

Who you Gonna Call?

Hebrews 1.1-3

Step into Sanctuary of Kalahikiola immediately SEE what IMPORTANT to Founders  
ORNATE Platform – Promote PASTOR? No! – Promote MESSAGE of Pastor > BIBLE  
Attention DRAWN to SPEAKING Platform --- HIGH to PROJECT Sound of Scriptures

Only thing that should be LIFTED High in WORSHIP is GOD and HIS WORD

Most Important, Eternal, Life-Changing piece of FURNITURE in Sanctuary > BIBLE

Paul told Ephesians “take...the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT which is the WORD of GOD” 6.17

Want to be FILLED with HOLY SPIRIT? Need to Know the WORD of GOD!

Want to KNOW the Word of God? Need to be FILLED with the HOLY SPIRIT!

Jeremiah wrote “Is not MY WORD like FIRE, declares the Lord, and like a HAMMER that breaks the rock  
in pieces?” 23.29

Jesus said, “If you ABIDE in my WORD, you are truly my DISCIPLES, and you will KNOW the TRUTH  
and the truth will set you FREE”  
John 8.31,32

Vince Lombardi – Famous Coach of Famous TEAM > Green Bay Packers

GATHERED – Team as began Training Camp with SIMPLE MESSAGE

Holds up BALL and said, “Men, THIS is a FOOTBALL!”

Ever-

People of God in Kalahikiola > THIS is the Living, Active, Searching, Ever-Blessing Word of God

I have come to OPEN IT with You – Asking that the Lord / Author might OPEN US to It

I come to SHARE the Bible because I NEED It --- REJOICE to have WORD from God

I PREACH the Bible like we all should READ the Bible > Book by Book, Line by LINE

Lord led me to INVITE you to Step into Study of – Letter to the HEBREWS

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul  
and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart”

Hebrews 4.12

**Begin 1.1-3** - Lots of UNKNOWNNS – AUTHOR, RECEPIENTS, TIME of WRITING

KNOW – DIVINE Author – God Breathed, Inerrant, Apostolic Message to Church

KNOW: 1<sup>st</sup> Readers of Letter Tempted to DRIFT AWAY from Faith in Jesus

Following Jesus was DIFFICULT, DANGEROUS, Might Be SAFER to Leave HIM

JEWS comprised 10% Roman Empire – Wealthy, Influential, in Many Roman CITIES

CLASH between Strict MONOTHEISM and Popular IDOLATRY – Worship of Caesar

Lots of FIGHTING – Attempted to Make JEWS Conform – Most would NOT BEND  
 1<sup>st</sup> C ROMAN LAW gave JEWS – FREE PASS > Not Forced to Bow to IDOL of Caesar

1<sup>st</sup> Xtians > Jews, Follow JEW named Jesus > Find Safety Under BANNER of Moses?  
 Where you gonna Go? HEROES Abe, Moses, David, Prophets > HOPED in PROMISE X  
 JESUS Fulfills ALL the PROMISES / OT Shadow – Jesus SUBSTANCE

Letter > DANGEROUS to TURN BACK – REAL, Eternal Security ONLY in Jesus  
 NOT Theological Treatise but SERMON > Exhort/Encourage Church after Pentecost  
 13 X's >> Jesus is BETTER / CLEAR > Letter all ABOUT JESUS > Jesus is MO 'BETTAH!

Letter written to CHRISTIANS in Danger of GIVING UP

Not BEGIN w/ their PROBLEMS > Begins w/ Portrait of X – Revelation & Redemption

### 1. God Speaks

70%+ Americans “No ABSOLUTE Truth” – Something RIGHT – ALWAYS & FOREVER  
 Big Challenge – WHO do we Believe? WHERE find TRUTH, WISDOM, Relevance?

Some of Those we USED to Trust have LOST our Trust

Pastors – Politicians – Professors – Pharmaceutical co's – Parents -- that's JUST the 'P's'!

