# HEBREWS: CHRIST IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018

## Better Than Angels Hebrews 1:4-14 September 21, 2017

### I. Jesus is superior to angels in four ways:

- :4 A. As Scripture is superior to speculation.
  - 1. Seven Old Testament passages versus
  - 2. Many passages of the intertestamental literature
- :5-7 B. As sons are superior to servants.
  - 1. Psalm 2:7; II Samuel 7:14; Deuteronomy 32:43
  - 2. Psalm 104:4
- :8-12 C. As same is superior to sinusoidal.
  - 1. Psalm 45:6-7 versus
  - 2. Psalm 102:25-27
- :13-14 D. As sitting is superior to standing.
  - 1. Psalm 110:1
  - 2. Revelation 7:11

#### II. Let us respond to our supreme seated Savior in two ways:

- A. Rest
  - cf. Hebrews 4:9-10; John 19:30; Romans 4:4-5
- B. Worship
  - cf. Hebrews 12:288-29; 13:15; Revelation 5:13-14

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. (v.4) From what source have you gotten your conception of angels? Why do you think the author of Hebrews brings them up right at the outset of his argument for the supremacy of God's Son, Jesus?
- 2. (vv.4-14) Do you think that the New Testament writers interpret the Old Testament according to its natural, originally intended meaning, or do you think the Holy Spirit gave them new revelation to allow them to interpret the OT in new ways that are not in keeping with their OT contexts? What are the reasons for your answer?
- 3. (vv.5-7) The author quotes 4 OT (Septuagint version, the Greek translation of the Hebrew OT) in these 3 verses (Ps. 2:7; 2 Sam. 7:14; Dt. 32:43; and Ps. 104:4). Which of those passages do you find to be the strongest confirmation for you personally of the supremacy of God's Son, and why?
- 4. (vv.8-12) In these 5 verses of Hebrews the author quotes 2 more Old Testament passages. The first from Psalm 45:6-7 seems to call great David's greater son, God. The second from

Psalm 102:25-27 takes a psalm that is clearly addressed to Yahweh ("LORD" in Ps. 102:1) and applies it to Jesus as God's agent in creation (cf. Hebrews 1:2). The eternality of Messiah's throne is stressed in Psalm 45 (remember that Messiah means "anointed one" and see the reference to "anointing in Hebrews 1:9, quoting Psalm 45:7). The contrast between mutable creation and immutable God is stressed in Psalm 102. Why do you think the author regards immutability as superior to mutability? Do you agree or disagree and why?

- 5. (v.13) Psalm 110:1 (quoted in verse 13) appears 12 times in Hebrews (1:3, 13; 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:3, 11, 17, 21; 8:1; 10:12-13; and 12:2)! Jesus uses it to point to his divinity in Matthew 22:43-45, and Peter uses it on the day of Pentecost to clinch his argument that Jesus is the Messiah and Lord of all (Acts 2:34-36). Which of these uses of Psalm 110 in the New Testament is most meaningful to you today and why?
- 6. (v.14) How does the knowledge that angels are fighting behind the scenes spiritually for us and serving our purposes encourage you today (cf. 2 Kings 6:8-17)?

#### **Going Deeper**

- 1. Jesus has sat down at the right hand of the Father, having finished his work (John 19:30). How should that finished work of Christ affect our "rest" today in this restless world (see Hebrews 4:9-11)?
- 2. Jesus has established a kingdom that cannot be shaken and will one day fully come (for which we earnestly pray in the Lord's Prayer) with the defeat of all his enemies. What present implications should that future kingdom have for our worship today (Hebrews 12:28-29; 13:15)?