



Jesus Is Greater than Moses

Hebrews 3:1-6 “Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.”

The book of Hebrews was originally written as a letter to Hebrew or Jewish people who believed in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. They considered Moses to be the perfect example of God’s servant. God called Moses from a bush that appeared to be on fire but never burned up (Exodus chapter 3).

God met with Moses on Mount Sinai and gave him the Ten Commandments. In addition to the Ten Commandments God gave him many more laws and regulations.

Jewish people considered Moses as their guide. The Laws God gave to Moses allowed the people of Israel to have a genuine connection with God, the Creator of the Universe. Moses, and the laws God had given him, provided a way of life that made it possible for them to live close to God.

Moses stood out as a person in history who had been able to speak directly with God. Other prophets learned about God through visions and dreams, but Moses had actual conversations with God.

Jesus was greater than Moses. Moses was great, but Jesus was far, far greater. Jesus changed everything. Jesus’ relationship with God even surpassed the relationship Moses had with God.

Consider Jesus ... and Moses

Hebrews 3:1-4 “Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)”

As we studied last week, when Jesus died on the cross He became a “propitiation for the sins of the people” (Hebrews 2:17). His sacrifice satisfied God’s wrath against the sins of His people. Instead of each person spending eternity in Hell, those who believe in Jesus will spend eternity in Heaven. That is because Jesus’ sacrificial death paid the price of their sins. Jesus paid the price of the sins of everyone who believes in Him.

When God considered eliminating the people of Israel because of their disobedience (Numbers 14:11&12) Moses pleaded for their survival (Numbers 14:19). However, God would cause the people to wander in the wilderness for forty years (Numbers 14:33&34).

Both Moses and Jesus served as faithful priests who stood between God and His people. Moses was of the tribe of Levi, so his role as a priest was pretty clearly understood. Jesus wasn't from the tribe of Levi, and the writer of Hebrews will have more to say about that later. Both were instrumental in appeasing God's justified anger toward the sins of His people.

Yet, Jesus and Moses were very, very different. Jesus was incredibly more glorious. Jesus built the "house" of Israel. He created Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and also Moses. He created all of the Israelites. Therefore, that made Him the builder of the house of Israel.

Moses served in the house built by God. He served God faithfully in that House. But Jesus, who was God, actually built that house.

Jesus was sent by the Heavenly Father to the earth. He was an "apostle", sent by God. Because He was sent to earth by the Heavenly Father, He had a mission as a priest. When He delivered His message, He stood between God and His people, which is the function of a priest.

This means that when we believe in Jesus as our savior, we have someone greater and more glorious than Moses whom we can trust with all our heart. Moses was great, but Jesus is greater.

Jesus is the one we worship but He is also the one who delivered the message of salvation from God to His people. He announced that the way of salvation from sin had now come into the world. Not only did He announce this salvation, He Himself made this salvation a reality. This is our confession. This is what we believe: Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

A Son Is Greater than a Servant

[Hebrews 3:5-6](#) "Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope."

Moses was God's faithful servant, possibly more faithful than any other prophet, or servant, of God. He was the prophet, after all, that God spoke to directly, not just through dreams and visions. He spoke to Moses like a friend.

If you were a Jewish person who had grown up learning about how great Moses was this would have impressed you to the core. Moses was the greatest human being in history, with the exception of Abraham and Adam. As a child you might have asked your mother, "Why do we stop all of our work on Friday nights?" The answer was likely, "Because that is what Moses taught us to do." And that same answer was given to about half of all the questions you asked your mother when you were growing up. Moses was really great!

But Jesus was a son and not a servant. This doesn't mean that Moses wasn't a great prophet. But as great as God's special relationship was with Moses, God's relationship with Jesus was something of a much greater magnitude.

The son of the master is the heir. Moses could only bring his followers as far as he was able to go himself. God talked to him like a friend. But God talked to Jesus as His one and only Son. Jesus was more than a friend.

Jesus could bring those who followed Him farther than Moses could bring His followers because He had a relationship to God that was closer. He was the one and only Son of God.

Imagine you have an opportunity to see one of the most luxurious homes in America. Would you rather be the guest the owner or the guest of his employee? There's a big difference. The owner would have spent many hours in that spectacular home. He watched tv there. He ate meals there. For the owner it is a place to relax. An employee might have eaten there as a guest once or twice, but it is not a place where he can relax. When he's there, he has had to be on his toes every second, in order to make a good impression on his boss. As the guest of the owner, you would learn far more about the mansion, and hear more stories about things that happened there. As a guest of the son, you might even be able to enjoy your time there. As a guest of an employee the mansion would be more like a museum than a home. Everything about the mansion would be much less personal.

It would be a much greater honor to be the guest of owner. Moses was a servant of God, like an employee. Jesus was the Son of God who had much more honor than a servant.

