

Hebrews 1:3-14, Bible Devotions

☐ Monday - Christ's Glory Greater than the Angels. Hebrews 1:4

To explain the greatness of Jesus Christ, the writer of Hebrews compares Him to those most glorious creatures, the angels. God's holy angels were present at Sinai at the giving of the Law (Deut. 33:2; Psa. 68:17; Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19). They protected and delivered Israel throughout the Old Testament, e.g. Lot at Sodom (Gen. 19:16), Elisha when he was surrounded by the Aramean army (2 Kgs. 6:15-17), Daniel in the lion's den (Dan. 6:22). They proclaimed great mysteries to the prophets, cf. Daniel (Dan. 8:16, 9:21, 10:11). They were pictured in Israel's tabernacle: on the curtains which made up the walls of the tabernacle (Ex. 26:1), on the veil guarding the Holy of holies (Ex. 26:31), and on the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:18). Yet, here we read, Christ is "better than the angels" for "He has inherited a more excellent name than they" (Heb. 1:4). What name is that name? [1] "Son" (Heb. 1:5), [2] "God" (Heb. 1:8), who is worshipped by the angels (Heb. 1:6), [3] Creator, who "makes His angels" (Heb. 1:7, cf. v. 10), and [4] King, who is enthroned in heaven (Heb. 1:8).
Read Philippians 2:9-11

☐ Tuesday - Christ, Begotten, Not Made. Hebrews 1:5

The writer of Hebrews explains, "For to which of the angels did [God] ever say, 'Thou art My Son, today I have *begotten* Thee'? And again, 'I will be a Father to Him and He shall be a *Son* to Me'?" (Heb. 1:5). Referring to Christ, the term "begotten" occurs 8x in the NT: 5x by John and 2x in Hebrews. Christ is the Creator of all things, not a creature; that is, not begotten in time, but eternal. The Nicene Creed, (325 A.D.) denotes Jesus was "begotten not made". The term "begotten," with reference to Christ, does not mean that He was created, nor does it refer to His earthly birth (incarnation), nor being born from the dead (resurrection, cf. Rom 1:4), but to His intimate relationship to and one essence with the Father. Concerning Christ's eternal nature read Isa. 9:6, Micah 5:2; John 1:1-2

☐ Wednesday - Christ, the Firstborn. Hebrews 1:6

Twice in Scripture, Christ is called "the firstborn from the dead" (Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5), referring to Jesus as the first raised from the dead in a glorified body. But elsewhere Christ is simply called the "firstborn" referring to His preeminence (Rom. 8:29; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:6). In Hebrew culture, the firstborn: [1] belonged to God (Ex. 13:2; Num. 3:13); [2] was "preeminent in dignity" (Gen. 49:3); and [3] received a double portion of the inheritance and leadership of the family (Deut. 21:17). In the Book of Hebrews, Christ is not just the Inheritor of a double portion, but the Heir "of all things" (Heb. 1:3). Nevertheless, He is willing to share His inheritance with His adopted brothers and sisters, who are made fellow heirs with Christ.
Read Romans 8:14-17

☐ Thursday - Angels We Have Heard on High. Hebrews 1:6

"And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, 'And let all the angels of God worship Him'" (Heb. 1:6). Worship is the angels' ultimate priority: "And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne ... and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb'" (Rev. 5:11-12), "and day and night they do not cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God, the Almighty'" (Rev. 4:8). "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!" (Psa. 148:1-2). Dear Christians, let us join their happy chorus! Read Psa. 66:1

☐ Friday - God the Father Calls Jesus "God". Hebrews 1:8

Jesus, not only calls Yahweh "Father" (Jn. 5:18; 14:10), but "God" (Mt. 27:46). And God the Father, not only calls Jesus "Son" (Mt. 3:17, 17:5), but "God" as well (Heb. 1:8): "But of the Son He says, 'Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever.'" Many statements in Scripture confirm the deity of Jesus Christ, but none greater than God the Father's own declaration concerning His Son. Read Isa. 9:6; Mt. 1:23; Jn. 8:58; Col. 2:9