

Hebrews Ch.1

About the book of Hebrews:

- very focused on describing who Christ is
 - that He is not a mere man, but was higher than the angels
 - that He was greater than Moses
 - that He is the perfect High Priest even greater than the Old Testament priesthood
- contains some very interesting details on the Mysterious figure Melchizedek
- Also contains the "Hall of faith" chapter
 - detailing how the greatest figures of the Old Testament were not saved by their works, but relied on faith the same way we do
- No one knows who wrote the book
 - some suggest Luke, Barnabas, Priscilla, Paul, or Apollos
- up until the 1800's it was believed that Paul wrote Hebrews
 - But now there seem to be good reasons to believe that he is not the author
 - Paul gave a greeting and salutation in all his other letters, why not this one
 - the language and writing style is more sophisticated than his other letters
 - All quotes from the Old Testament are taken from the Greek Old Testament, where in Paul's letters he either paraphrased it or quoted from the original Hebrew since he was a Pharisee.
 - Paul claimed to receive his revelation directly from Jesus as where the author of Hebrews says he heard it from an apostle (2:3)
- ultimately, whoever wrote the book isn't that important
 - the fact that it is one of the most powerful books in the New Testament is what we will focus on

V.1-2

- throughout the Old Testament, God spoke to people in many different ways
 - to Moses in a burning bush
 - to Balaam through a donkey's mouth
 - to Abraham and others by visions and dreams
 - to Gideon and Lot through angels
 - to multitudes through prophets

-today He speaks to us through His son

-how does Jesus still speak to us today?

-Through the bible – the Word

-**Joh 1:14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

-**Rev 19:13** *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

-The way God reveals Himself to us is different today than it was back then

-Of course, He can still use dreams, visions or angels if He chooses, that's not His primary method

-and actually, He warns about putting too much faith in those methods

-**Col 2:18** Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on *visions* he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,

-**Gal 1:8** But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

V.3

-How can Jesus be the EXACT representation of God?

-simple...He is God

-to us, this doesn't make sense

-we are creatures bound by time and space

-God isn't

-the main reason people have a problem with Jesus actually being God is that they don't think it's possible for God to be in two (or three) places at the same time

-since God isn't bound by time, doesn't it stand to reason that He could be in heaven speaking, on Earth coming out of the water, and descending out of heaven like a dove all at the same time?

-He upholds all things...

-**Col 1:16** For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Joh 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

-the fact is that not only did Jesus create all things, but is also the glue that holds the universe together

-this is also referenced in Col. 1:17

Col 1:17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

-even though people would have you believe that all things can be explained by science, there are many things about the universe, creation and the human body that science just simply can't explain

-Jesus upholds all things the same way He created them; by His Word

-He simply spoke and the universe sprang into being

-upholding and maintaining it is no different

-His only objective while on Earth, was to deal with the sin problem so He can spend eternity with those who love Him

-If Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father, where is the Holy Spirit?

-He is living in us, that's why we don't see Him mentioned in heaven

V.4

-This is an important topic to discuss

-Jesus has a higher position than the angels

-He is not nor has He ever been an angel

-Jehovah's witnesses believe that Jesus is Michael the archangel

-this belief has very serious implications

-if Jesus is Michael the archangel then He is a created being like the rest of the angels

-if He is a created being, then He is not God

-If He's not God, then He was a liar because He claimed to be God

-If He's a liar, then He's definitely not sinless

-If He's not sinless, then there is no way He could have been the perfect sacrifice

-if He wasn't the perfect sacrifice, then I'm still stuck in my sins and on the way to hell

-we don't have to wonder about if this is true

-God made it very clear in the bible that Jesus is not Michael, but God Himself

-for one, when Saul is struck blind on the road to Damascus, he asks "who are you Lord?"

-And the response is "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting"

-In the book of Revelation, Jesus says "**Rev 22:13** "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

-and in Isaiah, God says “[Isa 44:6](#)” Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.

-so since God says “there is no God besides Me, and Jesus says “I am the First and the Last, the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End” He is claiming to be God

-Also, Angels were never to receive worship. Only God was

-Listen what happened during John’s revelation:

Rev 22:8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

[Rev 22:9](#) But he *said to me, “Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God.”

-the angel says “don’t worship me, I’m just an angel. Worship God”

-but look what we see in the life of Christ:

[Mat 2:11](#) After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Mat 14:33 And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “You are certainly God’s Son!”

[Joh 9:37](#) Jesus said to him, “**You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you.**”

Joh 9:38 And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped Him.

-Time and time again, people worshipped Jesus while He was on earth

-and not once were they rebuked or told to stop

-and for the next 9 verses, the author gives more examples of how Christ is not merely an angel

-Even though God went to such great lengths to make this fact clear, Satan is still able to convince those who are willing to be convinced that He was an angel

-why would the devil want people to believe that?

Joh 8:24 “**Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.**”

-that’s his goal

V.14

-people often debate the existence of guardian angels

-do they exist or don’t they?

-this verse makes it very clear that they do
-that's not to say that everyone has one angel assigned to them their entire
life

-but it appears that one of the main jobs of the angels is to protect and
render service to believers

-do you really think that you've managed to get through this life without
any help?

-how many times haven't we been in situations where we were just
amazed that we didn't get hurt or killed?

-I believe that if God would open our eyes to see into the Spiritual realm
around us for just a minute, we would have a nervous breakdown

2Ki 6:15 Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

2Ki 6:16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

2Ki 6:17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the LORD opened the servant's eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

-WE ARE NOT ALONE!