

Hebrews Chapter 1

1. God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,

A. God- Gr. **theos**

1. This book does not start out like any other epistle. There is no author named in this epistle. I believe Paul wrote the book of Hebrews, which was written to Jewish believers who were turning back to the law because of persecution and, they were weary in waiting for the return of Jesus as Messiah.
2. If Paul wrote this book, there is good reason for him not attributing his name to it. Paul was the apostle to the gentiles. There was racism back then like there is today. If the Jews knew Paul wrote this epistle they might have shut their ears and hearts to it.

B. who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets

1. **various times-** Gr. **polumeros-** *in many portions, that is, variously as to time and agency*
 - a. The Word of God came to man in many portions- 66 portions- over different time periods.
 - b. The fact that the Word was written well over a thousand years by many different authors, but contains a single message of redemption, makes it of a supernatural source and not just from man.
2. **various ways-** Gr. **polutropos-** *in many ways, that is, variously as to method or form*
 - a. God spoke in different ways in different time periods.
 - b. In the garden and directly after the garden God spoke directly to man- Adam, Cain, Noah, Abraham.
 - c. During the Judges, God spoke through prophets.
 - d. During the Law, God spoke in the tabernacle, temple, priesthood, and sacrifices. He also spoke through His prophets up until Malachi. During the gospels, God spoke through His Son. In this time period He speaks in His Word and by His Spirit.
3. **time past-** Gr. **palai-** *of old*

4. **prophets**- Gr. **prophetes**- *a foreteller ("prophet"); by analogy, an inspired speaker*

2. **has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;**

A. **has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,**

1. **last days**- Gr. **eschatos hemera**- *we get the word eschatology from this.*

a. The last days began on the day of Pentecost. **Acts 2:17**

b. The writer of Hebrews says, in **THESE** last days. This book was written almost 2000 years ago!

c. We are near the end of the last days.

2. **by His Son**

a. The law came by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. **John 1:17** Jesus came and introduced the gospel [good news] to man.

B. **whom He has appointed heir of all things,**

1. **appointed**- Gr. **tithemi**- *to set, put, place, to put down, lay down, to set, fix establish*

2. **heir**- Gr. **kleronomos**- *one who has acquired or obtained the portion allotted to him*

3. **all things**

a. Jesus is the heir of all things. **John 16:15** We must know that we are joint heirs with Christ. That makes us heirs of all things! **1 Cor. 3:21-22, 2 Cor. 6:10, 2 Cor. 9:8, Eph. 1:3, 1 Tim. 6:17, 2 Pet. 1:3, Rev. 21:7**

C. **through whom also He made the worlds**

1. **made**- Gr. **poieo**- *to make ready, to prepare*

2. **worlds**- Gr. **aion**- *the ages, time periods*

a. There have been and will be different time periods. Jesus made these time periods. Many refer to these time periods as dispensations. The different time periods found in the Word of God correlate to different covenants God made with man. Ex. *Edenic covenant, Noahic covenant, Abrahamic covenant, Mosaic Covenant, New Covenant.*

3. **who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,**
 - A. **who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person,**
 1. **brightness-** Gr. **apaugasma-** *reflected brightness; shining forth, of a light coming from a luminous body; out-raying*
 - a. Jesus is the reflected brightness of the Father. He is the outshining of the Father. **2 Cor. 4:6**
 2. **of His glory-** *doxa- opinion, judgment, view splendor, brightness; magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, grace, most glorious condition, most exalted state*
 - a. We saw that God declared His glory to Moses in **Exodus 34:6**. He declared His glory with the attributes of His mercy, goodness, and grace!
 - b. Jesus is the outshining of God's glory- His mercy, goodness, and grace.
 3. **express image-** Gr. **character-** *the instrument used for engraving or carving; the mark stamped upon that instrument or wrought out on it; a mark or figure burned in or stamped on, an impression, the exact expression (the image) of any person or thing, marked likeness, precise reproduction in every respect, i.e. facsimile*
 - a. Jesus first is the instrument used for engraving the nature of God in the earth. Man was created in the image of God. Jesus was the agent God used in creating that image.
 - b. Secondly, Jesus was the mark that God stamped into the earth in His incarnation. To see Jesus was to see the Father. The very nature, activity, and words of Jesus were the exact stamping of the Father. **John 14:9**
 4. **person-** Gr. **hupostasis-** *a setting or placing under that which has foundation, is firm; that which has actual existence the substantial quality, nature, of a person or thing*
 - a. Jesus was and is the exact image of God's nature and existence. **2 Cor. 4:4, Col. 1:15**
- B. **and upholding all things by the word of His power,**
 1. **upholding-** Gr. **phero-** *to move by bearing; move or, to be conveyed or borne, with the suggestion of force or speed to bear up, i.e. uphold (keep from falling); to bring, bring to, bring forward*

- a. Jesus carries everything and also holds everything together.
[Col. 1:17](#)

2. **all things**

- a. He both is heir of all things and upholds all things and carries them forward.
- b. Jesus upholds all things that have been given to us. We do not have to uphold or carry forward the things that have been given to us. They are kept safe, and in active availability for us by Jesus! Jesus also carries them forward for us as we move through our life by faith.

