

**A BOOK REVIEW**  
**HEBREWS/A PART OF COMMENTARIES FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION**  
**APRIL 6, 2025**

**TITLE OF BOOK:** “Hebrews”, A BOOK WHICH IS PART OF A SERIES OF “COMMENTARIES FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION”

**AUTHOR:** Amy Peeler, PhD, Professor of New Testament and the Kenneth T. Wessner Chair of Biblical Studies at Wheaton College, who also serves as Associate Rector at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Geneva, Illinois. She is also the author of *Women and the Gender of God*, and *You Are My Son: The Family of God in the Epistle to the Hebrews*, and is coauthor with Patrick Gray of *Hebrews: An Introduction and Study Guide*. The author has devoted a large part of her academic life, research and writing to the Epistle to the Hebrews, which is the subject matter of the book at hand.

**PUBLISHER AND DATE OF PUBLICATION:** Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2024.

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS**

I admit that, while I engage in the daily practice of reading the Bible, as most of you do, and I have made it a practice to try to read it from beginning to end, hopefully within a year’s time, and I have completed this full reading of the Bible a number of times, I have never given the Epistle to the Hebrews a whole lot of consideration. I have certainly not given it the study and meditative time which its rich messages deserve. Dr. Peeler’s book is an amazing, wonderful, magnificent book. I cannot say enough good things about it. It has opened my eyes, and it will open yours to the wonderful ways in which the Author of Hebrews has, using the Old Testament and the Revelations of Jesus, presented, in unique and gifted ways, the certainty that God always has and always will fulfill God’s promises, and the unique role of Jesus as the eternal High Priest for, advocate for, and mediator of the new covenant for those who are true followers of Jesus. I am so grateful to Dr. Peeler, the author, for her God given wonderful research, writing and teaching skills, and for her awakening in me and all Christians the wonderful messages, teachings and encouragements which are provided by the epistle to the Hebrews. This book is a book for you, the Christian Pastors, Christian Preachers, Christian Teachers and Leaders. It is not one for all of the people who sit in the audience of your weekly congregation. It is likely not one for most Christian Small Groups or for many of the Bible Study groups in which many of us often engage (which are certainly good, but oftentimes do not engage in truly deep dives into complex parts of Scripture, like Hebrews). It is not an easy book to read. It takes time, a good deal of time to read it and absorb it. Frankly, I am not yet in any way able to say that I have absorbed it. I found that I had to read it in multiple sittings. I would read for an hour or two, and then try to think about what I had read, and then rest for at least a day before I again picked up the book for another sitting. So, Dear Reader, don’t think that you are going to pick up this book, and then sit down and read it, cover to cover, in a short period of time. You won’t be able to do that. However, if you read it slowly and do your best to meditate about what you have read, and then rest a bit before you pick the book up again, I promise you that you will be hugely benefitted by your efforts, and that those in your congregation or class who you are trying to help will be hugely benefitted by your efforts. In addition, you will have, on your shelf, a wonderful reference book to which you can return to help you deal with Pastoral issues which will confront you, and to prepare sermons. You can readily prepare a year’s worth of sermons from the Epistle to the Hebrews with the help and guidance of Dr. Peeler’s book.

In short, this book, Dr. Peeler's book, is a "must have" and "must read" for Christian Pastors, Preachers, Teachers and Leaders. This book will provide them with immense help in preparing sermons, and classes and in dealing with many of the Pastoral issues which the good people of your congregation will bring to you, particularly those who are struggling with very difficult problems and circumstances and who might feel that God has abandoned them or not listened to them, and whose faith is, therefore, being shaken.

#### **WHAT IS THE AUTHOR DOING WITH WHAT THE AUTHOR IS SAYING?**

I am going to make an inadequate attempt at summarizing what our Author, Dr. Amy Peeler, has said and what she is trying to do in this book. For a much better explanation of what Dr. Peeler has captured about the Epistle to the Hebrews in her book I refer you, Dear Reader, to Dr. Peeler herself. We are very fortunate to have had, and to have recorded lectures given by of Dr. Peeler about Hebrews and her book which you can see, hear and review at the Theological Education Initiative ("TEI") YouTube Channel, [tei Missouri](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8w0t0t0t0t0t0t0t0t0t0t). TEI was fortunate to host Dr. Peeler for lectures on this book, Hebrews, and her book, "Women and the Gender of God" on April 3, 2025. Her lectures appear on the TEI YouTube channel. You, Dear Reader, are referred to the recordings of those lectures. Her presentations of her books are much better than any summary I can provide. If you will view those lectures then you will be graced by the work of a very gifted teacher.

