

Did Apollos Author Hebrews?

0. Named or renamed after a Greco-Roman god of truth and prophecy.

Acts 18 ²⁴ Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wished to cross to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who through grace had believed, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.

Thus, Apollos was:

1. Ethnically Jewish.
2. From Alexandria, Egypt, a Greek-speaking city with a large Jewish population.
3. Competent to teach from the Greek Old Testament scriptures.
4. Instructed in the way of the Lord (Jesus).
5. Fervent in spirit.
6. Spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus.
7. He spoke boldly in the synagogue.
8. Greatly helped those who through grace had believed.
9. Powerfully refuted Jews (and judaizers) in public.
10. Showed by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.

Acts 19 ¹ It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.

11. Paul trusted Apollos to teach in churches that Paul had founded.

1 Corinthians 1 ¹² What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ."

12. Some Christians preferred Apollos' teaching to that of Paul and of Cephas (Peter).

1 Corinthians 3 ⁴ When one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? ⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ... ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours.

13. Some Christians had come to faith in Jesus through Apollos' teaching.

1 Corinthians 4 ⁶ I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.

14. Paul acknowledged that both he and Apollos wrote trustworthy material for Christians.

Did Apollos Author Hebrews?

1 Corinthians 16 ⁷ I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. ... ¹² Now concerning our brother Apollos, I strongly urged him to visit you with the other brothers, but it was not at all his [the Lord's] will [that he] come now. He will come when he has opportunity.

15. Apollos was committed to following the will of the Lord Jesus.

Titus 3 ¹³ Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing.

16. Apollos learned from Zenas, a specialist in biblical law.

Thus, the Epistle to the Hebrews could have been written by Apollos and approved by the Apostle Paul or by another apostle.

1. Hebrews had to have apostolic approval in order to be accepted by churches as Christian scripture, and the Apostle Paul approved of Apollos, of his teaching and of his writing.
2. Hebrews is written in good, formal Greek, quoting often from the Greek version of the Old Testament.
3. Hebrews shows accurate knowledge of biblical law, literature and history, teaching accurately about Jesus.
4. Hebrews became widely copied by many churches.

A contemporary of Philo of Alexandria, who often interpreted the Hebrew scriptures allegorically, Apollos interprets the Hebrew scriptures literally, demonstrating their fulfillment in Jesus and the New Covenant.

