chapters and is the longest book in the Bible. It is written in Hebrew and is the foundation of the Jewish faith.

OVER THANKS FOR THE BOOK OF GENESIS: Genesis is the first book of the Bible. It tells the story of the world's first family, from the beginning of time to the birth of Isaac. It is divided into 50 chapters and is the longest book in the Bible. It is written in Hebrew and is the foundation of the Jewish faith.

KEY VERSES

One theme verse was chosen for each individual book. Together, these sixty-six verses represent the complete arc of Scripture.

KEY VERSE ART:

Each key verse has been hand-lettered to aid in memorization and celebrate the beauty of the gospel.

INTRODUCTION

CULTURAL CONTEXT: Each introduction includes a brief overview of the approximate date of writing, authorship, historical context, and relevant geography.

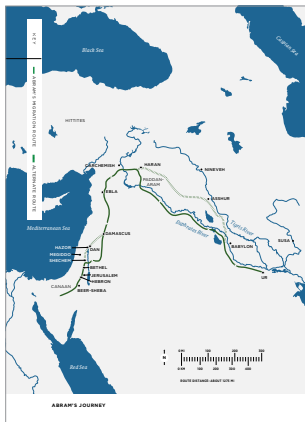
MESSAGE & PURPOSE: Each book introduction identifies main themes of the writing.

BIBLICAL SIGNIFICANCE: This note identifies how we can give thanks for each book's unique contribution to the canon of Scripture.

LAYOUT

GENEROUS MARGINS: Pages of biblical text include extra-wide margins for note taking.

CUSTOM BIBLE FONT: The CSB uses a custom font made specifically for optimum ease in Bible reading.



MAPS

Custom maps place events in geographical context to help us understand their cultural context.

Read & Understand Genesis

READING PLAN

Week 1	Genesis 1-11	Genesis 12-50
Genesis 1-11	Genesis 12-14	Genesis 15-16
Genesis 12-14	Genesis 17-18	Genesis 19-20
Genesis 21-22	Genesis 23-24	Genesis 25-26
Genesis 27-28	Genesis 29-30	Genesis 31-32
Genesis 33-34	Genesis 35-36	Genesis 37-38
Genesis 39-40	Genesis 41-42	Genesis 43-44
Genesis 45-46	Genesis 47-48	Genesis 49-50

OUTLINE

Genesis 1-11	Genesis 12-50
Creation and the Fall	Abraham and Isaac
The Flood and Noah	Jacob and the Patriarchs
Joseph and Egypt	Exile and Return

READ & UNDERSTAND

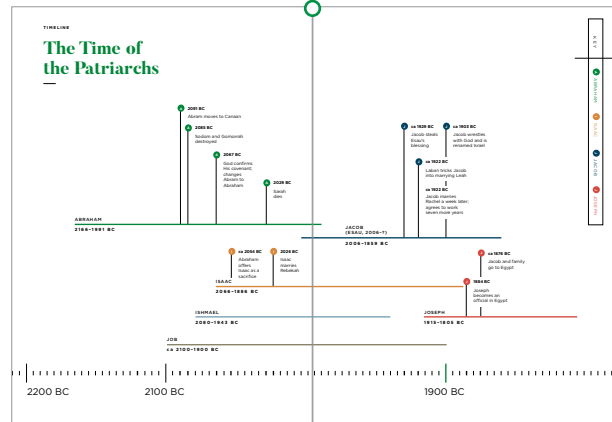
Each book has a custom reading plan and an outline.

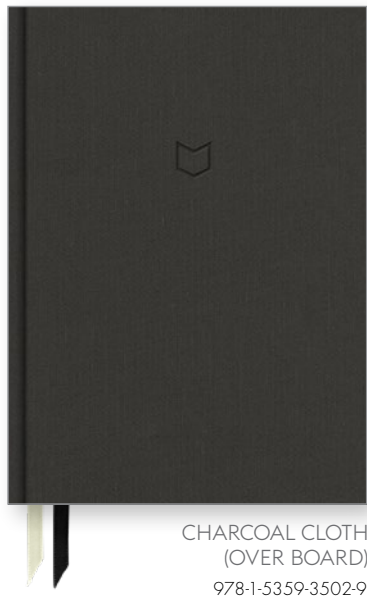
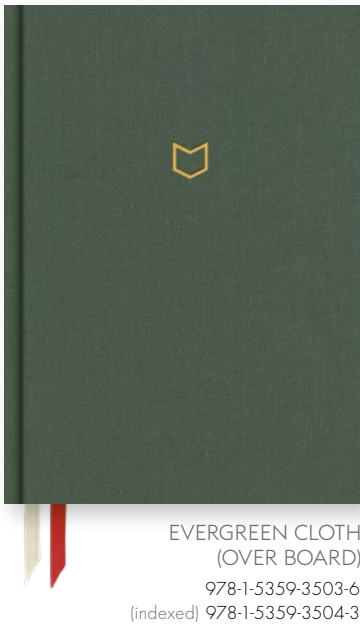
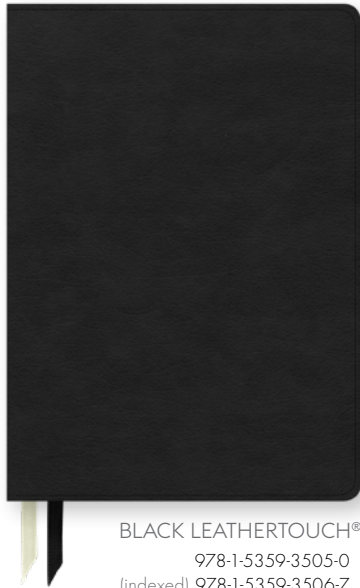
READING PLANS: Reading plans include supplementary passages for added context and deeper understanding.