That said, let me take a stab at trying to do some justice to what our Author, Dr. Amy Peeler, was doing with her book on Hebrews. In this book she uses her own fresh translations of the Epistle to the Hebrews, and then follows the translation of each of the passages of this Epistle with extensive, detailed, exegesis of the passages, and her well thought out, Scripturally and literary supported conclusions about the significance to Christians of each passage. Her work is extensive and academically precise, and provides a deep dive into the heart of the remarkable Epistle to the Hebrews and into its significance for Christians in every age, particularly those who might be wavering in their faith because of some hardships or persecution.

In my view, Dr. Peeler, by her very comprehensive, well thought out and excellently presented exegesis and analysis of, and suggested applications for each of the individual passage of Hebrews (all of which she presents in her personal, fresh translation of each passage, followed by the exegesis, analysis and suggested application of such passage), wants her audience, us, to have a full understanding and grasp of what the Author of Hebrews was seeking to accomplish by what He or She (and we don't know the true identify of this author of Hebrews) stated in His or Her complex letter. An outline form of my conclusions about what Dr. Peeler wants us, her audience, to grasp about what the unknown Author of Hebrews was seeking to bring about with His or Her intended audience is as follows:

- a) Identity of the Author of Hebrews: The identity of the Author of Hebrews is unknown, although "experts" have speculated about such identity for generations. Some have identified Paul as the author, but Dr. Peeler and most scholars reject this conclusion for a number of reasons, including the fact that Paul, in his letter to the Galatians, makes it clear that he did not receive his Gospel from men, but rather received it directly from Jesus Christ, whereas the author of Hebrews points out that he is speaking from information that He or She received from those who knew and learned from Jesus. Dr. Peeler believes that, whoever the Author of Hebrews was, it is clear that He or She was in the Pauline orbit, meaning the group of apostles or disciples who were close to Paul and who were very well acquainted with Paul's teachings. It appears that the lessons of Hebrews are fully consistent

- with the teachings of Paul, and seem to have expanded on those teachings. Hence, Hebrews has been placed in the canon in conjunction with the Pauline Epistles. Other potential Authors of Hebrews include Barnabas, Priscilla (or Priscilla and her husband Aquila, since there is a reference to “we”), Luke and Apollos. Whoever the Author was, it is clear that He or She was very learned in the Hebrew Scriptures, which are extensively used by the Author in building His or Her arguments, and that He or She, like Paul, was also well educated and trained in the Greek rhetorical practices and conventions which were in wide use at the time Hebrews was written. (Hebrews ties together the Old Testament and the New Testament, and, in order to best understand it, one has to be well versed in the Old Testament. Passages from the Old Testament are abundantly used by the Author of Hebrews. The Author of Hebrews uses those passages in assembling His or Her arguments in which He or She obviously uses the rhetorical skills of a skilled Greek philosopher.) At the conclusion of His or Her letter, the Author does reveal that He or She was well acquainted with Paul’s protégé, Timothy, and that He or She was hopeful of joining with Timothy in returning to the people of the original audiences of the Epistle, who, again, were well known to the Author, and, apparently, knew the Author well.
- b) Genre: While Hebrews is a letter, an Epistle, it was one which was intended to be presented in oral form, as a sermon, to an audience of people who were well known to its Author. It was a form of written sermon, which could not be personally delivered, but which was intended to be delivered by its oral recitation. In effect, the Author of Hebrews provided, by way of His or Her letter, His or Her Sermon to His or Her intended audience
  - c) Possible Reasons Why the Author’s Identity Was Not Revealed in the Epistle: Almost every one of the other Epistles contains a clear identification of its Author. Why? Because the Author wanted the audience to have Trust in, and Respect for the Author. So, he would identify himself and oftentimes provide facts which would indicate that he could be trusted and that his words should, therefore, be respected. One can surmise, and Dr. Peeler does so surmise, that the Author of Hebrews wanted to draw the trust and respect of the audience not to Him or Her but to God. Trust in God and God’s promises, and in God’s fulfillment of those promises is one of the key motifs, if not, in fact, the key theme of Hebrews.
  - d) Original Audience: We don’t know who these people were. Although the word “Hebrews, meaning “To the Hebrews” did not appear in the original Epistle, it is clear that the audience included people who had an excellent grasp of the Hebrew Scriptures, significant passages from which the Epistle’s Author uses in building His or Her arguments which are directed to the original audience. That audience might have consisted of a mix of Jewish and non-Jewish people. It is also clear that the people of the original audience knew the Epistle’s Author, and that He or She knew them well.
  - e) Situation of Original Audience: It is clear that the people of the intended audience or audiences of the Epistle to the Hebrews were undergoing persecution or extreme difficulties. For the Jewish members of those audiences, those persecutions might have been asserted by other Jews, who rejected the very idea that Jesus could be the long- promised Messiah. Both Jewish and non-Jewish Christians, followers of Christ, were, likely, under extreme pressure from the Roman authorities because they failed to worship the emperor, as required by the ever- expanding Imperial Cult of the Roman Empire. A whole lot of chaos was arising in Jerusalem and Judah, where revolution and the Jewish-Roman wars eventually led to the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD, an event which was catastrophic for Jews everywhere. It does appear, however, that this Epistle was written before this 70 AD event, which it does not reference. It is also clear that some of the original audience or audiences were (or the Author or Authors, from information available to them feared that they were)

