

**And This Will We Do, If God Permits**  
An Expository Journey through the **Epistle to the Hebrews**  
Chapter 3: The Preeminence of Jesus Christ  
**Hebrews 1:1-4**  
33: The Preeminence of Jesus Christ: Part 18

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WAOY Friday 02/13/09

Welcome again, my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing our verse-by-verse journey through the **Epistle of Hebrews**, and today I want to continue to look at what the writer of **Hebrews** taught about the Preeminence of Jesus Christ. So let's open our Bibles and read **Hebrews 1:1-4** again together.

**1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,**  
**2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.**  
**3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,**  
**4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.**

Now on the last broadcast, we were looking at the seven *excellencies* that the writer of **Hebrews** shows us in the second half of verse two and all of verse three. So let's read those verses again together:

**2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.**  
**3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,**

In these two verses, we can see that the writer of **Hebrews** is going to great lengths to describe just who Jesus is to his first-century Jewish audience. And by teaching what he teaches here, the writer is showing these Jews, and us, that Jesus is far superior to any heavenly angel or any Old Covenant prophet.

So in his very detailed description, the writer lists these seven attributes about Jesus so that all of us may know that Salvation is in Jesus alone, and not through adherence to the Law of God. Those seven attributes are:

1. His Heirship
2. His Creatorship
3. His Brightness
4. His Being
5. His Administration
6. His Sacrifice
7. His Exaltation

Over the last seventeen broadcasts, we have been going over the Preeminence of Jesus Christ by looking at the first four verses of **Hebrews 1**. We have looked at how God used to speak under the Old Covenant to our fathers by the holy prophets and we have looked at the fact that now in these last days, God is speaking to us and to the world solely through Jesus Christ through the pages of Scripture; through Jesus Christ, who is better than all the prophets and better than all the angels.

We saw that Jesus is both the instrument by which God made all things and He is also the heir of all things that are made. We saw that all that God has done in the earth - and all that God ever will do in the earth - He has done and will do for His own Glory, and that Jesus Christ is the radiance, or the brightness, of that Glory.

We also saw that Jesus Christ is the exact representation of the Father, and that He acts and moves and operates in perfect accordance with the Father; for Jesus only does what He sees His Father do. And we also saw that it is Jesus that upholds all things by the Word of His own Power, and that by Him all things consist and have their being.

Now today, Lord willing, I want to look at the next “excellency” that Jesus Christ possesses: the fact that Jesus Christ - all by Himself - purged our sins. In order to do that, let’s look further into this Epistle at **Hebrews 9. (NASB)**

**1 Now even the first covenant had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.**

**2 For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this is called the holy place.**

**3 Behind the second veil there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies,**

**4 having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron’s rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant;**

**5 and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail.**

**6 Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship,**

**7 but into the second, only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.**

**8 The Holy Spirit *is* signifying this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing,**

**9 which *is* a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience,**

**10 since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.**

**11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation;**

**12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.**

**13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,**

**14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

**15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed**

**under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.**

**<sup>16</sup> For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.**

**<sup>17</sup> For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.**

**<sup>18</sup> Therefore even the first covenant was not inaugurated without blood.**

**<sup>19</sup> For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,**

**<sup>20</sup> saying, “This is the blood of the covenant which God commanded you.”**

**<sup>21</sup> And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood.**

**<sup>22</sup> And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**

**<sup>23</sup> Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.**

**<sup>24</sup> For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;**

**<sup>25</sup> nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that is not his own.**

**<sup>26</sup> Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.**

**<sup>27</sup> And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,**

**<sup>28</sup> so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.**

Now **Hebrews 9** tells us several very interesting things.

1. Our sins were awful in God’s sight, and needed to be purged.
2. All sins must be purged only with blood.
3. The Blood of Jesus Christ is superior to that of animals.

Now the Bible says in **Romans 6:23**:

**<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

So from this, we see that sin destroys life. Sin is the enemy of life. The opposite of life is not death; the opposite of life is sin. Sin kills. Every time you sin, you die. You die to God; you die to the Promises of God; you die to the Will of God; and everything that God desires to transpire in your life dies. Sin is death in every aspect and in every area of speaking. When the Bible declares that Satan is not just a liar, but is also the *father of lies*, it is assigning to Satan a place that none other has. Not only does Satan deceive; not only does Satan go to and fro throughout the earth to steal and kill; not only does Satan lie, but Satan is originator or the father of lies. All lies begin with Satan. When you lie, when you deceive, when you hide from God; when you go about to follow sin, you are not just sinning. You are now in league with Satan and you are now in union with Lucifer; you are now joined at the hip with the father of all lies. The same thing is true with sin and death.

The death that sin brings is immediate. I have witnesses... tender, eager souls, who were made hard through their sin. Their hearts were made so hard they couldn't feel the Presence of God any more. They couldn't walk in God's ways; they could no longer hear His Voice.

If you never hear anything else that I say to you, please hear this. Being in the world... being out in sin, following the crowd, going and doing sinful things with your friends, *will* destroy your walk with God; it will harden your heart; it will cause the Voice of God to grow more and more faint; it will rob you of your joy; it will rob you of your will to fight for what is right; it will sap your spiritual strength. The noise of the parties and the music and the laughter of the sinful world will take out of you the desire to serve God; it will rob you of your joy and it will steal from you the best and most valuable thing in all the world: your love for God.

The world doesn't have the power or the ability to lessen God's Love for you. But it *can* and it *does* lessen and reduce and minimize and overpower your love for God.

Well, I have to stop right here, but please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our journey through the Epistle of **Hebrews**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. *Soli Deo Gloria*. For the Glory of God alone.