Study Series: Hebrews

Discussion questions about the overall message

- 1. Hebrews is a complex text that, in many respects, exists somewhat independently of the rest of the New Testament canon. What do you think is its primary message and why?
- 2. Considering how different Hebrews is from the remainder of the New Testament, what kind of worship community do you imagine reading and responding to such a text? What might their communal life, worship practices, and theology have been like?
- 3. Aside from a passage here and there, Hebrews is often a neglected text, or at best it is made to fit with what we find in the gospels and the letters of Paul. Why do you think this is? What are some ways that Hebrews might be "recovered" and reintegrated into contemporary Christian thought and practice?
- 4. Complete these sentences:

After reading Hebrews, I believe....

After reading Hebrews, I wonder....

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Discussion questions from key passages in Hebrews

- 1. What is the "rest" of which the author writes in 3.7-13?
- 2. On more than one occasion in the text, the author draws attention to the fact that Jesus experienced the same things we do (see for example 2.9; 2.17; 4.15 etc.). What is the significance of this fact, aside from the general sense of personal comfort that it provides? And is its relationship to the various points the author is making in each place it is mentioned?
- 3. Compare the picture of Jesus in Matthew, Mark, or Luke with the picture of Jesus in Hebrews. What is the same? What is different?