- wavering in their faith and, possibly, contemplating either leaving their faith or disavowing their faith, or being reluctant to express or defend their faith in order to avoid persecution and hardships or worse. The Author or Authors feared that some of the people of the original audience or audiences might even be willing to reject their faith in Christ and their very salvation. The Author or Authors wanted to buttress the faith of these besieged people.
- f) From Where Written: The location of the writing of this Epistle is unknown, although the Author or Authors do say, at the conclusion of the Epistle, “Those who are in Italy greet you”. One can, therefore, surmise that the Epistle was written or sent from Italy or shortly after its Author or Authors had left Italy.
  - g) A Lot We Don’t Know: There is, therefore, a whole lot that we don’t know about the Epistle to the Hebrews. We don’t know the identity of its Author or Authors. We don’t know, specifically, the audience or audiences to whom it was originally directed. We don’t know from where it was written or sent. All of these unknowns notwithstanding, it is abundantly clear that the original audiences were intended to find solace from, and strengthening of their possibly wavering faith from, and some practical instructions which would help to strengthen them in their faith from this Epistle to the Hebrews. This Epistle stands alone, among all of the New Testament documents, in its identification of the Ascended Christ as an eternal High Priest and eternal advocate for and mediator of the New Covenant for Christians who have accepted and believe in Jesus and His sacrifice. In no other Epistle or Gospel is Jesus placed in this powerful, encouraging role of an eternal High Priest. Regardless of who wrote it, this Epistle, perhaps in a manner more clearly than any of the other New Testament documents, ties together the Old Testament and the New Testament, and provides (perhaps in a manner equivalent to Romans) unique, clear and powerful teachings of theology and Christology.
  - h) Key Take Aways From, or Key Lessons of Hebrews: Hebrews is a deep, complex Epistle/Sermon. Dr. Peeler, who has devoted a good part of her academic life to the study of Hebrews, admits that every time she reads it, or lectures about it, or studies it she makes a discovery of something which had not previously occurred to her. She states that questions raised by, or points made by her students (and she has taught and continues to teach her class on Hebrews) have helped her to learn some matters about Hebrews which had previously not occurred to her. So, it does this complex letter an injustice for me to try to break down its teachings in simplistic language. But let me try to summarize Dr. Peeler’s Take Aways from or Key Lessons (for all of us) from Hebrews, as follows:
    - 1) GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND IS FAITHFUL TO EACH OF GOD’S PROMISES/GOD HAS FULFILLED AND WILL FULFILL EVERY PROMISE WHICH GOD HAS MADE. The Author or Authors of Hebrews cite the instances of God’s fulfillment of God’s promises, and celebrate the Faith of those who, in the past, had Trusted God to fulfill God’s promises, including Abraham, Moses and other Heroes of the Faith.
    - 2) EACH OF THE INCARNATION AND ASCENSION OF JESUS ARE OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH IN THAT JESUS, WHO WAS FULLY GOD, ELECTED TO ALSO BECOME FULLY HUMAN, AND TO LIVE A FULLY HUMAN LIFE. FROM BIRTH TO DEATH AS A HUMAN, INCLUDING BY ELECTING TO UNDERGO A HUMAN BIRTH BY BEING BORN TO A WOMAN AND TO RECEIVE HUMAN FLESH FROM A WOMAN, AND TO BE SUBJECT TO ALL ASPECTS OF A FULLY HUMAN BEING, AND THAT HE LIVED AS A HUMAN BEING, EXPERIENCING ALL OF THE REALITIES, TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS AND TEMPTATIONS OF A HUMAN BEING, AND THEN DIED AS A HUMAN BEING AND ASCENDED TO SIT AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, NOT AS