3. **word**- Gr. **rhema**- *the spoken word*

- a. In creating, God repeatedly said...
- b. The saying of God is Jesus. Jesus is the Word of God. Through His Word, God created the world and all that is in it.

4. **of His power**- Gr. **dunamis**- *strength power, ability; inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth*

- a. Many scientists today are proposing that the building blocks of the universe are vibrating strands. If this is the case, then what do you think are causing them to vibrate? It is the spoken Words of God!
- b. Since the spoken Word has this power, then we should be speaking God's Word over our situations, life, and the lives of others! [Ecc. 8:4](#)

C. **when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.**

1. **He had by Himself**

- a. He had no help in doing this. We could not help God at all in redemption. Christ performed redemption for us alone. [Heb. 7:27](#), [Heb. 9:12](#), [Heb. 9:26](#)
- b. This is seen in the type of the first altar God commanded to be built. It had to be made of stones uncut by man. Man was not allowed to touch it or work on it. [Ex. 20:24-25](#) This speaks to the fact that Jesus by Himself purged our sins!

2. **purged**- Gr. **poieo katharismos**- *made a cleansing of*

3. **sins**- Gr. **harmartia**- *to miss the mark to be without a share in; to err, be mistaken; to miss or wander from the path of uprightness and honor, to do or go wrong; that which is done wrong, sin, an offence, a violation of the divine law in thought or in act*
 4. **sat down**- Gr. **kathizo**- *to sit down; to have fixed one's abode; to settle, settle down*
 - a. In the Old Testament, the priests never sat down because their job never was completed. There had to be a continuance of sacrifices that had to be made. Out of the various pieces of furniture in the tabernacle and later in the temple, none of them was a chair!
 - b. Jesus sat down because His sacrificial work was done by His one all sufficient sacrifice and offering of His blood to God in our behalf. **Heb. 8:1, Heb. 10:12, Heb. 12:2, Ps. 110:1, Mark 16:19**
 5. **right hand**- Gr. **dexios**- *the right hand; a place of honor or authority*
 - a. If you wanted to show a person honor, dignity, and glory, or bestow authority upon them, you sat them at your right hand. Jesus was sat at God's right hand.
 - b. We also have been seated with Christ, at God's right hand. He has given us to share in the honor, dignity, glory, and authority of Jesus! **Eph. 2:6**
 6. **Majesty**- Gr. **megalosune**- *greatness, that is, (figuratively) divinity (often God himself)*
4. **having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.**
- A. **having become so much better than the angels,**
1. **having become**- Gr. **ginomai**- *to come into being*
 - a. This refers to the humanity of Jesus that has been glorified. We also will be glorified and stand in a much better position than the angels. We will actually judge the angels! **1 Cor. 6:3**
 - b. In the order of creation, man was created on a higher plane than angels, right under God. [**Ps. 8:5**- angels is a bad translation. The Hebrew word is **Elohim**- *God*] However, when Adam fell, man became lower than angels.
 - c. The second member of the Godhead became flesh and through the death of his flesh, He was raised up to the right hand of God,

far above angels. We were raised up with him and we were made to sit with Him! Eph. 2:6 Angels are now servants sent to serve us who are heirs of salvation. Heb. 1:14

2. much better

- a. This is the theme of the book of Hebrews. In this book we will see that Jesus Christ is better than angels, than Moses, than the old priesthood, than the law, and better than the sacrifices.

3. angels- Gr. **aggelos-** *messengers*

- a. The Jews had elevated angels to a place of veneration. Angels were involved with the giving of the Law. Acts 7:53, Gal. 3:19 Some had even attributed Jesus to be not a man but an angel from God.

