

*v4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. v5 For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? v6 And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." v7 In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire." v8 But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. v9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy." v10 He also says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. v11 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. v12 You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." v13 To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"? v14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:4-14*

I wonder how many of us think about the supernatural world, the world we cannot see or scientifically test. I know we may think about heaven or hell, but how many of us are aware of the world of the Angels and Demons.

In the Pre-Scientific world of the Old Testament, the supernatural played a much more important role than the world in which we live today. I must emphasize that while the supernatural world is not any less important today, we don't consider its effect on us as much as in the past.

The early Christians spent much time debating the topic of angels. Some of the questions they asked were 'how many angels could stand on the point of a pin, whether an angel could be in two places at one time or how great was the interval between their creation and their fall?

In the passage today the writer to the Hebrews compares the Angels to Jesus to show how their understanding of the worder of Angels fades in comparison to the worder of Jesus. Today I want to remind us that:

## **GOD'S WORD SHOWS THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS**

### **1) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HIS NAME IS SUPERIOR.**

*v4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs*

Have you ever been introduced to someone, and immediately thought "this must be someone important" simply by hearing their name.

For example, "This is Pastor John Smith" vs "This is The Right Reverend Johnathan Reginald Percival Smith, Earl of Blikkiesfontein, the Third."

The title angel simply means messenger. Whereas the title for Jesus is LORD.

While angels simply deliver a message, Jesus is the MESSAGE!!!

While the angels may have some cool names like Michael – “one who looks like God, or Gabriel – “the Lord is my strength” or Lucifer (for he was created as an angel) – “morning star.”

Jesus – Joshua – “One who saves”

Christ – “the Anointed one.”

HOWEVER, we must never forget that when we talk about the “NAME” of a person in the bible, it refers to more than a LABEL by which they are known, it refers to the WHOLE CHARACTER of the person.

**SO, WHEN I SAY “Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HIS NAME IS SUPERIOR” I AM REFERRING TO EVERYTHING ABOUT THE PERSON OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

## 2) **Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE ALONE IS DIRECT FAMILY.**

*v5 For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?*

The Bible is full of references to those who are called “the sons of God.”

The **angels** collectively are called “sons” in **Psalm 29:1** where it says: “Ascribe to the LORD, O **mighty ones** (Heb – ben=son), ascribe to the LORD glory and strength” **but never individually.**

The **Nation of Israel** collectively are called “sons” in **Hosea 11:1** where it says: “When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.” **but never individually.**

**Christians** are called “sons” in **Galatians 3:26** where it says: “You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus” **WE MAY BE SONS, BUT ONLY THROUGH ADOPTION, NOT DIRECT DESCENDANCE.**

The writer to the Hebrews quotes two verses out of the OT to make his point.

**King David says in Psalms 2:7** ‘I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”’

This was significant to the Nation of Israel, because through the Talmud we know that the scholars of the day saw Psalm 2 as a prophecy about Messiah.

**God promises King David that his line would last forever 2 Samuel 7:14** I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. **1 Chronicles 17:13** I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my love away from him, as I took it away from your predecessor.

**JESUS IS ETERNALLY THE SON, JUST AS FATHER  
GOD IS ETERNALLY FATHER.**

**No Son-No Father, No Father-No Son.**

**3) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE ONLY HE CAN RECEIVE WORSHIP.**

*v6 And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."*

The opening fundamental law of the Nation of Israel was that only God was to be worshiped.

*Exodus 20:2-6 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. v3 "You shall have no other gods before me. v4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. v5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, v6 but showing love to a thousand of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

**JESUS UNDERSTOOD THIS**

*Matthew 4:10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"*

**JESUS WILL RECEIVE WORSHIP**

*Revelation 19:9-10 Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God." v10 At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*

*Revelation 5:1-14 The Scroll and the Lamb*

*I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. v2 And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" v3 But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. v4 I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. v5 Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."*

*v6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. v7 He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. v8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls*

*full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. v9 And they sang a new song:*

*"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. v10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."*

*v11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. v12 In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!" v13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" v14 The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.*

#### **4) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HIS WORK HAS ETERNAL CONSEQUENCE.**

*v7 In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire." v8 But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.*

While the work of Angels is vital, the WORK OF JESUS IS ETERNAL.

The prime work of angels is found in Heb 1:14. To minister to those who will receive salvation.

Angels protect God's people. II Kings 6:17-18 They watched over the infant Jesus constantly warning Joseph of plans to kill him. It must not be thought that angels will always protect God's people.

Angels draw near to God's People. Gen 16:7-15, I Kings 19. They also drew near to Jesus during His temptations in the wilderness and in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Angels carry us into Gods presence (Luke 16)

Angels guide us. (Gen 24:7, 32:11)

They rescue, save & deliver us from danger. Acts 5:19, 12:7 & Dan 6:22

#### **THEIR DUTIES TO THE LORD JESUS**

To foretell His conception (Luke 1:30-31)

To herald his birth (Luke 2:10)

To prevent His Danger (Matt 2:13-14)

To minister to Him in his need (Mark 1:13, Eph 4:8)

To protect Him from enemies (Matt 26:53)

To strengthen and comfort Him in His agony. (Luke 22:43)

To open His grave at the time of his resurrection (Matt 28:2)

To witness His resurrection to them that looked for Him (Luke 24:5,6,23)

To confirm His ascension into heaven (Acts 1:10-11)

To accompany him into heaven (Ps 68:17-18)

To attend and magnify Him in heaven (Rev 5:11-12)

**ONCE JESUS COMES BACK AGAIN, THEIR TASK IS COMPLETE.**

5) **Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE NEVER TURNED HIS BACK ON GOD.**

*v9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."*

While some of the Angels Fell, and became DEMONS, Jesus stayed true to the Father even through the worst of TEMPTATION.

6) **Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE IS CREATOR, EVERTHING ELSE IS CREATION.**

*v10 He also says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. v11 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. v12 You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."*

Even the angels were created.

*Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. v16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. v17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

7) **Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE ALONE WON THE VICTORY.**

*v13 To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"? v14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?*

*Hebrews 1:4-14*

I could quote many scripture but this one should be sufficient.

***1 Corinthians 15:55-57 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" v56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. v57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

- 1) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HIS NAME IS SUPERIOR.
- 2) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE ALONE IS DIRECT FAMILY.
- 3) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE ONLY HE CAN RECEIVE WORSHIP.
- 4) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HIS WORK HAS ETERNAL CONSEQUENCE.
- 5) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE NEVER TURNED HIS BACK ON GOD.
- 6) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE IS CREATOR, EVERTHING ELSE IS CREATION.
- 7) Jesus is SUPERIOR to the angels BECAUSE HE ALONE WON THE VICTORY.