

# NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

## *Lesson 56*

### Hebrews – Part One

#### Jesus in the Psalms

#### (in the Book of Hebrews)

The Bible of the early church did not include what we call the “New Testament.” The earliest Christians read, studied and taught the Old Testament Scriptures plus the story of Jesus and his remembered teachings. Gradually the “Apostolic writings” were written, copied and distributed among believers in Jesus as well. These writings eventually were collected into what we call the “New Testament.”

How did the earliest evangelists preach the gospel of Jesus Christ from the “Old Testament”? The Book of Hebrews provides at least one illustration. The unknown author of this epistle builds his sermon around four Old Testament Psalms B each of which he reads and interprets in light of Jesus Christ. Today we look at those four Psalms and in them hear the story of Jesus Christ B his incarnation, his faithful life of obedience to the Father, his sacrificial death that atoned for sins, and his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension to God’s side in heaven where he intercedes as our high priest.

Hebrews presents Jesus as OUR MAN IN HEAVEN.

1. God’s Son becomes a man.  
Psalm 8 - explained in Hebrews 1-2.
2. Jesus lives a life of faithful obedience to the Father.  
Psalm 95 - explained in Hebrews 3-4.
3. Jesus offers his (obedient) life to God in place of our (disobedient) lives, in the sacrifice of his body on the cross.  
Psalm 40 - explained in Hebrews 10.
4. God exalts Jesus to a position of honor in heaven, where he lives as our high priest.  
Psalm 110 - explained throughout Hebrews, especially in Hebrews 7.