B. as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they

1. inheritance obtained- Gr. **kleronomeo-** *to receive the portion assigned to one, receive an allotted portion, receive as one's own or as a possession*

- a. An inheritance passes on to a son by birth. Angels were created, not born of God.
- b. Jesus was born of the Father through a virgin. As God's firstborn Jesus is the inheritor of all of His Father's estate and goods. We are born again in Him. We are the church of the firstborn! Heb.12:23 We share in Jesus' inheritance by birth and by being in Him, the firstborn.

2. more excellent- Gr. **diaphoros-** *different, varying in kind; excellent, surpassing*

3. name- Gr. **onoma-** *the name is used for everything which the name covers, everything the thought or feeling of which is aroused in the mind by mentioning, hearing, remembering, the name, i.e. for one's rank, authority, interests, pleasure, command, excellences, deeds etc.*

- a. The name "Son".
- b. The angles were collectively called the sons of God in the Old Testament, but no one angel was called a or the Son individually. Job 1:6

4. In Christ we have been given the name of son. Under the law you are only a servant. In the New Covenant we enter into sonship. 1 John 3:2

5. **For to which of the angels did He ever say: "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? And again: "I WILL BE TO HIM A FATHER, AND HE SHALL BE TO ME A SON"?**

A. **For to which of the angels did He ever say:**

1. No one angel was called a son of God, even though they were referred to collectively as the sons of God.
2. Israel was called God's son, but no individual Jew was called a son of God in the Old Testament. [Ex. 4:22](#)

B. **You are my Son**

1. **Son-** Gr. **huios-** *a mature son who has the right to the family name and resources.*
 - a. Christ was God's Son from eternity. God gave his Son. [Is. 9:6](#)

C. **today I have begotten you**

1. **today-** Gr. **semeron-** *this very day*
 - a. That night in the manger.
2. **begotten you-** Gr. **gennao-** *to be born*
 - a. This speaks of the humanity of Jesus.
 - b. This is the first time an individual human was called God's Son.

D. **and again, I will be to Him a father**

1. **and again**
 - a. This is another scriptural reference to make a point, but also that Jesus was declared to be God's son in the manger, but also that He was declared God's son again by the resurrection from the dead. [Ps. 2:7](#)

E. **and He shall be to me a son**

1. **shall be**
 - a. speaking of his humanity

6. **But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."**

A. **But when He again brings the firstborn into the world**

1. **again brings**
 - a. When God first brought Jesus into the world, the angels worshipped Him. [Luke 2:13-14](#)
 - b. When God brought Jesus again into the world after the resurrection, He was received up into a cloud of angels and was worshipped by them. [Acts 1:9](#), [Dan. 7:10](#)

2. **the firstborn-** Gr. **prototokos-** *first in existence and priority*
 - a. Christ was eternally the firstborn of God. He was eternally begotten of the Father. **Nicene Creed**
 - b. He is the firstborn of all creation in the fact that Jesus is the first of all of creation to be glorified in resurrection. All humans and even creation itself still await the resurrection and glorification.
3. **world-** Gr. **oikoumene-** *the inhabited earth*

B. He says: Let all the angels of God worship Him.

1. **He says-** God
2. **Let all the angels of God**
 - a. The angels are commanded to worship Jesus.
3. **worship Him**
 - a. This is taken from **Deut. 32:43** of the Septuagint translation.
 - b. Clearly worship is only permitted to be given to God. Jesus Christ is both man and God. **It is recorded in the gospels that Jesus received worship eleven different times during His earthly ministry** and He now is the glorified God-Man and receives worship.

7. And of the angels He says: "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS SPIRITS AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."

A. And of the angels He says:

1. **Ps. 104:4**

B. Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.

1. **makes-** Gr. **poieo**
 - a. Notice that angels are made. Christ was not created in His deity. He always existed. His humanity however was made.
2. **spirits-** Gr. **pneuma-** *winds or spirits*
3. **ministers-** Gr. **leitourgos-** *a minister, servant of one busied with holy things*
 - a. This Greek word was used of those who minister in the temple. We are now the temple of God! **1 Cor. 3:16** The angels are ministers to God's temple- the church. **Heb. 1:14**
4. **flame of fire-** Gr. **phlox pur**
 - a. **2Ki 2:11, 2Ki 6:17, Ezek. 1:13-14, Dan. 7:10**
 - b. Wind and fire are two of the elements of the earth. Paul talks about the rudimentary elements of the Earth in Galatians. Many

people worshipped fire, wind, and angels. Jesus is greater than all the elements of the earth and heavens and angels.

8. But to the Son He says: "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER; A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS THE SCEPTER OF YOUR KINGDOM.

