



THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 1

1 *God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,*

2 *in these last days has spoken to us in His Son,*

whom He appointed heir of all things,

through whom also He made the world.

3 *And He is the radiance of His glory*

and the exact representation of His nature,

JESUS IS GREATER THAN THE PROPHETS

- Vs. 1 — “God...spoke” — In a world so full of personal “spirituality”, how important is God-revealed religion?
- What does it mean when it says that God spoke in many portions and in many ways?
- What are some of the portions?
- What are some of the ways?
- Vs. 2 — What are these “last days”?
- What does it mean that Jesus is “heir” of all things?
- What is the importance of this as God’s Spokesman?
- Who made the world?
John 1:3
Col. 1:16
- What is the importance of this as God’s Spokesman?
- Vs. 3 — What does it mean to be the radiance of His glory?
- What is the importance of this as God’s Spokesman?

and upholds all things by the word of His power.

When He had made purification of sins,

He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4 *having become as much better than the angels,*

as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

5 *For to which of the angels did He ever say,*

“YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU”? And again, “I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME”?

6 *And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says,*

“AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM.”

- What does it mean about Jesus that He is the exact representation of God’s nature?
- What is the importance of this as God’s Spokesman?
- What does it mean that He upholds all things by the word of His power? (“upholds” is *pheron* and means to bear or conduct)
- What is the importance of this as God’s Spokesman?
- What is the significance of this in Jesus’ revelation of God’s will?
- What does sitting at the right hand of the Majesty on High do for Jesus as God’s Spokesman?
- Vs. 4 — Who’s better?
 - What do prophets do?
 - What do angels do?
 - What is the difference between prophets and angels?
 - Is Jesus greater than the prophets?
 - Is Jesus greater than the angels?
- What name does Jesus have?

JESUS IS GREATER THAN THE ANGELS

- Why bring up angels?
- Vs. 5 — What is the difference between Jesus and the angels?

7 *And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."*

8 *But of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM."*

9 *"YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."*

10 *And, "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;*

11 *THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL BECOME OLD LIKE A GARMENT,*

12 *AND LIKE A MANTLE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END."*

13 *But to which of the angels has He ever said, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET"?*

- Where do these OT quotes come from?
- Vs. 6 — What is the writer referring to when he says, "And when He again brings the firstborn into the world," in v. 6?
- Are angels allowed to receive worship?
- What is the difference between the Son (v. 6) and the angels (v. 7)?
- Vs. 8 —(From Ps. 45:6,7) What is this psalm saying about the Son?
 - Your throne, O _____
 - ...is _____ and _____
- Vs. 9 — Who are the companions in the first context?
 - Who are the companions in this context?
- Vss. 10-12 — (From Ps. 102:25) Who was the **agent** of creation? (v.2) _____
 - So, who is "LORD" addressed in this passage?
 - Did angels have any role in creation?
 - Are angels "eternal"?
- So, between the angels and Jesus, who is superior and who is inferior?
- Vs. 13 —(From Ps. 110:1) What does it mean to sit at the right hand of someone?

14 *Are they not all ministering spirits,
sent out to render service for the
sake of those who will inherit
salvation?*

- Where did the image of using an enemy as a footstool come from?
- Who had the right to do this?
- Who is the king?
- Would angels ever be given this right?
- Vs. 14 — What do angels do?
- Specifically, for whose sake do they do this?

THOUGHT QUESTIONS...

- Given the original readers of this book were Jewish Christians in danger of falling away, what has this book already said to them that should make them reconsider?
- As 21st century Christians, we are not in danger of falling back to Judaism, but we are in danger of falling.
 - Into what?
 - Who are the “prophets” of our day, those we pay attention to for authoritative teachings about right and wrong, how to live, and what is important?
 - Does this appeal from Hebrews have any application to us?
- Angels are ministering spirits for the sake of God’s people; are there other spirits out there that have other intentions?
 - Ephesians 6:12
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - Colossians 1:13
 - What has happened to them? (Col. 2:15)