Jesus establishes the relationship that believers can have with God. God is His Father, not just His boss, and not just His master. True, Jesus serves the Father, just as a servant serves his master. But the honor He received is as an heir. It is a far greater honor than any servant could ever hope to achieve. A believer's relationship with God has been established by the Son, not a servant. It makes a big difference in the kind of relationship believers will have with God for all eternity.

Our Confidence, Our Boasting, Our Hope

[*Hebrews 3:6*](#) "but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope."

By understanding what God has been doing through the ages we have every ingredient we need to grow stronger in faith.

By learning more about Jesus Christ a believer's faith can become rock-solid.

The book of Hebrews provides believers with the raw materials necessary for growing strong faith. Our faith may have been weaker. We may have understood who Jesus is and what He did for us. We might have known that He died on the cross for our sins, and that He rose again. But we might not have known how long He had worked to make it all happen. Even before He was born as a baby in a manger, He was working toward revealing His plan of salvation. Even before creation He planned to make a people that would be His own for all time. The full details of that plan unfolded in Jesus' ministry on earth.

God called Moses from the burning bush. He gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Miracle after miracle confirmed that God was working through Moses to establish an ongoing relationship with His people. It was supposed to be a relationship based on trust and love.

Jesus was building the descendants of Abraham into a "house". They were witnesses of God's presence to an unbelieving world. It was all part of His plan to one day reveal who He had always been: the unique, one and only Son who is made of the same Holy substance as the Heavenly Father.

For years and generations, He watched His people rebel and struggle to believe. Much of the time they didn't trust Him at all. But He knew that the only way they could ever come to genuine faith would be if He placed faith into their hearts, giving them ability to have the faith that is needed to be saved. They would never come to faith by their own efforts.

We find mention of this concept of God making us new from the inside out in the Psalms:

Psalms 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." ESV

Paul picks up on this in Ephesians when he explains that when a believer comes to have faith in Christ, that faith and their salvation, is a gift from God. It doesn't come from their own efforts:

Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. ESV

Jesus Himself explained that coming to faith in Him is determined by the actions of God the Father:

John 6:44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

The process of coming to Christ and being transformed by Christ is all part of the process of Jesus' resurrection being the beginning of a new creation. As the first human being to have a resurrection body, Jesus was the first human in the new creation. But all who believe in Him will be made new in their heart and mind as soon as they believe in Him.

2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

When believers see Jesus face-to-face they will be transformed fully with a new resurrection body.

1John 3:2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ESV

Until the day comes when believers see Jesus face-to-face they will detect changes in their character that come from a new heart and mind that God has placed in them. When a believer's actions are transformed, they can see the change for themselves. This outward change, caused by an inner spiritual transformation, is their assurance that they belong to Jesus. There are feelings that go along with this transformation, but they are not the cause of the change. Jesus's salvation and the work of the Holy Spirit is the cause of the change. These changes caused by God will result in the believer having overwhelming joy. But emotions alone are not a solid assurance of salvation because they can be undependable and go up and down. The Bible and the transformation of a believer's behavior is a much more solid assurance of salvation than emotions.

Jesus came into the world as the climax of a plan that had existed since before creation. He was so patient and so loving. He never gave up, and He never will. He will never give up if you will trust in Him.

Jesus' death paid the price of every believer's sin. His resurrection demonstrated the kind of transformation that takes place in every believer. Part of that transformation is to change an unbelieving heart into a believing heart that has genuine faith in Jesus. When Jesus returns, that same power that raised Him from the dead, will cause each believer to have a perfect, undefiled, resurrection body. The transformation begins the moment faith enters the believer's heart, but it will not be complete until the believer sees Jesus, face to face. It has begun already in every believer, but it isn't yet complete.

Jesus can do that. Moses couldn't even come close. Isn't Jesus a great Savior? Trust Him!

Think over all Jesus has done for you throughout the ages and let faith in Him grow deeper and deeper into your heart.

Jesus Greater Than Moses (Hebrews 3:1–6)

C J M D V O P D U E T J C N
 R P O L P B C T S S Y L O H
 M J R J A L U F H T I A F G
 U S E I U U B I F O P H L I
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 L N U D R H F F K S S T P V
 S S J E D E T N U O C U T A
 L D S E L T S O P A P R O E
 I G N I L L A C R A L S O H
 A U Y L D T L I U B E E N U

Therefore, holy brothers, you who **share** in a **heavenly calling**, **consider Jesus**, the **apostle** and **high priest** of our **confession**, who was **faithful** to him who **appointed** him, **just** as **Moses also** was **faithful** in all God's **house**. For **Jesus** has **been counted** worthy of **more glory** than **Moses**—as **much more glory** as the **builder** of a **house** has **more honor** than the **house** itself. (For **every house** is **built** by **someone**, but the **builder** of all things is God.) Now **Moses** was **faithful** in all God's **house** as a **servant**, to **testify** to the things that were to be **spoken later**, but **Christ** is **faithful** over God's **house** as a son. And we are his **house**, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

([ESV](#))