

CONTENTS

<i>General Editors' Preface</i>	7
<i>Author's Preface</i>	9
<i>Abbreviations</i>	11
<i>Bibliography</i>	19
<i>Table of Sidebars</i>	27
INTRODUCTION	29
A. Mystery and Revelatory Power	29
B. Author	31
C. Destination	38
D. Date and Situation of the Audience	42
E. Genre	44
F. Purpose	46
G. Theology	48
COMMENTARY	57
I. Hearing the Apostle and High Priest of Our Confession: Hebrews 1:1—4:13	57
A. Hearing God's Son in These Last Days: Jesus the Merciful and Faithful High Priest (1:1—2:18)	58
1. We Must Heed God's Definitive Revelation in the Son (1:1—2:4)	58
a. God's Definitive Action in the Son (1:1-4)	61
b. Scriptural Arguments for the Son's Majesty over Angels (1:5-14)	70
c. Heed What Was Spoken in the Son (2:1-4)	76
2. Jesus Perfected as a Merciful and Faithful High Priest (2:5-18)	82
a. The Humiliation and Exaltation of Jesus (2:5-9)	85
b. Jesus' Identification with Humanity (2:10-18)	92
B. Hearing God's Word Today: Jesus the Apostle and High Priest of Our Confession (3:1—4:13)	104
1. Commitment as Christ's Partners, God's House (3:1-6)	106
2. Entering God's Rest: Warning and Promise (3:7—4:13)	118
a. The Peril of Defying God's Voice (3:7-19)	118
b. Warning Not to Fall Short of the Promised Rest (4:1-13)	128
II. Jesus' Superior High Priesthood: Hebrews 4:14—10:18	153
A. The Qualifications of the Great High Priest (4:14—5:10)	153
1. The Great High Priest (4:14-16)	157
2. Qualifications of Ordinary High Priests (5:1-4)	162
3. Qualifications of the High Priest like Melchizedek (5:5-10)	164

B.	Preparing for Advanced Teaching on Christ's High Priesthood (5:11—6:20)	175
1.	Reproof Concerning Arrested Spiritual Development (5:11-14)	177
2.	Exhortation to Go on to Maturity (6:1-3)	183
3.	Warning About Irreversible Apostasy (6:4-8)	187
4.	Words of Reassurance (6:9-12)	193
5.	Powerful Encouragement Based on God's Trustworthiness (6:13-20)	196
C.	The High Priest like Melchizedek: The Son Perfected Forever (7:1-28)	210
1.	The Greatness of Melchizedek's Priesthood (7:1-10)	212
2.	The Imperfection of the Levitical Priesthood (7:11-19)	219
3.	The Son's Permanent and Perfect Priesthood (7:20-28)	224
D.	The Superior Ministry of the Son's High Priesthood (8:1—10:18)	233
1.	Introduction to Christ's Superior Ministry (8:1-13)	235
2.	The Better and More Perfect Tabernacle (9:1-14)	240
3.	Christ's Sacrificial Death Inaugurated the New Covenant (9:15-28)	250
4.	Christ's One Obedient Offering Perfects Worshipers Forever (10:1-18)	257
III.	Call to Persevering Faith and Acceptable Worship:	
	Hebrews 10:19—13:25	269
A.	Exhortations to Persevere in Faith (10:19—12:13)	271
1.	Confidence and Perseverance in Faith (10:19-39)	271
a.	Invocation to Worship and Faithful Living (10:19-25)	272
b.	Fearful Expectation of Judgment for Apostates (10:26-31)	280
c.	Praise for Past Endurance (10:32-34)	284
d.	Exhortation to Endure in Faith (10:35-39)	288
2.	Worthy Examples of Faith (11:1-40)	291
a.	From Creation to Flood (11:1-7)	293
b.	From Abraham to Joseph (11:8-22)	299
c.	From Moses to Rahab (11:23-31)	306
d.	Many More Faithful: From Triumph to Suffering (11:32-40)	310
3.	Training for Enduring Faith (12:1-13)	314
B.	Exhortations to Offer Acceptable Worship (12:14—13:25)	328
1.	Receive the Unshakable Kingdom with Gratitude and Worship (12:14-29)	329
a.	Pursue Peace and Holiness (12:14-17)	331
b.	Mountain of Terror and Mountain of Celebration (12:18-24)	335
c.	Listen to the Heavenly Voice (12:25-29)	340
2.	Instructions for Worship as a Way of Life (13:1-25)	344
a.	Exhortations to Love, Purity, and Trust (13:1-6)	345
b.	Final Call to Commitment and Worship (13:7-19)	350
c.	Benediction and Postscript (13:20-25)	360