SOME INCORPOREAL SPIRIT, BUT AS A BEING WHO WAS AND IS FULLY HUMAN AND FULLY DIVINE/GOD.

- 3) BY HIS DEATH RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION JESUS HAS NOT ONLY PROVIDED THE FINAL SACRIFICE FOR THE REMISSION OF THE SINS OF THOSE WHO ACCEPT HIS GIFT OF REDEMPTION AND SALVATION, BUT HE HAS ALSO DEFEATED DEATH ITSELF. BY DEFEATING DEATH, HE HAS DEFEATED MUCH OF THE SOURCE OF THE POWER AND CONTROL EXERTED UPON HUMANS BY EARTHLY RULERS AND HEAVENLY DEMONS AND BY EVIL ITSELF.
- 4) BY HIS ASCENSION AS BOTH DIVINE/GOD, AND HUMAN INTO THE RESIDENCE OF GOD, WHERE HE SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER, WITH EQUAL STANDING AND POWER WITH THE FATHER, JESUS, AS OUR GUIDE, HAS ESTABLISHED THE PATHWAY ("THE WAY"-NOTE THAT JESUS'S EARLY FOLLOWERS REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS "FOLLOWERS OF THE WAY") TO ETERNITY IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD FOR HUMANS WHO BELIEVE IN HIM AND ARE FAITHFUL TO HIM, AND ELECT TO FOLLOW THAT PATHWAY, "THE WAY".
- 5) NOW THAT HE, JESUS, SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER, IN DEEP COMMUNICATION WITH THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, HE SERVES AS THE HIGH PRIEST FOR ALL HUMANS WHO ACCEPT HIM AND THE SALVATION AFFORDED BY HIM. HE SERVES, ETERNALLY, FOREVER, AS THIS HIGH PRIEST. AS THE HIGH PRIEST, WHO HAS UNDERGONE ALL OF THE HUMAN NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES, HE SERVES AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HUMANITY, AND AS THE ADVOCATE FOR HUMANITY AND AS THE MEDIATOR OF THE NEW COVENANT FOR HUMANITY; THAT NEW COVENANT BEING BETTER THAN THE OLD COVENANT, ALL AS DESCRIBED BY THE EPISTLE'S AUTHOR OR AUTHORS.
- 6) ALL HIGH PRIESTS, WHO WERE HUMAN AND, AS SUCH, SINNERS THEMSELVES, WERE, IN THE PAST, REQUIRED TO ANNUALLY PROVIDE SACRIFICES IN ORDER TO ATONE FOR THEIR PERSONAL SINS AND FOR THE SINS OF THEIR FLOCK. JESUS, AS THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, HAS, BY HIS BLOOD AND DEATH SACRIFICE, MADE A ONE-TIME, NEVER AGAIN TO BE REQUIRED OR DUPLICATED SACRIFICE FOR THE ATONEMENT OF THE SINS OF ALL WHO BELIEVE IN HIM AND ACCEPT THE GIFT OF HIS SACRIFICE. WHILE REMISSION OF SINS, UNDER THE OLD COVENANT, REQUIRED THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD, JESUS HAS, BY HIS SHEDDING OF HIS BLOOD AND THE SACRIFICE OF HIS LIFE, MADE A ONE TIME, NEVER AGAIN TO BE NEEDED AND NEVER AGAIN TO BE DUPLICATED SACRIFICE FOR THE SINS OF THOSE WHO HAVE FAITH IN HIM AND ACCEPT HIS SACRIFICE.
- 7) THERE ARE WARNINGS FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT ACCEPT JESUS'S SACRIFICE, OR WHO CHOOSE TO ABANDON THEIR FAITH. THOSE PEOPLE ARE, IN THIS CONDITION, AT HUGE RISK OF CONDEMNATION. THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT THEY CANNOT RETURN TO THEIR FAITH, BUT THEY ARE STRONGLY WARNED OF THE EXTREME CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR CURRENT CONDITION. WHILE IT IS LIKELY THAT ONE CAN LEAVE THE FAITH, AND THEN, LATER, WITH SINCERITY AND REPENTENCE RETURN TO IT, THE CONSEQUENCES FOR THOSE OF THE FAITH, WHO RENOUNCE IT AND EVEN TESTIFY AGAINST IT ARE GOING TO BE SEVERE.
- 8) JESUS IS WITH YOU. HE WILL HELP YOU. HOWEVER, YOU NEED TO HELP EACH OTHER, AND YOU NEED TO STAY IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, AND TO HELP AND ENCOURAGE AND SUSTAIN EACH OTHER AND TO HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE. YOU CANNOT LEAD A CHRISTIAN LIFE BY YOURSELF. WHILE IT HOLDS MANY PROMISES AND MUCH HOPE, YOU MUST, NEVERTHELESS, HELP AND SUSTAIN EACH

