

Hebrews 1:1-14

12-30-2012

and

01-06-2013

THE SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST

Part 1 of 2

12-30-2012

Hebrews 1:1-3

In These Last Days

God Has Spoken to Us

In His Son

NT Views of Jesus Christ

- ◎ Son of David & Son of God – Ro 1:1-4
 - Fully God, Fully Man
- ◎ In the fullness of time, God brought forth His Son – Gal 4:4
 - born of a virgin, subject to the Law
- ◎ The mystery of the Church in Christ revealed to the rulers in high places – Eph 3:1-12
 - Cf., 1 Tim 3

NT Views of Jesus Christ, 2

- ⦿ Did not cling to His rights as God – Php 2
 - Humbled Himself, taking on human form
 - Became obedient even unto death on a cross
- ⦿ All the fullness of the deity dwells fully and bodily in Christ – Col 2
- ⦿ Christ – superior to all other revelations of God – Hebrews

Superiority of Christ to OT

- To the Father's & Prophets
- Many portions
 - Contained in 39 books
 - Narrative, history, prophecy, poetry and Law
- Many ways
 - Spoken directly, indirectly, directed thoughts, parables, types, symbols, ceremonies, stone tablets
- All inspired by God – 1 Pet 1:10-12
- Incomplete in itself
- In His Son
 - Appointed as Heir of all things
 - Creator of all that is created
 - Radiance of God's Glory
 - Exact representation of God's character
 - Sustainer of all things by the power of His Word
 - Purifies us from our sins
 - Seated at the Right Hand of the Almighty God

God's Word Given in OT Times

God's Word Given Today

Superiority of the Son of God

- ◉ All creation will be given to Him for His possession – Ps 2:8
- ◉ All humanity will bow before Him – Php 2:10
- ◉ All the redeemed will be co-heirs with Him – Ro 8:16*f.*
- ◉ Creator of All – Jn 1:3; Col 1:16; Heb 11:3
- ◉ Creator of the Ages – Heb 1:2
 - Time, space, energy, matter
- ◉ Redeemer for which all creation awaits – Ro 8:22

Heir of All Things

Creator of all that is Created

Superiority of the Son of God, 2

- ◉ Lit. “the light that has been sent forth from God”
- ◉ As the sun cannot be separated from its brightness, neither can God be separated from His glory in Christ.
- ◉ The Light of the world – Jn 1:4; 3:19-21; 8:12
- ◉ Image of God – Col 1:15
- ◉ All the attributes that are true of God, are true of Christ
 - Immutability, unchanging
 - omniscience, all-knowing
 - omnipotence, all-powerful
 - Omnipresence, everywhere present
- ◉ Nicene Creed – “Very God of Very God”

Radiance of God’s Glory

Exact Representation of God

Superiority of the Son of God, 3

- ◉ Creator & Sustainer of a Cosmos instead of a chaos
 - Universe runs according to set and predictable laws
 - Whether unimaginably large (universe) or unfathomably small (sub-atomic structures)
- ◉ Apart from Christ, sacrifices serve only as a reminder of sin – Heb 10:1-11
- ◉ In Christ, sin is atoned once-for-all – Heb 9:23-28; 10:12-14
- ◉ In Christ, the payment for sin has been completed – Jn 19:30

Sustainer of All by His Word

Purifies us From Our Sins

Superiority of the Son of God, 4

- ◉ Ascended into heaven – Ac 1:9-11
- ◉ God seated Him at His right hand – Ps 110:1; Heb 1:13; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2
 - Cf., Ro 8:34; 1 Pe 3:22
- ◉ Given the name of “Lord” that is above all other names – Php 2:9-11
- ◉ OT Priests were not allowed to be seated while ministering; their work was never done
- ◉ Jesus finished the work of redemption on the Cross; therefore, it is fitting that He should be seated as our great High Priest and Intercessor – Heb 7:25; 9:24

Seated at the Right Hand of God

Did What No Other Priest Could

Part 2 of 2

01-06-2012

Hebrews 1:4-14

**God's Son is Superior
Even the Angels
Worship Him**

Much Greater than the Angels

- Because of His Name
- Because of His Rank
- Because of His Nature
- Because of His Eternality
- Because of His Destiny
- Because They Were Created to Serve

A Greater Name, 1:4f.

- ⦿ Angels were revered for what they had done during the OT times
- ⦿ Yet, Jesus inherited a more excellent name than the angels
 - Angels, like us can be called “sons of God” because He has created us.
 - Jesus is called the “Son of God” because He was uniquely begotten of God.
- ⦿ He has been of God from all eternity

A Greater Rank, 1:6

- Lit. “*whenever and again* when He brings the one who is First and above all in ...”
 - “When He, a second time, bringeth in the first-begotten into the world” [*2nd advent*] (Wuest)
 - Indefinite time in the future, and yet completed
- “Firstborn” πρωτότοκος, prototokos, first in priority, or pre-eminent & sovereign one.
- The angels must recognize God’s Lordship, Dt 32:43; Ps 89:6, 27; 97:7

Firstborn vs Only Begotten

- ◎ “Firstborn” πρωτότοκος, prototokos, first-begotten, the first in priority, or pre-eminent & sovereign one over creation
 - Describes the relation of the risen Messiah in His glorified humanity to man, Col 1:15
- ◎ “Only begotten” μονογενές, monogenes, uniquely begotten
 - Describes the relation of the Son to the Father in His divine nature

His Essential Nature, 1:7-9

- ⊙ Angels are His ministers
 - Ps 104:4
 - Created
 - Will live thenceforth (from that time on)
 - Some rejected righteousness
- ⊙ The Son (Christ), is God
 - Ps 45:6*f.*; Is 61:1,3
 - Creator
 - Self-existent and eternal
 - Loved righteousness & hated lawlessness
 - Anointed...more than Your companions

His Eternality, 1:10-12

- He laid the foundations of the world, Ps 102:25-27; cf. Jn 1:3
- He will un-create the world, and create again, 2 Pe 3:10-13
- He Himself is unchanging, Heb 13:8

His Destiny, 1:13

- ◎ God has promised absolute sovereignty to His Son, Ps 110:1
 - God made no such promise to angels
- ◎ When His victory is manifested and accomplished, He will be recognized as the ruler over all, Rev 19:6*f*.

Angels Were Created to Serve, 1:14

- ⦿ Angels are not rulers
- ⦿ They were created to serve at Jesus' command
 - Protection and care of believers, Mt 18:10
- ⦿ They were created to serve those who will inherit salvation
 - Jesus will reign over us, we will serve Him as our King, Ro 8:16*f.*; Ep 1:11; Col 1:12; 3:24

It Was God in the Manger

- It was the Glory of Israel that Simeon saw in the Temple courtyard, Lk 2:25-32
- It was Christ the Lord whom the Shepherds sought at the angels command, Lk 2:11
- It was the Most High Lord for whom John would prepare the way, Lk 1:76
- It was the Lord who visited Elizabeth, Lk 1:43
- It was the Eternal King whom Mary would bear, Lk 1:31-33