A. But to the Son He says:

1. [Ps. 45:6-7](#)

2. This is God the Father speaking to His Son.

B. Your throne- Gr. *thronos*- *a throne seat*

1. That throne is in heaven beside the Father, and soon will be in Jerusalem over the earth.

C. O God- Gr. *theos*

1. Jesus is God! [Heb 3:3-4](#), [Isa 7:14](#), [Isa 9:6-7](#), [Joh 1:1](#), [Joh 10:30](#), [Joh 10:33](#), [Joh 20:28](#); [Rom 9:5](#); [1Ti 3:16](#); [Tit 2:13-14](#); [1Jo 5:20](#)

2. All cults and/or religions will deny one or more of these truths. All three are necessary for salvation.

a. The deity of Jesus

b. The humanity of Christ

c. Salvation through grace alone through faith alone

D. Is forever and ever;

1. This is because He is God.

E. A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom

1. scepter of righteousness

a. Jesus reigns through righteousness and so do we! [Rom. 5:17](#)

2. scepter of your kingdom

a. Jesus will rule the nations with a rod [scepter] of iron. [Rev. 2:27](#)
Jesus' righteousness is not weak or pliable. It is hard as iron and will crush all opposition.

9. YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS MORE THAN YOUR COMPANIONS."

A. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness, [[Ps. 45:7](#)]

1. loved righteousness

- a. There is a proper love/hate relationship we need for a healthy Christian life. We need to love righteousness and hate lawlessness. **Amos 5:15, Rom. 12:9**
 - b. We are made righteous by grace through faith. We need to love that! However, we are also called to hate lawlessness. **Prov. 8:13**
2. **hated lawlessness-** Gr. **anomia-** *no law or against law*
- a. We are not made righteous by observance to the law. However, many after being made righteous are against the law or any laws! This is called lawlessness. We are to hate lawlessness. Christians are not called to live lawless. We are called to live by higher laws than the laws of Moses. We are called to live by the laws of love, faith, and the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. **John 13:34, Rom. 3:27, Rom. 8:2**

B. therefore God,

- 1. Jesus is God as we have seen.

C. your God,

- 1. God the Father

D. has anointed you with the oil of gladness more than your companions

- 1. **anointed-** Gr. **chrrio**

- 2. **oil-** Gr. **elaion-** *olive oil*

- a. **Ps. 23:5**

- 3. **gladness-** Gr. **agalliasis-** *exultation, extreme joy, gladness*

- a. **Is. 61:3**

- 4. **companions-** Gr. **metochos-** *sharing in, partaking; a partner (in a work, office, dignity)*

- a. Jesus is the gladdest person in the universe! He has an anointing of gladness on Him all the time.

- b. Notice, it says that Jesus is anointed with the oil of gladness ABOVE all his companions. This means that we have been given that same anointing of gladness. All the realities of God are appropriated by acknowledgement and action of faith.

- c. Confess today that you have been anointed with the oil of gladness! It will dispel darkness and drive out depression. **Is. 61:3** Glad people smile, laugh, and sing. Go ahead and do it!

10. **And: "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS.**

A. **And: You Lord, [Ps. 102:25-27]**

1. **Lord-** Gr. **kurios-** *the possessor and disposer of a thing; the owner; one who has control of the person, the master, this title is given to: God, the Messiah*
 - a. This is still God the Father speaking to His Son.

B. **in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth,**

1. **in the beginning-** Gr. **arche-** *beginning, origin*

- a. This is **Genesis 1:1-** *In the beginning..*
- b. Jesus is called Lord [Gr. Kurios], which is the translation of Jehovah in the Septuagint [Greek] translation of the Old Testament.
- c. Christ created all things- **John 1:3, Col. 1:16, Heb. 1:2**

2. **laid the foundation-** Gr. **themelioo-** *to lay the foundation, to found; to make stable, establish*

3. **earth-** Gr. **ge**

C. **and the heavens are the work of your hands**

1. **heavens-** **ouranos**

- a. There are three heavens: 1] The atmosphere 2] space 3] the abode of God-Paradise, heaven

2. **work-** Gr. **ergon**

3. **hands-** Gr. **cheir**

- a. The span of the universe fits in His hand! **Is. 40:12** If the universe fits into the hand of God then I believe God can handle your "little" problem brother or sister!
- b. If God worked with His hands, don't you think it is good to work with yours! Work is a blessing, not a curse. If it were a curse God would have not done it Himself!
- c. We see in this chapter that Christ is better than angels. We also see that He is greater than the earth and the heavens.