OTHER. CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND FELLOWSHIP ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND TO THE AVOIDANCE OF THE POWERS OF THE SOURCES OF EVIL, WHICH ARE ALWAYS ON THE ATTACK.

Yes, these are some of the Take-Aways from the Epistle to the Hebrews, as exegeted and described and discussed in huge detail by the author of the book under discussion here, Dr. Amy Peeler. I hope that I have not unfairly summarized some of her conclusions and further hope that this summary, and this Book Review will cause you, Dear Preacher, Teacher or Church Leader to acquire, and read and study and to retain as a reference book, Dr. Peeler's wonderful book.

### **HOW TO READ OR USE THIS BOOK**

As those of you who have read some of my (always way too long) Book Reviews can readily surmise, I would urge that the reader should read the entire book, cover to cover. Those are my almost always instructions. I am not going to make such instructions as to this book. Yes, I think that it should be read and studied, in its entirety. However, I recognize that, and sympathize with the fact that you Pastors, Preachers, Teachers and Leaders are very busy, and are leading busy and stressful lives, and that asking you to sit down and read and study this entire book, taking all of the reading sessions that such reading and study will require, can be making an impossible "ask" of you. Therefore, I would suggest that:

- 1) You can and should see and hear Dr. Peeler's wonderful lectures on the TEI YouTube channel mentioned above. These lectures will give you the information about the heart of this wonderful book,
- 2) Dr. Peeler has provided an excellent Introduction to her book, at the beginning of the book, and that Introduction will provide you with the basic heart and soul of this wonderful book.
- 3) Dr. Peeler has also included a wonderful Concluding Section in her book.
- 4) If nothing else, you can read the Introduction and Conclusion and be thereby pretty well versed in the contents of the book. Using these parts of the book, with its Table of Contents, will cause you to be very well acquainted with the book's contents. You will then be able to retain the book, as a reference source, knowing what it contains.
- 5) The CONCLUSION contains wonderful, practical suggestions about how to approach Hebrews, How to Teach Hebrews, how to conduct a Class Study of Hebrews, and how you, as a Pastor, Teacher or Leader can use Hebrews in carrying out your duties.
- 6) If you want to dig deeper into each of the Passages of Hebrews, then Dr. Peeler has structured the COMMENTARY of her book into Chapters or Sections. At the beginning of each Chapter or Section, she sets forth her fresh, personal translation of the relevant parts of the Epistle, and then follows this with a summary of her conclusions about this part of the Epistle, and then follows up with an extensive, detailed, documented exegesis of this part of the Epistle and with her conclusions about it. So, if you are teaching or preaching Hebrews you can use her book in order to help you prepare to preach or teach about Hebrews, from beginning to end. It can be a source of many sermons.

Let me be so bold as to make some additional Suggestions about how you might use this book.

- a) Assume that you are, in pursuit of your pastoral duties, confronted with an individual, or a group of individuals, who is or are facing some really hard challenges, which are challenging their faith or trust in God. You can use Hebrews, highlighted

by the relevant parts of this book, to help you in providing helpful pastoral counseling to the individual or group.

