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# New Testament

- 4 Gospels (blue)
- 1 Acts (orange)
- 21 Epistles
- 13 attributed to Paul (green and yellow)
- 1 Hebrews (blue)
- 7 General Epistles (brown)
- 1 Revelation (red)



Romans 1:1: **Paul**, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

1 Corinthians 1:1: **Paul**, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 Corinthians 1:1: **Paul**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, including all the saints throughout Achaia:

Galatians 1:1: **Paul** an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead—

Ephesians 1:1: **Paul**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Philippians 1:1: **Paul** and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

Colossians 1:1: **Paul**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

1 Thessalonians 1:1: **Paul**, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

2 Thessalonians 1:1: **Paul**, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

1 Timothy 1:1: **Paul**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 Timothy 1:1: **Paul**, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

Titus 1:1: **Paul**, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance with godliness,

Philemon 1:1: **Paul**, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker,

## Hebrews 1:1–4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by a Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom He also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and He sustains all things by His powerful word.



## Hebrews 1:1–4

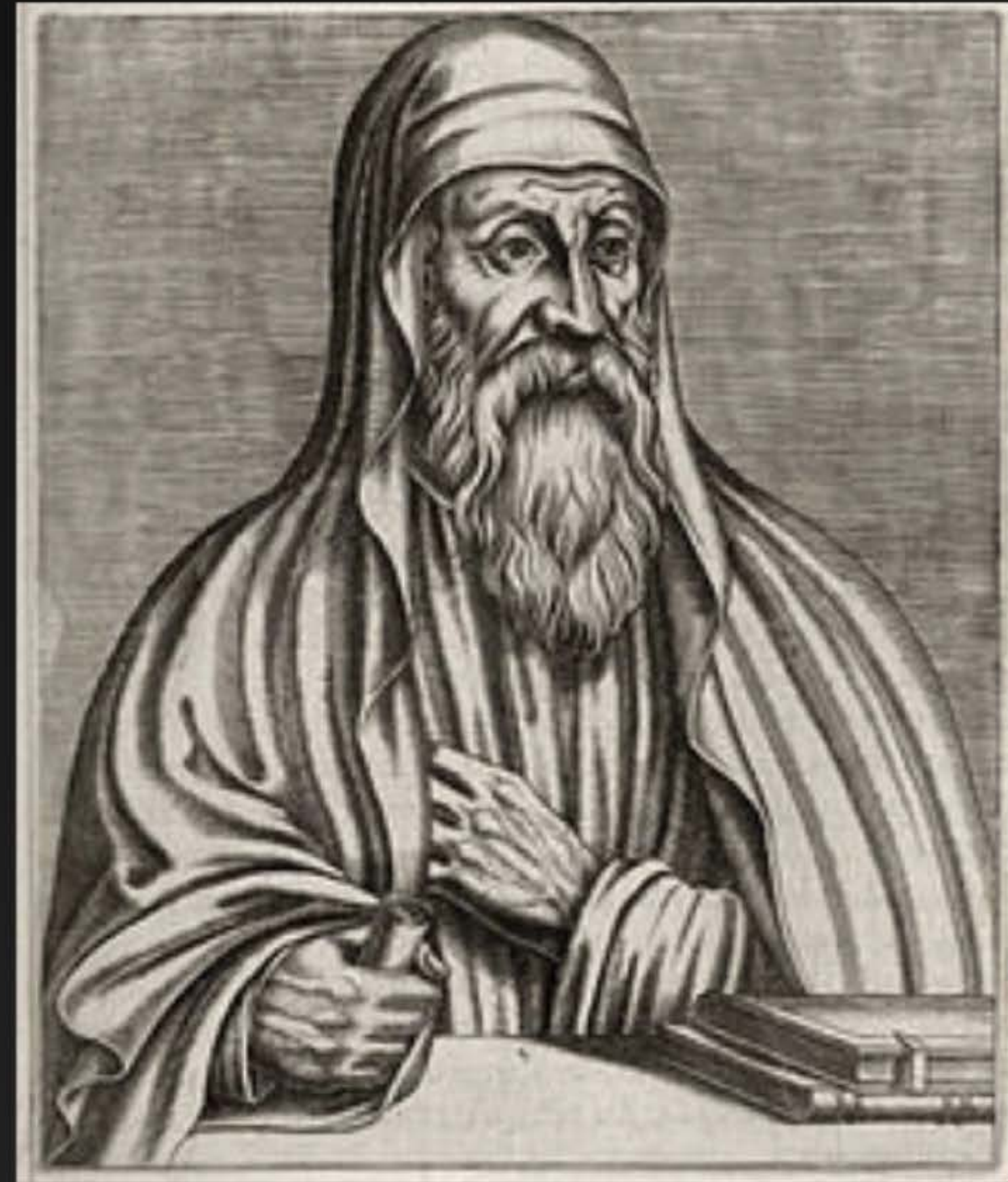
When He had made purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

