

**Course: The General Epistles**

**Series: The Book of Hebrews**

**Discussion Forum One: The Background and Purpose of Hebrews**

**1. Who wrote the Book of Hebrews?**

- a. Dennis E. Johnson – Westminster Seminary California **(00:35)**
- b. Simon Vibert – Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University **(01:55)**
- c. Barry Joslin – The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary **(02:30)**
- d. Craig S. Keener – Asbury Theological Seminary **(04:20)**
- e. K. Erik Thoennes – Talbot School of Theology **(05:55)**

**2. What are your personal thoughts on the authorship of Hebrews?**

- a. Constantine Campbell – Trinity Evangelical Divinity School **(06:25)**
- b. Dan Lacich – Northland, A Church Distributed, Orlando **(08:25)**
- c. Aída Besançon Spencer – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(09:35)**

**3. What kinds of things can we learn about the author of Hebrews from the contents of his letter?**

- a. Simon Vibert – Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University **(10:40)**
- b. Fredrick Long – Asbury Theological Seminary **(11:20)**
- c. K. Erik Thoennes – Talbot School of Theology **(13:25)**
- d. Eckhard Schnabel – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(14:00)**
- e. Dennis E. Johnson – Westminster Seminary California **(16:40)**

**4. How did the audience of Hebrews respond to the persecutions affecting their community?**

- a. D.A. Carson – Trinity Evangelical Divinity School **(18:20)**
- b. Alvin Padilla – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(20:05)**
- c. Michael J. Glodo – Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando **(20:50)**

**5. How did the author of Hebrews address the concerns facing his readers?**

- a. Stephen E. Witmer – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(21:40)**
- b. David Talley – Talbot School of Theology **(22:45)**
- c. Simon Vibert – Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University **(24:35)**

- 6. When we compare the book of Hebrews with other New Testament epistles, should we still call Hebrews an epistle?**
  - a. Mark A. Jennings – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(25:15)**
  - b. Mark L. Strauss – Bethel Seminary, San Diego **(28:30)**
  - c. Barry Joslin – The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary **(29:35)**
  - d. Stephen E. Witmer – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(31:00)**
- 7. How does the structure and content of Hebrews compare to other New Testament epistles?**
  - a. Michael J. Glodo – Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando **(32:05)**
  - b. Simon Vibert – Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University **(33:35)**
  - c. Barry Joslin – The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary **(34:30)**
  - d. K. Erik Thoennes – Talbot School of Theology **(36:15)**
- 8. How does the highly rhetorical character of the book of Hebrews support the author's purpose?**
  - a. Dennis E. Johnson – Westminster Seminary California **(36:55)**
  - b. Barry Joslin – The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary **(39:05)**
- 9. How much did first century Jewish writings like the Dead Sea Scrolls and Philo influence the writer of Hebrews?**
  - a. D.A. Carson – Trinity Evangelical Divinity School **(40:55)**
  - b. Craig S. Keener – Asbury Theological Seminary **(42:20)**
- 10. What goals did the author of Hebrews intend to accomplish with the many exhortations in his letter?**
  - a. Fredrick Long – Asbury Theological Seminary **(43:45)**
  - b. K. Erik Thoennes – Talbot School of Theology **(45:50)**
  - c. Dennis E. Johnson – Westminster Seminary California **(46:20)**
  - d. James D. Smith, III – Bethel Seminary, San Diego **(47:55)**
- 11. How does the book of Hebrews contrast Jesus with aspects of the old covenant?**
  - a. Dennis E. Johnson – Westminster Seminary California **(49:15)**
  - b. D.A. Carson – Trinity Evangelical Divinity School **(51:30)**
  - c. Edward M. Keazirian – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(53:00)**

- d. Michael J. Glodo – Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando **(57:10)**

**12. Who is Melchizedek, and what is his significance in the book of Hebrews?**

- a. D.A. Carson – Trinity Evangelical Divinity School **(58:50)**
- b. Fredrick Long – Asbury Theological Seminary **(1:01:55)**

**13. What is the purpose of Hebrews?**

- a. Dan Lacich – Northland, A Church Distributed, Orlando **(1:03:40)**
- b. Edward M. Keazirian – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(1:04:40)**
- c. Sean McDonough – Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary **(1:07:00)**
- d. Ric Rodeheaver – Grace Evangelical Free Church, La Mirada, CA **(1:07:55)**