

Better Than The Angels

TEXT- Hebrews 1:4 *Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.*

INTRO- We must not return back to the old ways because in Christ we have much more!

We must not forget who Christ is!

He is God incarnate. The Creator of the universe. The Ancient of days

II. The Brightness of His Glory –His radiant splendor

ἀπαύγασμα - apaugasma - ap-ow'-gas-mah

an *off flash*, that is, *effulgence*: - brightness.

effulgence: Radiant splendor or Brilliance

III. This glory is the express image of His divine attributes.

The Alpha and Omega. Emmanuel – God With us.

IV. Upholding All Things - By The Word of His Power

A. His creative commands

B. The purification of sinners

V. He Sat Down On The Right Hand of the Majesty On High

Heb 1:13 *But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?*

VI. Christ Is Superior

A. The Jewish leaders recognized the greatness of angels by which they received the Law. Acts 7:53 *Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.*

Heb 1:14 *Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*

Psa 91:11 *For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.*

- **There are Cherubim**
- **Seraphim**
- **Living creatures**
- **Good angels**
- **Evil angels - demons**

They are powerful created beings. But Christ is better than the angels.

B. Better than all these things

(*kreitton*, better, more excellent, superior)

13 times in the book of Hebrews

- **Better than the angels 1:4**
- **Better things 6:9**
- **Better person than Abraham 7:7**
- **Better Hope 7:19**
- **Better Covenant 7:22; 8:6**
- **Better Promises 8:6**
- **Better Sacrifices 9:23**
- **Better possession 10:34**
- **Better Country 11:16**
- **Better Resurrection 11:35**
- **Better Things 11:40 ; 12:24**

Heb 2:9 *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

A more excellent name - Name represents "the title and dignity" of the Lord, as in **Heb 1:4** and **Eph 1:21** *Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **Php 2:6-9** Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:*

C. But Christ is better than the angels

1. The Old Testament prophesied He would be better

* **They are created beings He the creator**

Heb 1:5 *For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?*

Psa 2:7 *I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.*

* **At His birth** – Gabriel also spoke to Daniel

Luk 1:35 *And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.*

Isa 9:6 *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

* **His resurrection**

Acts 13:33 *God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.*

* **His rule**

Psa 45:6-7 *Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.*

Why He is better:

- * He is the Son of God – They are servants 1:5, 7
- * He is worshipped by the angels 1:6
- * He is addressed as God by the Father 1:8
- * He is addressed as King – Whose scepter is that of righteousness 1:8
- * Anointed above they fellows for His love of righteousness 1:9
- * He is addressed as Lord who laid the foundation of the earth 1:10
- * He shall continue though the Heavens shall pass away 1:11-12
- * No angel asked to sit at His right hand 1:13
- * Angels are ministering spirits 1:14
- * Angels have no power on the world to come 2:5

CONCL –

The Thanksgiving marks the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims' arrival in America on the Mayflower. Their faith, their bravery, their wisdom places "Alongside the Patriots of 1776, the Pilgrims of 1620 deserve the honor of American founders."

William Bradford, a Pilgrim leader whose *Of Plymouth Plantation* is our chief source for the Pilgrim story, recorded those dangers: They had now no friends to welcome them, nor inns to entertain or refresh their weather-beaten bodies; no houses or much less town to repair to, to seek for succor.... And for the season it was winter, and they that know the winters of that country know them to be sharp and violent, and subject to cruel and fierce storms, dangerous to travel to known places, much more to search an unknown coast. Besides, what could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness...

The Mayflower Compact was America's very first constitution, which affirmed religious freedom, personal liberty, self-governance, and obedience with preservation of rights. There, the Pilgrims foreshadowed in fewer than two hundred words so many cherished concepts of our nation. Faith in God and His providential protection. The natural equality of mankind. From many, one. Government by consent. The rule of law. Equality before the law, and the impartial administration of the law.

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Despite hardships and starvation that they faced during the harsh winter, the pilgrims prevailed and prospered with the help of an Indian named Squanto and his adopted tribe, leaving a legacy for centuries to come.

"As the Pilgrims recovered and prospered throughout 1621, they received the blessings of a bountiful fall harvest," "The Pilgrims entertained Massasoit and the Wampanoags and feasted with them, to express their gratitude to their allies and to give thanks to God for His abundant gifts. This meal, of course, was the First Thanksgiving."