

Week Four / Chapter Two / Verses 5 - 9

Before you begin: Any good study in the word of God should begin with prayer. Ask God to settle your heart and allow you to see the things that He would have you to learn and that those things would change your life and spiritual walk. Next read over the text several times. As you read, those things that God wants you to learn will begin to stand out to you. The questions below will help guide you through the study.

Background:

This is the only New Testament book which we don't know the author of. There have been many attempts to deduce the author of this book, yet nothing definitive. Paul, Barnabas, Silas, Peter, Apollos, and others have been proposed. The early church fathers didn't know who wrote this book and at the end of the day we have to admit as well that we just don't know. In reality, it doesn't matter so much because the Holy Spirit is the ultimate author. 2 Peter 1:21.

The book was written to the Hebrews. Gentiles are not mentioned at all within the book of Hebrews. Neither is the conflict between Gentiles and Jews which occurred so often in many of the early churches. The book includes many reference to the Old Testament which Jews would have been familiar with as well as many references to priesthood, ceremonial laws, and the Levitical Priesthood.

The chief underlying theme is the superiority and pre-eminence of Christ. It is rather fitting that the author is anonymous because the book is all about how *Christ is greater than* everything and everyone in glory and power. While there are many deep doctrines in the book, recognizing Christ's supreme position is of vital importance. It also will have a deep impact on our lives if we live our life with Christ on His throne and submit our will to Him. (studyhebrews.com)

The Son Made Lower than Angels

Study Questions

- 1. Who was this world originally subjected to; what has changed? Who is currently ruling this world; when will that end? Who will the "world to come" be subjected too?
- 2. What was the purpose of Jesus becoming lower then the angles? (verse 9)
- 3. What attitude did Christ show in becoming lower than the angles? When did this happen? (John 1:14, Philippians 2:5-11)
- 4. What reward would He get after He humbled himself? (Ephesians 1:20-23) What principle does this teach?
- 5. How should we respond to Christ's sacrifice for us?
- 6. How does knowing that Christ controls everything impact your life?

Reflection: In this section of Hebrews, the writer, while making the point that Jesus is greater than the angelic hosts, references Psalm 8:4-6 in which David himself was reflecting on the unimaginable fact that the God of heaven is mindful of man.

- A. As you reflect on this section of the text, what is the dual meaning or application (meaning the practical and the prophetic)?
- B. How is it that David could record his own thoughts and meditations while at the same time recording prophesy concerning the future of the Christ? (2 Peter 1:21, 1 Peter 1:10-12, 2 Timothy 3:16)