“Paul’s fourteen epistles are well known and undisputed. It is not indeed right to overlook the fact that some have rejected the *Epistle to the Hebrews*, saying that it is disputed by the church of Rome, on the ground that it was not written by Paul.”

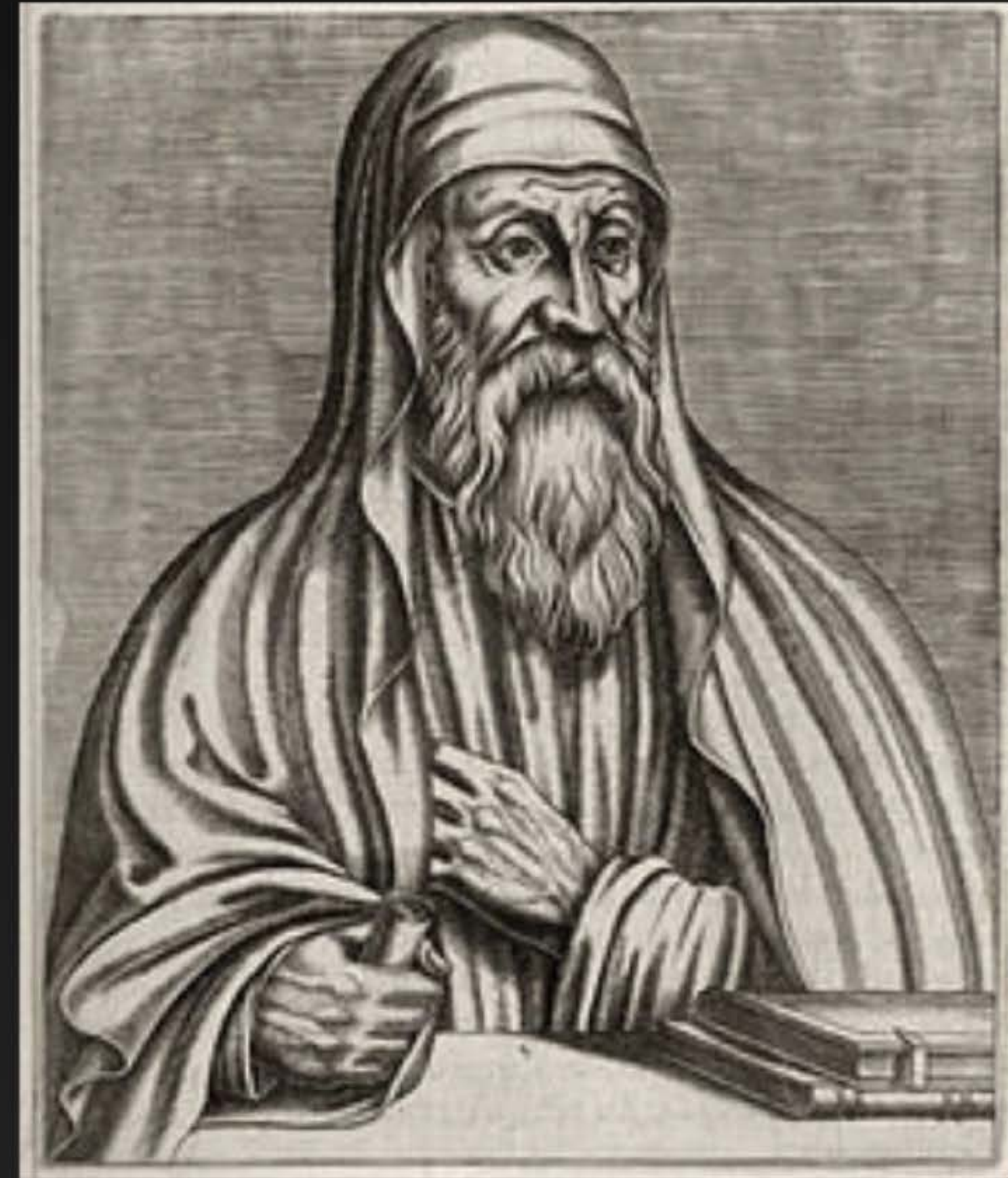
--Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History