Some things ONCE HELD True – Some NOW say is No LONGER True

People describe their thoughts as MY TRUTH --- So if I think it, it MUST BE TRUE

Hebrews begins w/ BIG CLAIM – God has SPOKEN! CREATOR Communicates to US

AUDACIOUS Claim > God SPEAKS to Men through MEN thru Written Scripture

Peter “men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit” 2 Peter 1.21

God BREATHES into Man His Breath / AND BREATHES Message into THIS BOOK

Paul “All Scripture is breathed out by God” 2 Timothy 3.16

God's Words spoken by Prophets / Apostles WRITTEN Down in Book

“the sacred writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus”  
 2 Timothy 3.15

Be CLEAR > Bible not EXHAUSTIVE Truth --- Not Opinion on Everything like GOOGLE

Difficult to DOGMATIC what God/Bible says about Masks, Vaccines, Who to Vote FOR!

God wants us to KNOW Principles of Word > Focus on Jesus, Salvation, Church, Mission

“The Bible is not exhaustive truth, but true truth” Francis Schaeffer

“Scripture contains all the divine words needed for any aspect of human life” John Frame

### a. Jesus Anticipated

v. 1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets

Hebrew Scripture / OLDER Testament / 1<sup>st</sup> Author: Moses +1000 yrs before JESUS  
 God used about 40 Authors – Write 66 Books – Over 1300 span of TIME – 2 Languages  
 DIFFERENT Styles, Authors, Historical Events – Law, Prophets, Poetry

Different Human Authors > ONE Divine Author

Hebrews > What happened in the PAST is of ETERNAL IMPORTANCE  
 He is the GOD of CREATION and the GOD of PROVIDENCE  
 HISTORY is HIS STORY > thru History God Spoke His Word to His People  
 God’s TIMELESS Message dressed in ANCIENT HEBREW Clothing  
 Illustrations drawn from JEWISH LAWS and TRADITIONS

Dreams – Visions – Fire & Cloud – Stone Tablets – Signs – Sermons – Seers  
 Makes BIBLE STUDY – Rich, Colorful, Challenging – Cultures & Contexts  
 “The new is in the old concealed, the old is in the new revealed.” Augustine

	<i>Older Revelation</i>	<i>Newer Revelation</i>
<i>Era</i>	in the past	in these last days
<i>Recipients</i>	to our forefathers	to us
<i>Agents</i>	through the prophets	by his Son

b. Son Announced v. 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son

Jesus is FINAL > His ONCE-FOR-ALL Revelation is CLEARLY Superior  
 The GREATEST PROPHET cannot compare to A SON

EZEKIEL described the GLORY of God > Jesus was DRESSED in GLORY  
 ISAIAH beheld the HOLY God > Jesus is HOLY God who became Man  
 JEREMIAH preached the POWER of God > Jesus is that POWER

God's speech thru his Son Final / compared with many times/ways of Prophets  
 PAST TENSE "has Spoken" Revelation of OT Continuous > In X it is Complete

Hebrews 2.12,13 – Quotes PSALMS of David – written 1000 yrs before Jesus  
 But SPOKEN by TRUE AUTHOR of Ancient Psalms JESUS

Hebrews 3.7 quotes Psalm 95 – Declares ULTIMATE Author – Holy Spirit

AUTHORITY – Word of God demands OBEDIENCE, TRUST, STUDY

Most IMPORTANT Question on ANY ISSUE of Life – What does GOD SAY in Scripture?

TIMELESS – Word of God demands ENDURANCE, Not Grow Weary in FAITH

From Beginning MANY Reject God and His WORD > Nothing NEW

Christianity is, in its very essence, a religion of the Word of God...his self-revelation has been given by the most straightforward means of communication known to us, namely by a word and words, or that he calls upon those of us who have heard his Word to speak it to others. John Stott

From: Adrian in UK

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 6:31 AM

Hello Mark, I would like to make an important announcement.

In recent months I finally, unreservedly accepted the Bible as the inerrant Word of God.

Despite being raised in a Christian family, I lost my way and found myself as more of a seeker.

You probably know all the doubts in one's mind that stop a person from affirming the Bible as the inerrant Word of God, you've no doubt heard them all a hundred times over.

But I eventually began to turn to the Bible for guidance, I saw the connections, everything joined together in one amazing whole. I feel like the final obstacle, these numerous nagging voices have been silenced and I can now live life with a fulfilled walk with God.