OUTLINES: Simple outlines are included to help you see the structure of each book.

EXTRAS

Designed to add clarity and understanding, 125 extras are included throughout this Bible to organize information to aid you in your study of God's Word.





COVER OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Charcoal Cloth Over Board	978-1-5359-3502-9	\$39.99
Black LeatherTouch	978-1-5359-3505-0	\$49.99
Black LeatherTouch (Indexed)	978-1-5359-3506-7	\$59.99
Evergreen Cloth Over Board	978-1-5359-3503-6	\$49.99
Evergreen Cloth Over Board (Indexed)	978-1-5359-3504-3	\$59.99
Brown Genuine Leather	978-1-5359-3508-1	\$149.99
Brown Genuine Leather(Indexed)	978-1-5359-3509-8	\$159.99



MEN IN THE WORD OF GOD EVERY DAY

Founded in 2015 as a companion to She Reads Truth, He Reads Truth is a worldwide community of men in the Word of God every day. Through curated Scripture reading plans, daily devotionals, a Bible app, and The Legacy Book Series, He Reads Truth exists to cultivate biblical literacy among the people of God for the glory of God.

Learn more at HeReadsTruth.com





THE CSB WAS CREATED TO HELP MORE PEOPLE
READ AND UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF GOD.



ACCURATE. READABLE. SHAREABLE.

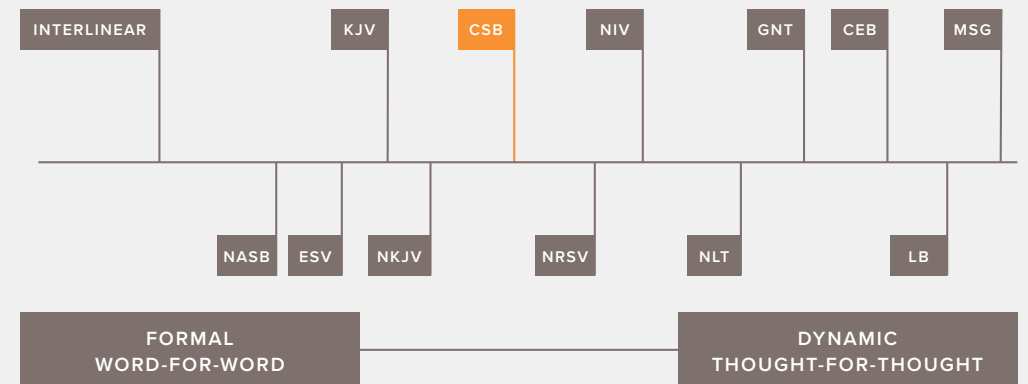
The Christian Standard Bible presents the truth of God’s Word with accuracy and clarity for today’s readers, equipping them for lifelong discipleship. It’s a Bible you can teach from with confidence and a Bible you can share with your neighbor who is hearing God’s Word for the very first time.

OPTIMAL EQUIVALENCE

The CSB was created using Optimal Equivalence, a translation philosophy that pursues both linguistic precision to the original languages and readability in contemporary English.

In the many places throughout Scripture where a word-for-word rendering is clearly understandable, a literal translation is used. When a word-for-word rendering might obscure the meaning for a modern audience, a more dynamic translation is used. This process assures that both the words and thoughts contained in the original text are conveyed as accurately as possible for today’s readers.

BIBLE TRANSLATION CONTINUUM



Bible translations shown in the top half of the chart are original translations directly from ancient languages to English. Versions shown below the line began with the English text of another Bible translation.



LEARN MORE AT CSBIBLE.COM



KEY VERSE

Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 12:1b-2

Hebrews

ON THE TIMELINE:

The book of Hebrews was written before the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. The destruction of the temple would have been mentioned if it had already occurred, because it would have strengthened the letter's argument about Christ's sacrifice bringing an end to the temple sacrificial system. Hebrews was most likely written during the persecution under Nero (AD 64-68), perhaps just before the destruction of the temple.

A LITTLE BACKGROUND:

The text of Hebrews does not identify its author. We know the author was a second-generation Christian because he said he received the confirmed message of Christ from "those who heard" Jesus Himself (Heb 2:3). Scholars have proposed Luke, Clement of Rome, Barnabas, Apollos, Timothy, Philip, Peter, Silas, Jude, and Aristion as possible authors.

MESSAGE & PURPOSE:

The author of Hebrews wanted to exalt Jesus Christ, a desire indicated in the consistent and repetitive usage of the Greek word *kreitton*, which means "more excellent." This word is the common thread that binds together the complex and subtle theological arguments of the book. Specifically, the author described the superiority of the new covenant to the old covenant in order to teach or remind the readers that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the law and of God's promises in the Old Testament.