That the character of the diction of the epistle entitled To the Hebrews has not the apostle's rudeness in speech, who confessed himself rude in speech, that is, in style, but that the epistle is better Greek in the framing of its diction, will be admitted by everyone who is able to discern differences of style. But again, on the other hand, that the thoughts of the epistle are admirable, and not inferior to the acknowledged writings of the apostle, to this also everyone will consent as true who has given attention to reading the apostle....

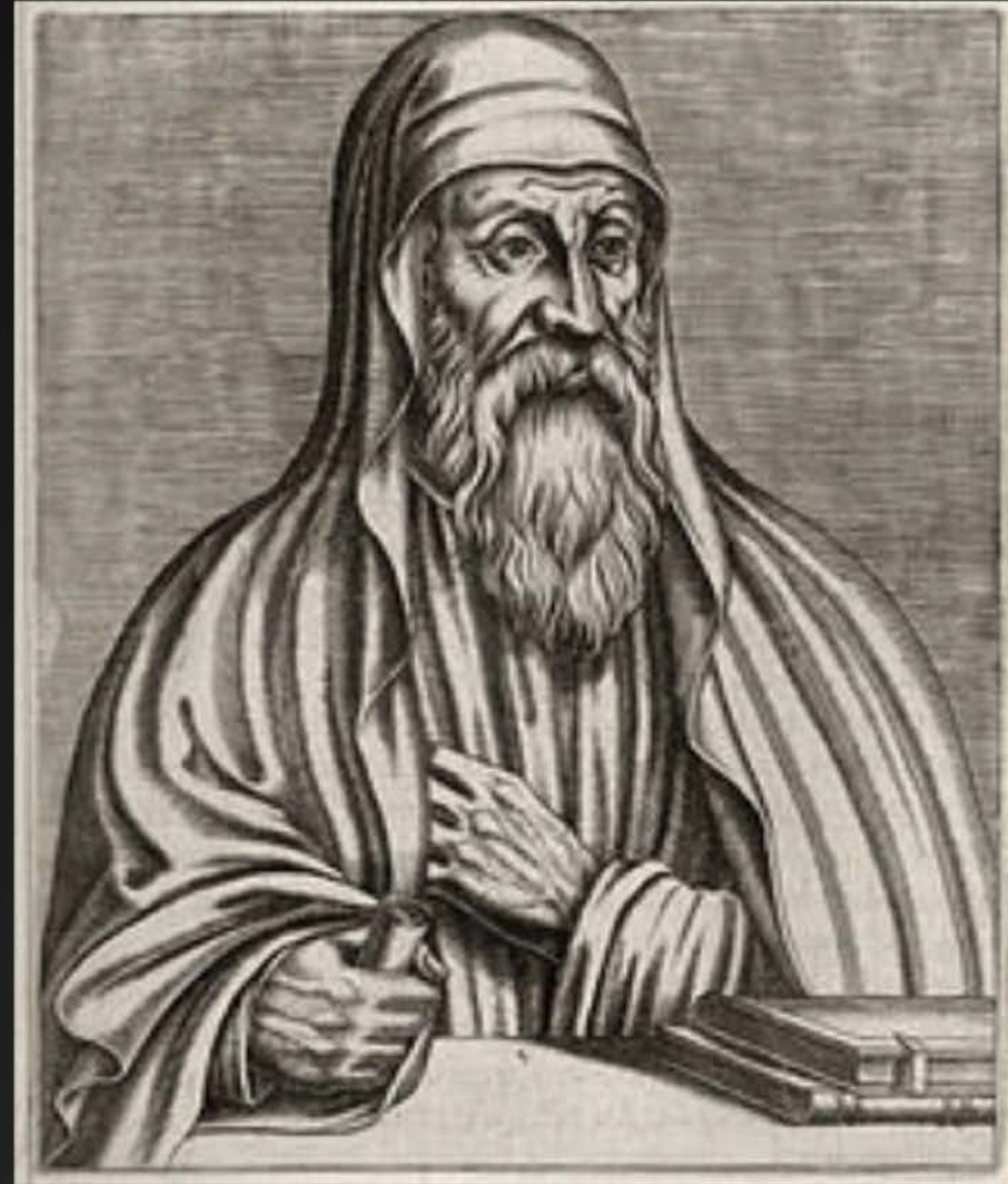


But as for myself, if I were to state my own opinion, I should say that the thoughts are the apostle's, but that the style and composition belonged to one who called to mind the apostle's teachings and, as it were, made short notes of what his master said. If any church, therefore, holds this epistle as Paul's, let it be commended for this also. For not without reason have the men of old handed it down as Paul's. But who wrote the epistle, in truth God knows.



Yet the account which has reached us [is twofold], some saying that Clement, who was bishop of the Romans, wrote the epistle, others, that it was Luke, he who wrote the Gospel and the Acts.

--Origen, *Homilies on Hebrews*



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## Author

- Knows Timothy (13:23)
- Connected to Italy (13:24)
- Not an eye-witness to Jesus (2:3)
- Advanced grammar and rhetoric
- Extensive knowledge of the OT
- Pastoral
- Male (11:32)

# Audience

- Knows Timothy (13:23)
- Connected to Italy (13:24)
- Not an eye-witness to Jesus (2:3)
- Jewish/Hebrew?
- Persecuted



## Hebrews 10:32-34

But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting.

When life is disorienting,  
don't give up on your faith.

## Hebrews 10:32-34

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## Hebrews 10:35-36

Do not, therefore, abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward. For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

# Cognitive Dissonance

**It has been testified somewhere (Ps. 8),**

**“What is man, that you are mindful of Him, or the son of man, that you care for Him? You made Him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned Him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under His feet.”**

**--Hebrews 2:6–8a**

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**Now in putting everything in subjection to Him [Jesus], He [God] left nothing outside His [Jesus'] control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him [Jesus]. But we do see Him [Jesus] who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.**

