

1. Chapters 1-10 are pure doctrine and almost entirely directed to Hebrew believers who had received the gospel but needed affirmation in the superiority of the New Covenant.
2. Chapter 11 takes us on a journey of faith with a parade of O.T. saints who had the testimony of living their lives by faith.
3. Chapter 12 challenges and encourages the Hebrew believers to run the race of faith with patience and to follow after peace and holiness.
4. In chapter 13 the writer gives us a look at the practical application of living the Christian life of faith.
5. The opening verses of chapter 13 gives us the essential elements that will portray the gospel to the world, encourage men to place their trust and faith in Christ, and bring glory to God.
6. Alexander Maclaren (pastor from the United Kingdom, 1826-1910) wrote: “The world takes its notion of God most of all from those who say they belong to God’s family. They read us a great deal more than they read the Bible. They see us; they only hear about Jesus Christ.”
7. Brotherly love is not optional. Brotherly love is important for 3 reasons. (verse 1)
8. First, it reveals to the world that we belong to Christ. (John 13:35)
9. Next, it reveals our true identity - to ourselves. (1 John 2:3-5; 3:14)
10. A sure validation of our salvation is a genuine love for each other.
11. Third, it glorifies God. (1 John 3:17-19)
12. The subject of love in chapter 13 verse 1 flows into verse 2 like a waterfall.
13. We may never know how important and far-reaching a simple act of love and hospitality may be. (Matthew 25:40-45)
14. Notice verse 3. The writer exhorts us to consider those who are in bonds because of the gospel. It is important for us to identify with those in need.
15. The next subject area the writer deals with is found in verses 4-8.
16. First, he calls for sexual purity. (verse 4)
17. In God’s eyes - marriage is honorable. Sex outside of marriage is sinful and destructive.
18. The home is the first place where Christian love ought to be practiced.

19. Next, the writer says; “Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have...” (verses 5-6)
20. The word covetousness literally means “love of money”; but it can be applied to a love for more of anything. Covetousness is the desire for more, whether we need it or not.
21. Contentment cannot come from material things, for they can never satisfy the heart. Only God can do that. (Luke 12:15)
22. A new paragraph begins in v. 7 with the command to “remember them which have the rule over you or those who led you.” (Hebrews 13:7, 17, 24)
23. Committed believers are to imitate the faith of their spiritual leaders and avoid false doctrines. This appears to be to leaders who had completed their service in a congregation and had died.
24. The readers were to reflect on both the words and deeds of these former leaders, from beginning to end, and imitate their faith.
25. Steady spiritual reflection on the life of a committed believer can teach us lessons of faith, commitment, and priority.
26. Former leaders have died, but Jesus Christ remains the same. The constancy of Jesus enables us to follow the faith of great Christian leaders. (verse 8)
27. The lives of the former leaders declared memorably the changelessness of Christ. Both the readers of Hebrews and believers today have access to the power and example of the unchanging Christ.
28. Because of His past and present work, Jesus Christ can meet our every need.
29. Church leaders may come and go, but Jesus Christ remains the same; and it is Christ who is the center of our faith.
30. We see 3 great truths in verse 8: the divinity of Christ; the immutability of Christ; and the constant faithfulness of Christ to His people.