

Lesson 2 – Hebrews 1: 4-14

In our first class, we noted five characteristics of the Epistle to the Hebrews. We recognized it is a book of: evaluation, exhortation, examination, expectation, and exaltation. The writer of Hebrews exhorts the believers to “***go on to perfection***” (Hebrews 6: 1). His appeal is based on the superiority of Christ.

Unlike the writers of the other letters in the New Testament, the author of Hebrews does not identify himself or the letter’s recipients. But the content of the letter shows us the audience is Jewish. That’s why this book of the Bible is called the letter to the Hebrews.

The message of this book is not for Jews alone; it is for Christians of all backgrounds. Still, its message is built on the Old Testament, which Paul in 2 Timothy 3: 15 called “***the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.***” Hebrews will show us in a way no other New Testament book does the connection between the Old Testament and the New.

Day 1

1. Before you begin, pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.
2. Read all of **chapter 1**. As you read, mark all references to God (the Father) including pronouns and all references to Jesus Christ (including pronouns).
3. Review what we learned in class about Christ in **verses 1-3**. How is Christ exalted in His person? How is He superior to the prophets? List the differences.

Christ

prophets

4. As you close out the day, consider the following. Creator, Prophet, Priest, and King – Jesus Christ is superior to all of the prophets and servants of God who have ever appeared on the sacred pages of the Scriptures. It is no wonder that the Father said, at the hour of Christ’s transfiguration, “*This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Hear Him!*” (Matt. 17:5) Two of the greatest prophets were there with Jesus: Moses and Elijah. But Christ is superior to them. This will be affirmed more and more as we study this epistle!

Day 2

1. Remember to pray!
2. Read **chapter 1** again, and mark the following words: *angels* and *better* .
3. According to **verse 4**, Jesus has become better than whom?
How so?

This begins a long section dealing with angels (Hebrews 1:4-2:18). Hebrews 1:4-14 is an affirmation of the superiority of Christ to the angels.

4. The writer in **verses 5-13** quotes many 7 scriptures from the Old Testament , all of which prove the superiority of Christ to angels. One principle of Bible study is that the best commentary on Scripture is Scripture itself. So we “cross-reference.” The New Testament often reveals a fuller meaning or understanding of Old Testament passages, and that’s what the writer of Hebrews does here. This is called **progressive revelation**.

According to **2 Timothy 3:16**, all Scripture is what?
So, we know that the New Testament revelation provides us with God’s meaning! We don’t have to make something up on our own!

Old testament quotes help us know whom the letter was written to. How so?

5. Bible scholars tell us the writer quoted from the Greek version of the Hebrew Old Testament, known as the Septuagint.
6. **Verse 5** has 2 quotations from the Old Testament. Read the following:

Psalms 2 The quotation is from verse 7, but you need to read the whole psalm to get the context.

2 Samuel 7:14 This is part of God’s covenant promise to build David’s house (to establish a lineage of kings through hi), but God shows us in Hebrews that it applies to whom?

According to **verse 5**, the more excellent name that Jesus possesses is what?

7. Read **verse 6**. **Verse 6** quotes the last line of **Psalms 97:7**. Read the whole verse. A note from scholars in the NASB Bible says that it could be translated “Worship Him, all you supernatural powers.”

8. So, in **verse 6**, what is the affirmation that is made about our Lord Jesus Christ?

9. As we close out this day, let's consider what it means that the Son is the firstborn into the world? This is an opportunity to go deeper. Use scripture to help with your answer.

Day 3

1. Pray!
2. Read **Chapter 1** of Hebrews. According to **verses 4-6**, Christ is superior to angels how?
 - a.
 - b.
3. Read **verse 7**. This is a quote from **Psalms 104:4**. What do we learn about angels? Hint: whose servants are they?
4. Read **verses 8-9**. The writer begins to contrast angels with whom?
5. In **verses 8-9**, the writer quotes from **Psalms 45:6-7**. This is a messianic psalm. What do you learn about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, that is not true about angels?

Who is speaking to the Son in these verses?

6. Read **verses 10-12**. This long quotation is from **Psalms 102:25-27**. Who is the eternal Creator spoken about here?
 - a. One day He will do away with the old creation and bring in a new creation. Everything around us changes, but will He ever change? Write out Hebrews 13:8.

7. Read **verses 13-14**. The writer again quotes **Psalm 110:1**.

What is the answer to the question asked in **verse 13**?

At whose invitation does Jesus sit at the right hand of the Father (the Majesty on high)?

According to **verse 13**, what is He waiting for?

According to **Hebrews 1:3**, when did the Son sit down at the right hand of the Majesty on high? What had He accomplished?

8. One last thing to consider for today. **Hebrews 1:4** tells us that Jesus became better than the angels. In what sense do you think? Check out **Hebrews 2:10**. He was made perfect (complete as our redeemer) how?

Day 4 & 5

1. Pray!

2. It's up to you how you divide this assignment up. You can do it in 2 days or do it all at one sitting.

Let's look more closely at angels. People have a lot of funny beliefs about angels that aren't based on the Bible. Many of these beliefs are spread by television, movies, and popular folklore. The writer asks a question about angels in **Hebrews 1:14**. Write it out below.

Hundreds of Bible verses illustrate the acts that angels have done, but who are angels? What is their relationship to us? Let's do a topical study. What do you learn in the following scriptures? Summarize (or list on another sheet of paper) what you learn.

Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7 (sons of God are angels.)

Psalm 34:7

Ezekiel 28:11-19 (This is about Satan.)

Luke 15:10

1 Corinthians 6:3

2 Corinthians 11:14

Galatians 3:19

Colossians 2:18

1 Timothy 3:16

1 Timothy 5:21

1 Peter 1:12

1 Peter 3:22

2 Peter 2:4, 10-11

Jude 6-7

Revelation 12:7-9

Did you learn anything new about angels?