**--Hebrews 2:6–9**

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# Christology

## High Christology: Jesus' divine attributes

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom He also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and He sustains all things by his powerful word. When He had made purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

--Hebrews 1:2-4

# Christology

## High Christology: Jesus' divine attributes

- ✓ Greater than prophets
- ✓ Greater than angels
- ✓ Greater than Moses

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom He also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and He sustains all things by his powerful word. When He had made purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

--Hebrews 1:2-4

# Christology

**High Christology:** Jesus' divine attributes

**Low Christology:** Jesus' human attributes

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, He [Jesus] Himself likewise shared the same things... Therefore He had to become like His brothers and sisters in every respect, so that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because He Himself was tested by what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being tested.

--Hebrews 2:14–18

# Christology

## Jesus the Great High Priest (Heb 5, 7-10)

<b>Levitical Priests</b>	<b>Jesus</b>
Offer sacrifice again and again	Once for all sacrifice
Offers the blood of animals	Offers his own blood
Sacrifices in earthly tabernacle	Sacrifices in heavenly tabernacle
Cleanses the flesh	Cleanses the conscience

## Christology with a Purpose

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

--Hebrews 4:14–16

# Ecclesiology

**Ecclesiology:** understanding of the church/community/people of God

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“Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partners of Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end.”

--Hebrews 3:12–14

# Ecclesiology

**Ecclesiology:** understanding of the church/community/people of God

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

--Hebrews 10:24–25



# Ecclesiology

- **By faith Abel...**
- **By faith Noah...**
- **By faith Abraham...**
- **By faith Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph...**
- **By faith Moses...**
- **By faith the people...**
- **By faith Rahab...**

Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

--Hebrews 11:35–40

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such hostility against Himself from sinners, **so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.**”

--Hebrews 12:1–3