

Superior: Hebrews Over Angels

Craig Smith • August 18, 2019

Background: Jewish belief that angels were the mediators of their covenant with God...

“And now you have betrayed and murdered Him – you who have received the law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it.” (Acts 7:52b-53)

☪ **This fed a growing emphasis on mystical worship –** *“Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions.” (Col. 2:18)*

The author uses 7 Old Testament passages to prove that Jesus is superior over the angels...

- **In name: Son –** *“So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son; today I have become your Father?’ Or again, ‘I will be His Father, and He will be my Son?’” (Heb. 1:4-5)*
Old Testament (OT): Psalm 2:7; 1 Chron. 17:13a
- **In honor: worship –** *“And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship Him.’ In speaking of the angels He says, ‘He makes His angels winds, His servants flames of fire.’” (Heb. 1:6-7)* *OT: Deut. 32:43; Psalm 104:4*

- **In dominion: forever –** *“But about the Son He says, ‘Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.’ ...He also says, ‘In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain...you remain the same, and your years will never end.’” (Heb. 1:8a, 10-11a, 12b)* *OT: Psalm 45:6, 7; Psalm 102:25-27*

- **In authority: victory –** *“To which of the angels did God ever say, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?’” (Heb. 1:13)* *OT: Psalm 110:1*

🕯 **It can be tempting to “yawn” over passages that aren’t about me –** *“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself... ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?’” (Luke 24:27, 32)*

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? (Heb. 1:14)