

SUPREMACY week 2 - #sermons #hebrews

INTRODUCTION

Last week I introduced you to the book of Hebrews.

A letter to a young, hurting, fragile community of Christ followers. Many of them on the verge of giving up.

The letter is CHRISTOCENTRIC, ie.

Jesus is BIG, SUPREME in every word.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ CONSTANTLY challenges us to answer three questions.

1. WHO IS JESUS ?
2. WHAT HAS JESUS DONE?
3. WHY SHOULD THIS BE SIGNIFICANT FOR MY LIFE?

If we don't commit to seeking out the truth behind these questions we will settle for 3 similar but toxic questions.

1. WHO AM I?
2. WHAT HAVE I DONE? [shame/pride]
3. WHY IS THIS SIGNIFICANT FOR MY LIFE?

Answering the first set of questions will set you truly free.

Getting bogged down answering the second set will truly leave you confused, unfulfilled and without peace in your heart.

It's much easier to evaluate WHAT people do, than to understand WHO they are. And so we often FIXATE on WHAT JESUS DID, the WORK OF THE CROSS. But WHAT HE DID CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD WITHOUT KNOWING WHO HE IS.

The Letter to the Hebrews WILL ANSWER all three questions. FIRST THINGS FIRST. WHO IS JESUS.

PRAY

BRING IT

Turn to Hebrews 1:4

4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The author begins to answer this question of WHO JESUS IS by choosing to compare and contrast Him with our angelic friends.

WHY START HERE?

Cultural Shifts

Context - The time between the OT and the NT is often referred to as SECOND TEMPLE JUDAISM.

Intense focus on angels.

Angels were seen as Godly messengers, a heavenly militia sent to fight on our behalf and on behalf of the nation.

It wasn't uncommon for people to believe in a personal guardian angel.

And so it was important for the author to challenge this cultural distortion.

Was Jesus a divine angelic being? When He rose from the dead and ascended to heaven did He become an angel?

Hebrews 1v4 makes it CRYSTAL CLEAR , Jesus aint no cupid.

The name He inherited is more excellent. What name has Jesus inherited?

Verse 5 tells us. The name is SON.

5For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

When we say INHERITED we don't mean that He was CREATED or ADOPTED into this name. We mean that in stepping down into time, space and humanity, Jesus stepped into the MESSIANIC anointing of the SON. He has eternally BEEN the SON.

The Holy Spirit now opens up the OT to us and explains this to us.

Ps 2 v7 - Heb 1v5 - my Son, begotten [ya-now] to give birth, to bring forth, I WILL LET WALK.

2 Sam 7v14 - Heb 1v5

12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13**He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14**

will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

Deut 32v43

“Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods,
for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries.
He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people’s land.”

Look at v6 : Angels DECLARE the WORK OF CHRIST, He does not declare their work!

Now the author quotes four different Psalms that ELEVATE CHRIST OVER THE DOCTRINE OF ANGELS.

7Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire.” PSALM 104:4

HE MAKES the Angels. They are CREATED to MINISTER where as

However quoting Psalm 45:6-7

8But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

*9 *You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

Quoting Psalm 102v25-27

10And,“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

11 _ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment,12 _ like a robe you will roll them up, **like a garment** they will be changed.[a] But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”

ANGELS ARE MADE, THR SON HAS BEEN,IS AND WILL ALWAYS BE.

Angels are TEMPORAL the Son is ETERNAL

Angels can change the SON IS UNCHANGING.

Finally the author quotes Psalm 110

13And to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

There is only ONE SEAT by the Father's right hand. ONLY ONE. The ONLY SON of GOD.

14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

There are MANY MINISTERING ANGELS, only ONE DIVINE SON OF GOD.

THREE QUESTIONS WE NEED to WRESTLE WITH.

1. WHO IS JESUS ?
2. WHAT HAS JESUS DONE?
3. WHY SHOULD THIS BE SIGNIFICANT FOR MY LIFE?

MINISTRY

1. Asking the wrong questions in life. Your focus is on YOUR LIFE, WHO YOU ARE, WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. STOP
2. What Cultural distortion is ROBBING CHRIST of HIS TRUE IDENTITY, in YOUR HEART? Will you challenge it?