GIVE THANKS FOR THE BOOK OF HEBREWS:

More than any other book in the New Testament, Hebrews ties OT history and practices to the life and ministry of Jesus. Just as Jesus Christ taught that the OT was fulfilled in Himself (Mt 5:17-18; Lk 24:27), so the author of Hebrews taught that the old covenant was brought to completion in the new covenant (Heb 7:20-8:13). Hebrews also shows that because the old covenant was fulfilled in the new covenant, the new covenant is actually "better" (Heb 7:22). The new covenant was made superior by the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Read & Understand Hebrews

The Bible is a complete work in which many stories combine to tell one story. As you read the book of Hebrews, consider reading the additional passages to discover how the whole of Scripture works together.

READING PLAN

Week 1

GOING DEEPER

<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 1	2 Samuel 7:12-15 2 Corinthians 4:4-6
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 2	Genesis 12:1-3 Psalm 8
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 3:1-6	John 3:16-21 Romans 11:1-6
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 3:7-4:13	Psalm 95:7-11 1 Peter 1:3-5
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 4:14-5:10	Psalm 110 Matthew 4:1-11

Week 3

<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 10:19-39	Deuteronomy 32:35-36 Matthew 27:50-54
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 11	Psalm 33:6-7 Luke 13:33-35
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 12:1-17	Romans 12:18-21 1 Timothy 2:5-6
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 12:18-29	Genesis 4:8-13 Isaiah 62:6-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 13	Joshua 1:5-9 Matthew 25:34-40

Week 2

<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 5:11-6:12	Acts 8:14-17 Philippians 3:12-16
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 6:13-7:28	Genesis 22:16-18 Romans 8:28-30
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 8	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Zechariah 8:4-8
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 9	Leviticus 16:6-19 2 Timothy 1:8-10
<input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 10:1-18	Psalm 40 1 Peter 2:24

OUTLINE

ch. 1-2

THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SON OF GOD

The exaltation of Jesus Christ **1:1-4**

The divine nature of the Son **1:5-14**

The human nature of the Son **2:1-18**

ch. 3-4

THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SON'S FAITHFULNESS

The faithfulness of the Son **3:1-6**

A warning **3:7-19**

The way forward **4:1-16**

ch. 5-6

THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SON'S WORK

The work of the Son **5:1-10**

The call to maturity **5:11-6:3**

The way forward **6:4-20**

OUTLINE

ch. 7–10

THE SUPERIORITY
OF THE SON'S
PRIESTHOOD

The superiority of His order
7:1-19

The superiority of His covenant
7:20-8:13

The superiority of His ministry
9:1-28

The superiority of His sacrifice
10:1-18

The way forward **10:19-39**

ch. 11–12

THE SUPERIORITY
OF THE CHRISTIAN
FAITH

The hall of heroes **11:1-40**

The way forward **12:1-2**

ch. 12

THE SUPERIORITY OF
THE FATHER'S WAY

The work of God **12:3-13**

The way forward **12:14-29**

ch. 13

THE SUPERIORITY OF
THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
IN THE CHURCH

The way forward **13:1-19**

A blessing from the author
13:20-25

THE NATURE OF THE SON

Long ago God spoke to the fathers by the prophets at different times and in different ways.² In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son. God has appointed him heir of all things and made the universe^a through him.³ The Son is the radiance^b of God's glory and the exact expression^c of his nature, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After making purification for sins,^d he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.^e ⁴ So he became superior to the angels, just as the name he inherited is more excellent than theirs.

THE SON SUPERIOR TO ANGELS

⁵ For to which of the angels did he ever say,

**You are my Son;
today I have become your Father,^{f,g}**

or again,

**I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son?^h**

⁶ Again, when heⁱ brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

And let all God's angels worship him.^j

⁷ And about the angels he says:

**He makes his angels winds,^k
and his servants^l a fiery flame,^m**

⁸ but toⁿ the Son:

**Your throne, O God,
is forever and ever,
and the scepter of your kingdom
is a scepter of justice.**

⁹ **You have loved righteousness
and hated lawlessness;
this is why God, your God,
has anointed you
with the oil of joy
beyond your companions.^{o,p}**

¹⁰ And:

**In the beginning, Lord,
you established the earth,
and the heavens are the works of your hands;**

¹¹ **they will perish, but you remain.
They will all wear out like clothing;**

¹² **you will roll them up like a cloak,^q
and they will be changed like clothing.**

**But you are the same,
and your years will never end.^r**

^a1:2 Lit ages ^b1:3 Or reflection ^c1:3 Or representation, or copy, or reproduction

^d1:3 Other mss read for our sins by himself ^e1:3 Or he sat down on high at the right hand of the Majesty ^f1:5 Or have begotten you ^g1:5 Ps 2:7

^h1:5 2Sm 7:14; 1Ch 17:13 ⁱ1:6 Or When he again ^j1:6 Dt 32:43 LXX; Ps 97:7

^k1:7 Or spirits ^l1:7 Or ministers ^m1:7 Ps 104:4 ⁿ1:8 Or about

^o1:9 Or associates ^p1:8-9 Ps 45:6-7 ^q1:12 Other mss omit like a cloak

^r1:10-12 Ps 102:25-27

¹³ Now to which of the angels has he ever said:

**Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies your footstool?^a**

¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve those who are going to inherit salvation?