- b) Assume you are dealing with a church congregation which is facing huge challenges, and you or the other leaders of this congregation are about ready to give up. Don't! Look to Hebrews, with the help of this book, to give you the strength and courage, and really some practical advice to go forward.
- c) Among other things, Hebrews, as translated and described by Dr. Peeler, encourages all Christians to find and stay with a good Christian community, and, as a member of that community to try to encourage and help its other members to stay on the right path and to maintain their faith in Christ and Trust in God. As Dr. Peeler states, "no one can do this alone". So, you Dear Pastor, can use this epistle and this book to help strengthen your Christian Community and to help that community stay strong and active, with mutual love and support among its members.

Now I am going to be so bold as to even suggest how a sermon or series of sermons on Hebrews might, with the aid and guidance of Dr. Peeler's book, be concluded (I admit that I am anything but a preacher or pastor). You might proceed something like the following: *Now dear and beloved people. Let's try to conclude our discussions of the wonderful epistle to the Hebrews by taking from it the wonderful promises and hope which God has used it to provide for us. Some of you are suffering from some really awful struggles, problems and heartaches. Perhaps you have a beloved child who is struggling with addiction or faith difficulties. Perhaps your spouse is struggling with such difficulties. Perhaps you have even lost a child or a spouse or a relationship in which you have invested much hope. Perhaps you are worrying about financial matters, job issues or some serious health issues or even a personal addiction problem. Perhaps you are suffering the effects of a serious accident, or from the effects of a natural disaster. Maybe you are dealing with some serious issues of temptation. None of us is immune from struggles like these. Unfortunately, as Jesus said in John 16:33 "you will have problems in this world." As a friend of mine once said, "all of us has our own box of rocks to carry around." Unfortunately, troubles, heartaches, discouragements and disappointments are just part of the human condition. Now some of you have probably prayed, and prayed long and hard about the problems of your loved ones, or your personal struggles, and feel that God has not responded to your prayers. We know that God hears all of our prayers, but that some are answered and some are not answered, although they might have been answered in ways we do not understand. Perhaps you feel like just giving up, that God has let you down or abandoned you to your problems or losses or disappointments, and your faith is wavering. Please, don't give up. As Winston Churchill once said in the heat of huge problems, "Never, Never Give Up." If you are thinking of Giving Up, then look to what we have learned from God's Word as revealed by the epistle to the Hebrews. That wonderful letter was directed to people in a Christian Community who were suffering from, or facing terrible persecutions, persecutions beyond those we could ever expect in this country. They were, likely, wondering if they could count on and trust God. In that epistle, they were instructed that they have a High Priest and Advocate, God Himself, Jesus Christ, who, as a human being, has suffered from all of the problems of the human condition. He, Jesus, knows of what we are facing. He knows of our problems, issues, and disappointments. He is there, at the right hand of the father, as our priest, advocate, and dare I say, cheerleader. He is pulling for us. He, with the help of the Holy Spirit, wants to walk with us, and encourage us, and advocate for us, and strengthen us. In short, no matter how bad or dark things might be, Jesus is there with us, in our struggles, and if we look to him. we can find the strength we need to persevere, and to receive the wonderful eternal life with Jesus, and the Gifts which that life promises. Remember that a key theme of Hebrews is that "God keeps his promises", and God will keep the promises which God has made to you. Don't give up. Look to Jesus and to the help of your brothers and sisters in Christ. He and they are here for you.*

### **FINAL PERSONAL COMMENTS**

I have never considered the Epistle to the Hebrews to be of any huge part of my Christian journey. I have been deeply, deeply wrong. Dr. Peeler, by her book and lectures, has opened my eyes about the huge significance of this Epistle for any Christian. While its Christology and Theology are monumental, the hope it provides to Christians (and certainly to me) is equally monumental. You, Dear Pastors, Preachers and Church Leaders can build a year of ministry and sermons and pastoral care around this epistle, as you are aided by this book. THIS BOOK OF DR. PEELER MIGHT WELL BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT, MOST IMPORTANT BOOK I HAVE REVIEWED.

**IS THIS BOOK ONE WHICH SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE TEI LIBRARY (OR THE LIBRARY OF ANY PASTOR, TEACHER OF LEADER) AND IS IT USEFUL IN ANY TEI/ECLI CLASS?**

The answers to these questions are: ABSOLUTEY, 100 PERCENT, WITHOUT RESERVATIONS, YES.

Thank you!

Dan Simon