Peter, James, John invited to Trek Up High Mtn w/ Jesus

Got up there Jesus Clothes turned RADIANT & His Face shone like the SUN

MOSES – Great Lawgiver / ELIJAH – Great Prophet – Hangin' w/ HOMIES

Peter that maybe they Should all CAMP OUT TOGETHER

...a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Matthew 17.5

Then they saw ONLY JESUS > Came to Fulfill the Law & Prophets

If YOU want to HEAR from God – Open your Ears to SCRIPTURE

If you want to Meet God > Need to Find Jesus > Want to Find Jesus > Bible

Revelation - God Speaks	Redemption - God Saves
Old Testament - Promise –“I will save!”	New Testament - Fulfillment – “He did save!”
“our common salvation... the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints” Jude 3	“It is finished” John 19.30
Scripture is Closed	Salvation is Complete

## 2. God Saves

1<sup>st</sup> Sermon I ever Preached Outside my Home Church - 1975 church Black Americans in SF

From these 3 Verses “Seven Excellencies of Christ” > Jesus is...

the heir of all things...created the world...radiance of the glory of God...exact imprint of his nature...upholds the universe...making purification for sins...sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

47 yrs Later Still in AWE of His Excellency the Lord Jesus Christ

a. God With Us > Descriptions of Jesus that Reveal His DEITY

Because Jesus is ETERNALLY the SON > He will FOREVER be the HEIR

v. 2 whom he appointed the heir of all things > Owner / Master / Lord / RULER

Never a TIME when the Son was NOT the HEIR > Promise from ETERNITY

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

Psalm 2.8

Jesus holds the DEED for the ENTIRE UNIVERSE

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11.36

Everything in All Creation is FROM Him & FOR Him & will go TO Him

v. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God

BRIGHTNESS of the SHEKINAH GLORY of God

RADIANCE which bursts out of a BRILLIANT LIGHT

GLORIOUS DAWN at SUNRISE

Son shares SAME ESSENCE of the FATHER > Not just in His Likeness

Christ is to the Father what rays of the sun are to the sun. He is the radiance of God's glory. As it is impossible to separate the rays from the sun, it is also impossible to separate Christ's glory from the nature of God.  
Warren Wiersbe

v. 3 the exact imprint of his nature

Word for a DIE or an ENGRAVING > Imprint of God on Human FLESH

Jesus to Philip, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father." John 14.9

"God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God" Nicene Creed

RIGHT at Beginning WRITER plunges us into Deep Waters of Theology

b. God at Work

v. 2 through whom also he created the world / God made UNIVERSE thru SON

The SAME PERSON who walked among MEN made ALL MEN

Whether it is STARS, PLANETS, GALAXIES we see thru TELESCOPES

Or QUARKS, LEPTONS, ELECTRONS, NEUTRINOS see in MICROSCOPES

All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1.3

v. 3 he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Jesus did NOT Speak world into EXISTENCE & Take NAP or VACATION

Continuing STABILITY of Universe not Depend Presidents or Parliaments

WORD of God from Him who is the WORD of God

v. 3 After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

Writer makes BRIEF Reference to what will be MAJOR Theme of Book

8.1 "Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty of heaven"

God who Reaches DEEP into SPACE can Reach Deep into our SOULS

Notice the SHIFT in TENSE...

Jesus is CEASELESSLY the Radiant Light of God's Glory

Jesus CONTINUOUSLY Upholds the Universe by the Word of His Power

But He offered SINGLE Sacrifice for Sins

Died on the CROSS ONCE FOR ALL > FINISHED Work for ALL Time

Now RESIDES in the Place of HONOR and POWER

God Speaks because God Saves / REVELATION of REDEMPTION

**Finished Work and Final Word / God Speaks because God Saves**

Nothing can be Added to X's REDEMPTIVE Work –

Nothing Added to REVELATION about His Redemptive Work

Scripture is Enough because / Work of Christ is Enough / They Stand or Fall Together

C.S. Lewis, Chronicles of Narnia > Lucy on Spiritual Quest see Aslan Lion/King

Great Lion SHINING White and HUGE in the MOONLIGHT

Lucy's heart filled with JOY – Runs to ASLAN – Buries FACE in Silky MANE

He rolls over on Side – Lucy leans in – Warm BREATH Surrounds her

“Welcome, child” he said. / “Aslan,” said Lucy, “you're bigger.”

“That is because you are older, little one,” answered he. / “Not because you are?”

“I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger.” C.S. Lewis

EXPANDING SOULS encounter an EXPANDING CHRIST – God who Speaks & Saves!

May Study of Hebrews make us Keep Growing to Find an Ever-Bigger Christ

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