

Hebrews

The Supremacy of Jesus

Jesus: Greater Than The Angels – part two
Class #3

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What The Bible Says About Angels

For the recipients of this letter the knowledge of angels as supernatural beings is woven throughout the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament).

The Bible only explicitly names two of the angels. Gabriel (Luke 1:26) and Michael (Daniel 10:13), but the Bible appears to indicate a few types or classes of angels:

Archangels – Such as Michael, chief angels

Cherubim – Such as the angel placed in front of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24)

Seraphim - Angels with six wings, known for praising God.

2:1-3

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away ² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.

- Angels delivered God's message of warning and destruction
- Disobedience of the angel's message resulted in judgement
- Jesus, who is above the angels is and has brought God's message of salvation
- Neglecting God's message of salvation through Jesus results in God's judgement

2:4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will.

- This is My Son in whom I am well pleased
- Seven signs in the Gospel according to John
- Miracles proving Jesus is Messiah
- The sending of the Holy Spirit as John describes Jesus teaching in the upper room discourse and as demonstrated on the Day of Pentecost

2:5b For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels

- The redeemed will inherit the New Heaven and Earth – not angels
- The redeemed will reign with Jesus – not angels
- The redeemed rejoice in hope for future glory – not angels

The Son Made Lower Than Angels

2:6-8 But one testified in a certain place, saying “What is man that You are mindful of him. Or the son of man that You take care of him? 7 You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor. And set him over the works of Your hands. 8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet.” For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.

- Notice verse 6 “son” lower case “s” indicating the human creation
- Jesus came in the flesh as a human being
- The redeemed has been restored in relationship to God, it is yet to be fully manifested
 - “But now we do not yet see all things put under him.”

2:9 But we see Jesus, “who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”

2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Jesus' death was:

- Honorable
- Substitutionary
- Redemptive

2:11-13

For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren: 12 saying: 'I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.'

13 And again: 'I will put My trust in Him.' And again: 'Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.'

- Jesus identifies with the human creation. Flesh and blood.
- Jesus has become a man to bring men redemption and restoration.
- Jesus worshipped as a man, even trusting that God would keep the promise to raise Him from the dead.

2:14-15

14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Jesus' death has destroyed Satan's power.

He was without sin 1Peter 2:22-25

Romans 3:21-26

2:16-17

16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

- Salvation is offered to men not to angels. He became lower than angels for a purpose.
- He became the only acceptable offering and the faithful High Priest.
- The meaning of propitiation...
 - The reconciliation of God and humankind through Jesus Christ

2:18

For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Lesson

- We must pay attention to God's Word lest we drift away.
- We must not be afraid. We have been freed from the consequences of sin and death.
- We must put all of our trust in Jesus alone.