WARNING AGAINST NEGLECT

2 For this reason, we must pay attention all the more to what we have heard, so that we will not drift away.² For if the message spoken through angels was legally binding^b and every transgression and disobedience received a just punishment,³ how will we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? This salvation had its beginning when it was spoken of by the Lord, and it was confirmed to us by those who heard him.⁴ At the same time, God also testified by signs and wonders, various miracles, and distributions of gifts from the Holy Spirit according to his will.

JESUS AND HUMANITY

⁵ For he has not subjected to angels the world to come that we are talking about.⁶ But someone somewhere has testified:

**What is man that you remember him,
or the son of man that you care for him?**

⁷ **You made him lower than the angels
for a short time;**

**you crowned him with glory and honor^c
and subjected everything under his feet.^d**

For in **subjecting everything** to him, he left nothing that is not subject to him. As it is, we do not yet see **everything** subjected to him.⁹ But we do see Jesus — **made lower than the angels for a short time** so that by God's grace he might taste death for everyone — **crowned with glory and honor** because he suffered death.

¹⁰ For in bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was entirely appropriate that God — for whom and through whom all things exist — should make the source^e of their salvation perfect through sufferings.¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.^f That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,¹² saying:

**I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters;
I will sing hymns to you in the congregation.^g**

¹³ Again, **I will trust in him.**^h And again, **Here I am with the children God gave me.ⁱ**

¹⁴ Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death — that is, the devil —¹⁵ and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.¹⁶ For it is clear that he does not reach out to help angels, but to help Abraham's offspring.¹⁷ Therefore, he had to be like his brothers and sisters in every way, so that he could become

^a1:13 Ps 110:1 ^b2:2 Or valid, or reliable ^c2:7 Other mss add and set him over the works of your hands ^d2:6-8 Ps 8:5-7 LXX ^e2:10 Or pioneer, or leader ^f2:11 Or father, or origin; lit all are of one ^g2:12 Ps 22:22 ^h2:13 2Sm 22:3 LXX; Is 8:17 LXX; 12:2 LXX ⁱ2:13 Is 8:18 LXX

New Testament Use of the Old Testament

Every book of the New Testament contains allusions to the Old Testament. The Old Testament writings were the foundation of Jesus's teaching, and shaped the ministry of the apostles as they wrote Gospels, sermons, and letters explaining the Christian life to both Jewish and Gentile believers. The chart below explores the variety of ways New Testament authors allude to Old Testament text.

THE NT REFERENCES THE OT IN ORDER TO:	NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLE	OLD TESTAMENT REFERENCE	SHOW DIRECT FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY	LUKE 4:17-21	ISAIAH 61: 1-2
AFFIRM TRUTH AND AUTHORITY	<p>ROMANS 3:9-12</p> <p><i>What then? Are we any better off? Not at all! For we have already charged that both Jews and Gentiles are all under sin, as it is written:</i></p> <p><i>There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one.</i></p>	<p>PSALM 14:1-3; 53:1-3</p> <p>ECCLESIASTES 7:20</p>	DRAW CONNECTIONS BETWEEN OT PATTERNS AND JESUS	<p><i>The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him, and unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written:</i></p> <p><i>The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.</i></p> <p><i>He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him. He began by saying to them, "Today as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled."</i></p>	
IMITATE LITERARY PATTERNS	<p>REVELATION 4:6-8</p> <p><i>Four living creatures covered with eyes in front and in back were around the throne on each side. The first living creature was like a lion; the second living creature was like an ox; the third living creature had a face like a man; and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. Each of the four living creatures had six wings; they were covered with eyes around and inside. Day and night they never stop, saying,</i></p> <p><i>Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.</i></p>	DANIEL 7	POINT TOWARD FUTURE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY	MATTHEW 2:15	HOSEA 11:1
EMPHASIZE REVERSALS IN REDEMPTIVE HISTORY	<p>GALATIANS 3:13-14</p> <p><i>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written, Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree. The purpose was that the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles by Christ Jesus, so that we could receive the promised Spirit through faith.</i></p>	DEUTERONOMY 21:23	ILLUSTRATE A SPIRITUAL POINT	2 PETER 3:11-14	ISAIAH 65:17; 66:22
			REFERENCE TRADITION AND ORAL HISTORY	1 CORINTHIANS 9:9-10	DEUTERONOMY 25:4
				2 TIMOTHY 3:8-9	EXODUS 7:10-12

a merciful and faithful high priest in matters^A pertaining to God, to make atonement^B for the sins of the people.¹⁸ For since he himself has suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

OUR APOSTLE AND HIGH PRIEST

3 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.² He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was in all God's household.³ For Jesus is considered worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder has more honor than the house.⁴ Now every house is built by someone, but the one who built everything is God.⁵ Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's household, as a testimony to what would be said in the future.⁶ But Christ was faithful as a Son over his household. And we are that household if we hold on to our confidence and the hope in which we boast.^C

WARNING AGAINST UNBELIEF

⁷Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸**do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,**

on the day of testing in the wilderness,

⁹**where your fathers tested me, tried me,**

and saw my works¹⁰ for forty years.

