

2. Canonicity:

- a. What is it
- b. How did books get in the New Testament anyway?
- c. Was there a question on Hebrews?
 - (1) cited by Clement and Martyr
 - (2) omitted in the Muratori canon
 - (3) Uniform acceptance in the east..2nd century
 - (4) Questions answered in the West...4th century.
 - (5) Note "Inspiration and Canonicity"

3. Date of writing:

- a. Hebrews 13:24, cf. 2 Peter 3
- b. Consensus about 63 AD but certainly before the fall of the temple (10:3, 8:4)

4. The recipients of the letter:

- a. The views:
 - (1) Gentile Christians
 - (2) Jewish believers living outside Palestine
 - (3) Jewish believers in Palestine
 - (4) Jewish believers in Caesarea and/or/ Jerusalem

the third view is the most common and there is really not a lot of difference in them..certainly no doctrinal issue is in the balance.

- b. Note on the title "to the Hebrews"
- c. O.T. background 12:4, Acts 13:1-3, 12:1, etc.

5. Occasion: It seems that pressure was being brought on the new believing community to have it return to the legal strictures of developed Judaism...that the pressure involved sociological and governmental push..and that some of the believers were tempted to return to the confines of the old order just for the sake of "getting along". The argument of Hebrews is that Christ is the full revelation of truth..leaving Him will not make one well.

6. The text (a few notes ..it is a technical subject)

- a. Our best texts are Greek although Clement apparently thought there was an Aramaic original.