11. **THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY WILL ALL GROW OLD LIKE A GARMENT;**

1. **perish-** Gr. **apollumi-** *to destroy; to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to ruin; render useless; to perish, to be lost, ruined*

- a. This present earth with its atmosphere will be burnt up with intense fire. [2 Pet. 3:10, 12](#)

B. but you remain;

1. **remain-** Gr. **diameno-** *to stay permanently, remain permanently, continue*

- a. The Word of God remains forever. [1 Peter 1:25](#)

C. and they will grow old like a garment

1. **grow old-** Gr. **palaioo-** *to make ancient or old; used of things worn out by time and use; to declare a thing to be old and so about to be abrogated*

- a. [Is. 34:4](#)

2. **garment-** Gr. **himition-** *a garment (of any sort); the upper garment, the cloak or mantle*

- a. The atmosphere around the earth is like a blanket to the earth. It is being worn out and one day will be changed. It will not be removed due to pollution. It will be removed by the fire of God!

12. LIKE A CLOAK YOU WILL FOLD THEM UP, AND THEY WILL BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT FAIL."

A. Like a cloak you will fold them up,

1. **cloak-** Gr. **peribolaion-** *a covering thrown around, a wrapper; a mantle*

2. **fold them up-** Gr. **helisso-** *to roll up, fold together*

- a. **them-** Referring back to the heavens- the atmosphere and space

B. and they will be changed

1. **changed-** Gr. **allasso-** *to change, to exchange one thing for another, to transform*

- a. Heaven and earth will not totally pass away; they will be changed and transformed.

C. but you are the same,

1. Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, today, and forever. [Heb. 13:8](#)

D. and you years will not fail

1. **fail-** Gr. **ekleipo-** *to leave off, cease, stop*

13. **But to which of the angels has He ever said: "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL"?**
- A. **But to which of the angels has He ever said this?**
1. None!
- B. **sit at my right hand,**
1. **sit-** Gr. **kathemi-** *to sit down, seat one's self*
 - a. Jesus sits as the King/Priest. He sits on His throne and rules with authority. He sits as our High Priest because His mediatorial work has been completed. He makes intercession for us through His blood on the Mercy Seat that cries out throughout eternity better things than that of Abel! [Heb. 12:24](#)
 2. **right hand**
 - a. The right hand is the place of honor and authority. We are also seated at the right hand of God. We share the honor and authority with Jesus!
- C. **till I make your enemies your footstool**
1. **make-** Gr. **tithemi-** *to put down, lay down*
 2. **enemies-** Gr. **ecthros-** *a certain enemy; the hostile one*
 3. **footstool-** Gr. **hupopodion-** *to make one a footstool of one's feet, i.e. to subject, to reduce under one's power; metaphorically taken from the practice of conquerors who placed their feet on the necks of their conquered enemies*
 - a. The church is Christ's body. Jesus has already defeated the devil and crushed his head with his heel. [Gen. 3:15](#) The head symbolizes authority. Jesus has crushed the devil's authority. Now we are called to exercise that authority and place our feet on the necks of Jesus' conquered enemies. We are the feet of Jesus!
 - b. This is seen in type when Joshua defeated five kings and then had his leaders place their feet on the enemy's necks. [Josh. 10:24](#) Joshua is the Hebrew form of Jesus! We are the leaders that He is inviting to place our feet on the necks of His defeated enemies!
 - c. Christ will come back when the church has done its job in the earth.

14. **Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**

- A. **ministering spirits-** Gr. **leitourgikos pneuma-** *relating to the performance of service, employed in ministering*
- B. **sent forth-** Gr. **apostello-** *sent out with authority and a mission*
- C. **minister-** Gr. **diakonia-** *deacons- those giving service, ministering, especially of those who execute the commands of others- in this case God.*
- D. **shall-** Gr. **mello-** *to be about*
- E. **inherit-** Gr. **kleronomeo-** *present tense- are inheriting*
 - 1. This speaks of two groups of people
 - a. Unbelievers that will receive Jesus. Angels are ministering to unbelievers, protecting them unto the time of their salvation. Children are given an angel even before they are born again. **Matt. 18:10**
 - b. Believers have inherited salvation in their spirit, but we are inheriting salvation in our soul and will inherit in our bodies and are experiencing salvation in outward circumstances.
- F. **salvation-** Gr. **soteria-** *deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation*
 - 1. This word does not only mean saved in heaven, but to be delivered, preserved, and made whole in this life!
 - 2. Angels are deacons that serve the body of Christ!
 - 3. Jesus is greater than angels because He is their Creator. He is eternal, while angels are everlasting. This means Christ had no beginning and no end. Angels had a beginning but have no end.