Therefore I was provoked to anger with that generation

and said, "They always go astray in their hearts,
and they have not known my ways."

¹¹**So I swore in my anger,**

"They will not enter my rest."^D

¹²Watch out, brothers and sisters, so that there won't be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.¹³ But encourage each other daily, while it is still called **today**, so that none of you is hardened by sin's deception.¹⁴ For we have become participants in Christ if we hold firmly until the end the reality^E that we had at the start.¹⁵ As it is said:

Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.^F

¹⁶For who heard and rebelled? Wasn't it all who came out of Egypt under Moses?¹⁷ With whom was God angry for forty years? Wasn't it with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, if not to those who disobeyed?¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

THE PROMISED REST

4 Therefore, since the promise to enter his rest remains, let us beware^G that none of you be found to have fallen short.^H ²For we also have received the good news just as they did. But the message they heard did not benefit them, since they were not united with those who heard it in

^A2:17 Lit *things* ^B2:17 Or *propitiation* ^C3:6 Other mss add *firm to the end*

^D3:7-11 Ps 95:7-11 ^E3:14 Or *confidence* ^F3:15 Ps 95:7-8 ^G4:1 Lit *fear*

^H4:1 Or *that any of you might seem to have missed it*

faith.^A ³For we who have believed enter the rest, in keeping with what^B he has said,

So I swore in my anger,

"They will not enter my rest,"^C

even though his works have been finished since the foundation of the world.

⁴For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in this way: **And on the seventh day God rested from all his works.**^D ⁵Again, in that passage he says, **They will never enter my rest.**^E ⁶Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news did not enter because of disobedience,⁷ he again specifies a certain day — **today**. He specified this speaking through David after such a long time:

Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts.^F

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.⁹ Therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for God's people.¹⁰ For the person who has entered his rest has rested from his own works, just as God did from his.¹¹ Let us then make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience.

¹²For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.¹³ No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.

OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens — Jesus the Son of God — let us hold fast to our confession.¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.¹⁶ Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

CHRIST, A HIGH PRIEST

5 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed in matters pertaining to God for the people, to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.² He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he is also clothed with weakness.³ Because of this, he must make an offering for his own sins as well as for the people.⁴ No one takes this honor on himself; instead, a person is called by God, just as Aaron was.⁵ In the same way, Christ did not exalt himself to become a high priest, but God who said to him,

You are my Son;

today I have become your Father,^{G,H}

⁶also says in another place,

You are a priest forever

according to the order of Melchizedek.^I

^A4:2 Other mss read *since it was not united by faith in those who heard* ^B4:3 Or *rest, just as* ^C4:3 Ps 95:11 ^D4:4 Gn 2:2 ^E4:5 Ps 95:11 ^F4:7 Ps 95:7-8 ^G5:5 Lit *I have begotten you* ^H5:5 Ps 2:7 ^I5:6 Gn 14:18-20; Ps 110:4

The Supremacy of Christ

A key theme in the book of Hebrews is Jesus's superiority to every patriarch, deliverer, prophet, priest, king, and custom that came before Him. The Old Testament is filled with flawed people and limited practices that remind us of our need for a perfect Savior and Lord. Hebrews presents Jesus not only as better, but as God Himself, the "radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of his nature" (Heb 1:3). This chart highlights the supremacy of Christ, the true answer to our need for salvation.

CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO...

ANGELS GL 1:8; COL 1:16-17; HEB 1:2-14; RV 22:8-9	Angels are heavenly beings, but they are created.	Jesus is the eternal Son of God who created the angels, and the angels worship Jesus.
THE MESSAGE OF THE ANGELS JN 1:1-5; HEB 2:1-4	The angels are God's messengers. They convey God's words, but they do not accomplish them.	Jesus is the Word in the flesh. He is not only the message of salvation, but also the means of salvation.
ADAM GN 2:8-9, 15-17; 3:1-8; MT 26:36-46; RM 5:12-13	Adam disobeyed God and was removed from the garden and God's presence.	Jesus obeyed God in the face of unimaginable agony, kneeling in the garden of Gethsemane, so that His obedience could become our righteousness.
ABEL GN 4:1-16; LK 11:49-51; RM 3:21-26; EPH 2:13	Abel was killed by his brother, and his blood cries out for justice.	Jesus was accused and condemned by God's own covenant people, and His blood cries out for mercy and reconciliation.
ENOCH GN 5:21-24; MK 16:19; JN 1:1; HEB 11:5-6	Enoch, father of Methuselah, lived 365 years before he was miraculously taken up into heaven.	Jesus exists outside of time. He ascended into heaven after rising from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of God.
NOAH GN 5-8; IS 54:9; MT 24:36-44; 1JN 1:7	Noah built an ark to save a remnant of creation from a devastating flood, even though "every inclination of the human mind was nothing but evil all the time."	Jesus saves us by being our Deliverer, and He purifies our hearts by His blood.
MELCHIZEDEK GN 14:17-24; PS 110; HEB 6:13-20; 7:1-10	Melchizedek, who blessed Abram, was "a high priest to God Most High." The Levitical priesthood was modeled after him.	Jesus is the God whom Melchizedek served. He perfected and fulfilled every ministry Melchizedek began.
ABRAHAM GN 12:1-4; JN 8:54-56; GL 3:6-14	Abraham obeyed God's call to leave the land of his fathers to go to the land the Lord promised to his descendants.	Jesus obeyed the Father's call to leave His heavenly dwelling to live among us, die for us, and raise us to life so we could spend eternity with Him.
ISAAC GN 22:1-22; JN 3:16-17; 1JN 4:7-9	Isaac was offered to God by his father as a sacrifice, but the Lord provided a ram to take Isaac's place.	Jesus was the sacrifice God gave and accepted, proving His love for us because He did not withhold His only Son.

