

BIBLICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Evening School

Studies in the Epistle to the Hebrews

Tom V. Taylor, 1991

I. Introductory Material

A. Prolegomena stuff:

1. The work of the course:

- a. Read the book of Hebrews twice...use two translations
- b. Answer the "thought questions" that are given one week in advance...written answers, that is, carefully thought out as a means of better understanding the book.
- c. Read and review these class notes, painful as it may be.
- d. And, I will recommend a small commentary for reading...it is not required but desired if you have the time.

2. Class method: I will probably lecture a great deal. But I am interested in your contributions and will offer you many opportunities to participate in class. Please feel free to ask questions, offer comments, helpful notes, etc., as they come to your mind. We will save class debates until the onset of the next world war.

3. Attendance: If you cannot be here and will let me know in advance (or by a phone call) I will try to make a tape of the class for you. This is not always as simple as one might think but if possible I will try to do it.

3, Our Purpose is to see what the message of Hebrews is and how it applied to the early Christian community and what it means and how it applies to us.

B. The Essence of the "Hebrews Problem"

1. Israel's "faith" and the "new religion"

- a. Israel's "faith" was a matter of revelation although through the years national tradition had added a lot to the material as given by God. The very heart of that faith was in the Mosaic covenant and the pattern of truth given to Moses on the mount. In theory the nation was gathered about this faith although the addition of many traditional points had