

# Lesson One

## Hebrews 1 & 2

For a Jew living in the time of Jesus, the thought of dispensing with 2,000 years of tradition was traumatic. The prophets of the Old Testament were the life blood of Jewish knowledge. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus spawned a new religion that seemed to be threatening their age-old values.

1. Read Hebrews 1:1-4. Underline the words that describe Jesus. What phrases show the power of Jesus? (Remember the song, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”). How do you reconcile Jesus’ actions at creation with our Heavenly Father’s work at creation? See Colossians 1:15-17.
2. The first argument the author of Hebrews makes is that Jesus Christ is superior to the angels. The Old Testament is full of angelic visitations, so the Ancient Jews held angels in high esteem. Read Psalm 2 that is quoted in Hebrews 1:5. In this Psalm the one speaking is God the Father. Can you discern the purpose of this Psalm? Next, read 2 Samuel 7:11-16. These verses speak of God’s promise to King David, but like many Old Testament prophecies, they have double meanings. How does Jesus fit into these verses?
3. In Hebrews 1:6-13, the author is making an argument that Jesus is greater than angels. List 4 reasons why this is so according to these verses.
4. According to verse 14, what is the purpose of angels? How does this differ from the purpose of Jesus Christ?
5. Hebrews 2:1 is an important verse. What can cause us to “drift away” from a true faith?
6. In chapter 2, the author makes the argument that the angels spoke the “message” of the commandments to Moses. How is Jesus more powerful than those commandments and the angels that delivered them?
7. According to the rest of chapter 2, what did the suffering death of Jesus do for us? Why did Jesus need to take on human flesh according to these verses?

**Prayer** Almighty Father, Creator God, it was your good pleasure to create the world through the work of your Son. We praise you that from the beginning of time, you ordained the world and knew it would need a Savior without blemish. Thank you, Jesus, for your mercy and faith as our perfect High Priest. May we live a life worthy of your sacrifice. Give us hearts to understand the sacrifice Jesus made when he took off the robes of glory and became man for each of us. Amen