JACOB GN 32:22-32; IS 53:5; HEB 12:5-11	Jacob wrestled with God. When he would not relent, the Lord gave him a limp.	Jesus took the blow that gave us victory over sin.
JOSEPH GN 37:1-11, 23-28; 42:1-11; 45:1-5; 50:15-21; MT 26:47-50; RM 5:10	Joseph stood at the right hand of the king of Egypt, navigating the politics of a pagan nation to sustain the lives of his own brothers who had betrayed him.	Jesus stands at the right hand of God, sustaining our lives by the grace of His cross with righteousness and justice.
MOSES EX 17:1-7; 33:7-23; 34:1-9; 1CO 10:1-4; ITM 2:5-6; HEB 12:18-24; IPT 2:4-7	Moses interceded between God and man to deliver God's law and teach God's people how to follow it.	Jesus intercedes between God and man as the perfect mediator who fulfills God's law on our behalf and accepts the penalty for our sins.
EVERY PASSOVER LAMB EX 12:1-28; JN 1:29; 1CO 5:7-8; 1PT 1:18-19	Of all the Passover lambs sacrificed throughout history, not one could permanently erase mankind's sin.	Jesus is the one and only perfect Passover Lamb who takes away the sins of the world.
MANNA EX 16; MT 4:1-4; JN 6:22-40, 57-58	Manna came down from heaven to feed God's people daily.	Jesus is the Bread of Life, and those He sustains will never hunger again.
THE LAW FROM SINAI EX 20:18-19; DT 18:16; HEB 12:18-24	Sinai was feared by God's people. It was the place where God's presence came down, terrifying the people, and where God's law was given along with a warning of death if that law was broken.	Jesus, the presence and Word of God in the flesh, dwelled among us, healing us and fulfilling the law for us.
AARON AND THE PRIESTHOOD EX 28:1; NM 18:8-14; 1CH 6:49; HEB 4:14-16; 5:1-5; 7:11-28; 8:1-6	Aaron and the priests represented God's people as fellow sinners, offering sacrifices for their own atonement before offering sacrifices for others.	Jesus represents us as One who is fully God and fully man. He is our sinless representative as well as our sacrifice.
THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM LV 9:2-3; HEB 9:8-28; 1PT 1:17-19	No animal sacrifice could fully atone for the sins of man. Sacrifices had to be offered repeatedly.	Jesus is the perfect, spotless Lamb, the all-sufficient sacrifice, offered once for all time.
JOB JB 1; 1PT 2:21-25; 3:18	Job was a righteous man who suffered under the devil's attacks and his friends' poor counsel.	Jesus is the only truly innocent sufferer, who resisted the devil's temptations and saves His people from our foolishness.
DAVID 2SM 7:1-17; JR 23:5-6; LK 1:30-33	David brought military victory to God's people and ruled as a man after God's own heart.	Jesus brought spiritual victory to God's people and sends His Spirit to dwell in our hearts.
ESTHER EST 5:1-8; 7:1-10; 8:1-8; PHP 2:4-11	At God's appointed time, Esther relied on her beauty and position to persuade a pagan king to spare God's people from a murderous plot.	Jesus came at God's appointed time to save His people by laying down His life of His own accord.
JONAH JNH 1-2; MT 12:40; MK 4:35-41; COL 1:15-20	Jonah fled from the people he was called to minister to and spent three days in the belly of the fish that delivered him to his mission.	Jesus came to His own people, who killed Him. When He was swallowed by the grave, He rose from the dead, defeating the power of death itself and accomplishing His mission.

⁷ During his earthly life,^a he offered prayers and appeals with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.^b Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from what he suffered.^c After he was perfected, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,¹⁰ and he was declared by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

THE PROBLEM OF IMMATURITY

¹¹ We have a great deal to say about this, and it is difficult to explain, since you have become too lazy to understand.¹² Although by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the basic principles of God's revelation again. You need milk, not solid food.¹³ Now everyone who lives on milk is inexperienced with the message about righteousness, because he is an infant.¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature — for those whose senses have been trained to distinguish between good and evil.

WARNING AGAINST FALLING AWAY

6 Therefore, let us leave the elementary teaching about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, faith in God,² teaching about ritual washings,^b laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.³ And we will do this if God permits.

