

Having shown Jesus to be above the angels, the Holy Spirit now compares Him with Moses, the great human lawgiver and leader of Jewish history. Later in Hebrews we read of the first high priest, Aaron, then the great examples of faith in Chapter 11. These were the superheroes of the Hebrew world and would have been held up as models for Jewish children.

But the Bible is not naive or sentimental about humanity. Even the most brilliant stars of the Old Testament are real human beings, flawed and sinful. David, the “man after God’s heart,” committed terrible sins. The greatest apostles in the New Testament let their human nature show through. Where can we find a hero who always measures up?

There is One. The Man not only after God’s heart, but of God’s heart, His exact representation, sinless, without spot or blemish, never to be regarded as a mere gifted teacher or charismatic speaker. He alone is worthy of our full trust. That is the essence of the message to the Hebrews.

Questions:

1. Why is Jesus described as an apostle? What does the word apostle mean?
2. What are the arguments for Jesus’ superiority to Moses?
3. We are told that Moses was a servant in God’s house. What house was that? What might be God’s house today?
4. Read how the writer talks to his readers in verses 1, 6, and 12. Does he address them as believers, unbelievers, or an uncertain mixture of both?
5. Psalm 95 does not credit an author. According to this chapter, who wrote it?

6. Verses 7-11 quote from Psalm 95. What was the rebellion that led God to sentence His people to forty years of wandering before they could enter the promised land?
7. Verses 12 and 13 expand on the earlier verse 7, speaking of the need to pay attention Today and warning against the hardening of hearts. What is deceitful about sin? How does it harden us?
8. Explain verse 14.
9. Where and when did the Israelites hear God's voice? Did the fact that they heard it make their rebellion worse? How did this apply to the Hebrews reading this letter? To people today?