God's Final Word

Introduce yourself and pass out Bibles:

There is an entry in the journal of Robert Lewis Stevenson that reads, "I have been to church today and I'm not depressed!" (with an exclamation point).

Reason: most of the time when we're reading the Bible

When we encounter Jesus of the Bible... Isaiah "woe is me"

John falls

We've all heard messages preached where man is the hero of the story...
W.A. Criswell says Christ is the scarlet thread that runs through Genesis to Revelation.

God acts in history. Let me prove it, take a look at 1 Peter 1: 2 (picking up in the middle of the thought), "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you."

God's final Word!

Our text this morning is:

Hebrews 1: 1-4

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hebrews begins abruptly,

This morning, as Christ is God's final word we see that... Christ is better, better prophet, better priest, better king,

• He is...

The first four verses of Hebrews

Verse One begins, (v.1)"Long ago, at many times and in many ways God spoke to our fathers by the prophets. (v.2) But in these last days he has spoken to us by his son."

Christ is now the full and exalted expression of God.

Just about every time I get together with John Hamilton he quotes this verse, "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,"

Take a look at Psalm 2: 6-8 says, "As for me I have set my King on Zion, My holy hill. I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession."

Begotten is primogeniture (explain right of first born).

1: Christ is a Better Prophet:

When I was a kid...

The Prophets spoke for God revealed in the Old Testament now revealed in Jesus Christ

• Peter quotes Deuteronomy 18: 15 in Acts 3: 22-23 take a look, "For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your brothers. You must listen to Him in everything He tells you. Everyone who does not heed His words will be completely cut off from among the people.

God revealed to Abram John 14: 29, "And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe."

Our text (v. 2) Whom he has appointed the heir of all things.

$(v.\ 2)$ Through whom he created the world

- The Greek word for world here is not the usual...
- $(v.\ 3)$ He is the radiance of the glory of God
 - Story of Augustine "Pears."

(v. 3)And the exact imprint of his nature

• 1 Tim. 6: 16 says God the

(v. 3)And He upholds the universe by the word of his power.

• whether in a manger or on the cross or even in the grave for three days, Christ did The OT prophet's job was *threefold*...

2: Christ is a better High priest.

• Sir Robert Anderson, "OT sacrificial system like Paper money. Representative of

That is why the next verse says: (v. 3) After making purification for sins he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

• <u>Temple (slide)</u> what is missing? look at this it's a slaughterhouse every day, sacrifices! Stay too long, terror!!

3: Christ is a Better King:

Finally, the last verse this morning says: (v. 4) **Having become as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.**

- In Acts 7: 53 here Stephen speaking says, "you who received the law as being delivered by the angels and did not keep it."
- Angels were thought by the Jews as Gods mediators of divine revelation. They brought the law.

This to the Hebrew is profound because God says in Psalm 8: 5 that man...

The natural response to Christ as King is worship.

• A worshiper so great a salvation,

Bob Herrington, Chaplin of Bourbon Street. (slide)

This is a perfect representation of repentance it is a changing of your heart and inclining your will toward him but remember this needs to result in a change of direction.

Understand this, God is revealed in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

I used to go hiking in the Pacific Northwest and there were these plants called devils paw.

Look to him as the author and finisher of your faith because he is enough.

- Eric Liddell "Christ for the world, for the world needs Christ."
- Christ. Look to Christ as the sinless spotless son of God died the death we deserve look to him.

Pray