

Superior to the Angels
Hebrews 1:3b-14

Getting Started

- ❖ What conclusions do you think the author of Hebrews expected his readers to draw about God's self-revelation in His Son from 1:1-3?

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. The Myth of the Cherubic, Celestial Sidekick
2. The Seven Pearls of Supremacy (v.4-14)
 - A. Pearl 1: The Unique Name.
 - B. Pearl 2: The Command to Worship.
 - C. Pearl 3: The Nature of Wind and Fire.
 - D. Pearl 4: The Eternal Throne.
 - E. Pearl 5: The Sustainer of the Atoms.
 - F. Pearl 6: The Seated King.
 - G. Pearl 7: The Ministering Spirits.
3. So What?

Takeaway Truth: The Sovereign who sustains the universe is the Savior who commands the heavens to serve you.

Digging Deeper (Read the sermon text again and discuss the following questions.)

- ❖ In Hebrews 1:5, 6 what contrast between the Son and the angels did the writer establish by quoting Psalm 2:7; 2 Samuel 7:14; and Deuteronomy 32:43 (from the Greek Old Testament)?
- ❖ In Hebrews 1:7-9 what contrast between the Son and the angels did the writer establish by quoting Psalm 104:4 and Psalm 45:6, 7?
- ❖ Why is verse 8 such a “knockout punch” to the Cults who demote Jesus and his deity?
- ❖ In Hebrews 1:10-12 what implied contrast between the Son and the angels did the writer establish by quoting Psalm 102:25-27?
- ❖ In Hebrews 1:13, 14 what contrast between the Son and the angels did the writer establish by quoting Psalm 110:1?
- ❖ What other verses or statements in this passage are clear statements that support the deity of Jesus?

Apply It!

- ❖ Are you too easily impressed with things other than Jesus? What are some of those things, and how does this passage help you correct your thinking about them?

Superior to the Angels
Hebrews 1:3b-14

- ❖ How can Jesus' identity as the King of the universe help you work through the challenges in your life today? How might this change your worship?
- ❖ What else especially strikes you about Jesus' identity in this passage? Will you speak about him differently as a result of reading Hebrews 1?

Think About It!

Although angels are not mentioned in Exodus at the time when God delivered the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai, Judaism in the New Testament era understood that God used angels in some fashion as intermediaries in the transmission of the Law. The Greek translation of the Old Testament in Deuteronomy 33:2 said multitudes of angels (rather than "saints") accompanied God to Mount Sinai. The martyr Stephen in Acts 7:53 and the Apostle Paul in Galatians 3:19 add New Testament confirmation that angels were involved in the giving of the Mosaic Law. The writer to the Hebrews makes it clear that the Son is a vastly better Messenger than the next best ones. (Jack Hayford)