⁴ For it is impossible to renew to repentance those who were once enlightened, who tasted the heavenly gift, who shared in the Holy Spirit,⁵ who tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age,⁶ and who have fallen away. This is because,^c to their own harm, they are recrucifying the Son of God and holding him up to contempt.⁷ For the ground that drinks the rain that often falls on it and that produces vegetation useful to those for whom it is cultivated receives a blessing from God.⁸ But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and about to be cursed, and at the end will be burned.

⁹ Even though we are speaking this way, dearly loved friends, in your case we are confident of things that are better and that pertain to salvation.¹⁰ For God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love^d you demonstrated for his name by serving the saints — and by continuing to serve them.¹¹ Now we desire each of you to demonstrate the same diligence for the full assurance of your hope until the end,¹² so that you won't become lazy but will be imitators of those who inherit the promises through faith and perseverance.

INHERITING THE PROMISE

¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself:¹⁴ **I will indeed bless you, and I will greatly multiply you.**^e ¹⁵ And so, after waiting patiently, Abraham obtained the promise.¹⁶ For people swear by something greater than themselves, and for them a confirming oath ends every dispute.¹⁷ Because God wanted to show his unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, he guaranteed it with an oath,¹⁸ so that through two unchangeable things, in

^a5:7 Lit *In the days of his flesh* ^b6:2 Or *about baptisms* ^c6:6 Or *while*

^d6:10 Other mss read *labor of love* ^e6:14 Gn 22:17

which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us.¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.²⁰ Jesus has entered there on our behalf as a forerunner, because he has become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

THE GREATNESS OF MELCHIZEDEK

7 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, met Abraham and blessed him as he returned from defeating the kings,² and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means king of righteousness, then also, king of Salem, meaning king of peace.³ Without father, mother, or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

⁴ Now consider how great this man was: even Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the plunder to him.⁵ The sons of Levi who receive the priestly office have a command according to the law to collect a tenth from the people — that is, from their brothers and sisters — though they have also descended from Abraham.⁶ But one without this^a lineage collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises.⁷ Without a doubt, the inferior is blessed by the superior.⁸ In the one case, men who will die receive a tenth, but in the other case, Scripture testifies that he lives.⁹ And in a sense Levi himself, who receives a tenth, has paid a tenth through Abraham,¹⁰ for he was still within his ancestor^b when Melchizedek met him.

A SUPERIOR PRIESTHOOD

¹¹ Now if perfection came through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the law), what further need was there for another priest to appear, said to be according to the order of Melchizedek and not according to the order of Aaron?¹² For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must be a change of law as well.¹³ For the one these things are spoken about belonged to a different tribe. No one from it has served at the altar.¹⁴ Now it is evident that our Lord came from Judah, and Moses said nothing about that tribe concerning priests.

¹⁵ And this becomes clearer if another priest like Melchizedek appears,¹⁶ who did not become a priest based on a legal regulation about physical^c descent but based on the power of an indestructible life.¹⁷ For it has been testified:

**You are a priest forever
according to the order of Melchizedek.**^d

¹⁸ So the previous command is annulled because it was weak and unprofitable¹⁹ (for the law perfected nothing), but a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

²⁰ None of this happened without an oath. For others became priests without an oath,²¹ but he became a priest with an oath made by the one who said to him:

**The Lord has sworn
and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest forever."**^d

^a7:6 Lit *their* ^b7:10 Lit *still in his father's loins* ^c7:16 Or *fleshly*

^d7:17,21 Ps 110:4

²² Because of this oath, Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant.

²³ Now many have become Levitical priests, since they are prevented by death from remaining in office. ²⁴ But because he remains forever, he holds his priesthood permanently. ²⁵ Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, since he always lives to intercede for them.

²⁶ For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ He doesn't need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do — first for their own sins, then for those of the people. He did this once for all time when he offered himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak, but the promise of the oath, which came after the law, appoints a Son, who has been perfected forever.

A HEAVENLY PRIESTHOOD

8 Now the main point of what is being said is this: We have this kind of high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a minister of the sanctuary and the true tabernacle that was set up by the Lord and not man. ³ For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; therefore, it was necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴ Now if he were on earth, he wouldn't be a priest, since there are those^a offering the gifts prescribed by the law. ⁵ These serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was warned when he was about to complete the tabernacle. For God said, **Be careful that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain.**^b ⁶ But Jesus has now obtained a superior ministry, and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been established on better promises.

A SUPERIOR COVENANT

⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion for a second one. ⁸ But finding fault with his people,^c he says:^d

**See, the days are coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah —**

⁹ **not like the covenant
that I made with their ancestors
on the day I took them by the hand
to lead them out of the land of Egypt.
I showed no concern for them, says the Lord,
because they did not continue in my covenant.**

¹⁰ **For this is the covenant
that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws into their minds
and write them on their hearts.**

^a8:4 Other mss read *priests* ^b8:5 Ex 25:40 ^c8:8 Lit *with them* ^d8:8 Other mss read *finding fault, he says to them*

**I will be their God,
and they will be my people.**

¹¹ **And each person will not teach his fellow citizen,^a
and each his brother or sister, saying, "Know the Lord,"
because they will all know me,
from the least to the greatest of them.**

¹² **For I will forgive their wrongdoing,
and I will never again remember their sins.^{b,c}**

¹³ By saying a **new covenant**, he has declared that the first is obsolete. And what is obsolete and growing old is about to pass away.

OLD COVENANT MINISTRY

9 Now the first covenant also had regulations for ministry and an earthly sanctuary. ² For a tabernacle was set up, and in the first room, which is called the holy place, were the lampstand, the table, and the presentation loaves. ³ Behind the second curtain was a tent called the most holy place. ⁴ It had the gold altar of incense and the ark of the covenant, covered with gold on all sides, in which was a gold jar containing the manna, Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. ⁵ The cherubim of glory were above the ark overshadowing the mercy seat. It is not possible to speak about these things in detail right now.

⁶ With these things prepared like this, the priests enter the first room repeatedly, performing their ministry. ⁷ But the high priest alone enters the second room, and he does that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. ⁸ The Holy Spirit was making it clear that the way into the most holy place had not yet been disclosed while the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹ This is a symbol for the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the worshiper's conscience. ¹⁰ They are physical regulations and only deal with food, drink, and various washings imposed until the time of the new order.

NEW COVENANT MINISTRY

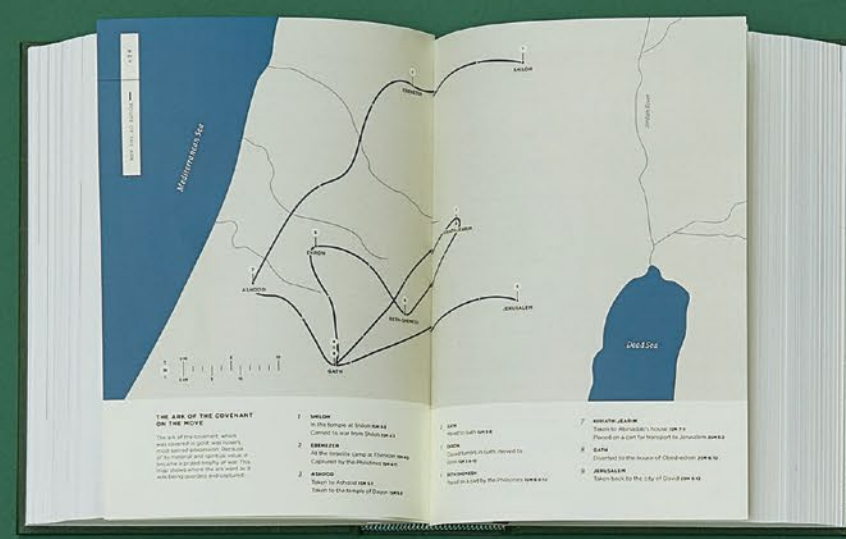
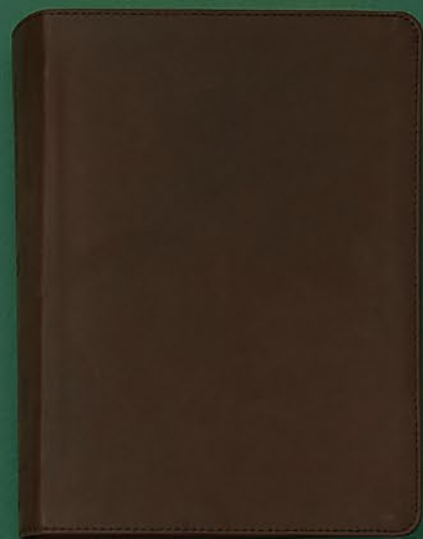
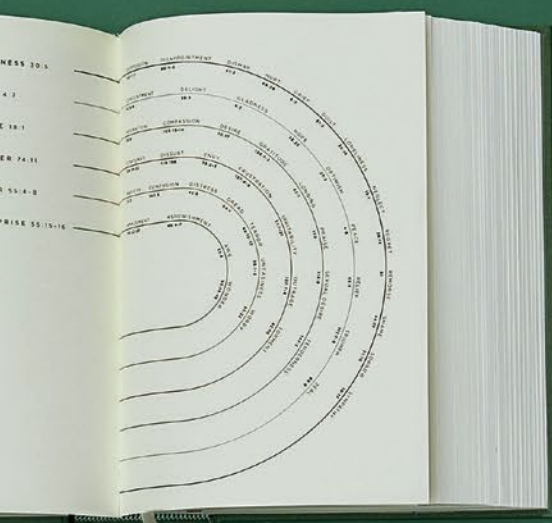
¹¹ But Christ has appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come.^d In the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands (that is, not of this creation), ¹² he entered the most holy place once for all time, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow, sprinkling those who are defiled, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse our^e consciences from dead works so that we can serve the living God?

¹⁵ Therefore, he is the mediator of a new covenant,^f so that those who are called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, because a death has taken place for redemption from the transgressions committed under

^a8:11 Other mss read *neighbor* ^b8:12 Other mss add *and their lawless deeds*

^c8:8-12 Jr 31:31-34 ^d9:11 Other mss read *that are to come* ^e9:14 Other mss read *your*

^f9:15 The Gk word used here can be translated *covenant, will, or testament*, also in vv. 16, 17, 18.



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