

Jesus Christ Glorious Superiority

Heb. 1: 1-4

Background

- Written to a group of Jewish Christians in the early years of the spread of the gospel.
 1. A group of genuine followers of Jesus are addressed in the book. 10:32 - 34
 2. A group of unbelievers who were intellectually convinced of the gospel but did not believe. 2:1-3,6:4-6, 10:26 -29, 12:15 -17
 3. A group of unbelievers who were attracted by the gospel and the Jesus Christ but had not reached a final conviction about Him. 9:11,14,15,27,28
- This group of Jewish Christians were facing persecution
- Some within the group were tempted to abandon following Christ
- The group had practiced the Levitical sacrifices at the temple in Jerusalem

Theme

- Christianity is superior to Judaism
- The Superiority of Christ – Messiah over all that had gone before in the Old Testament

Outline

- Jesus Christ superiority over the prophets – 1: 1-3 – 2:18
- Jesus Christ superiority over Moses – 3: 1-19
- Jesus Christ superiority over Joshua – 4: 1-13
- Jesus Christ superiority over Aaron – 4:14 – 7:18
- Jesus Christ superiority over the Levitical ritual system – 7:19 – 10:19
- The superior privileges of believer's – 10: 19 – 12:29
- The superiority of Christian living – 13:1 -21

Jesus Christ superiority over the prophets – 1: 1-4

- 1. God the Father has spoken through the prophets in many portions and ways**
 - a. There were many prophets, one succeeded another they lived in different periods
 - b. They gave out God's revelation in different ways – each had their own gift and character
 - c. They were sinful men – Isa. 6:5
 - d. The Spirit of God came on them to speak on God's behalf 2 Pet. 1:21
 - e. They did not fully understand their own message – 1 Pet. 1:10
 - f. They were a witness declaring the coming of the promised Messiah – 1 Pet. 1: 10 -12

2. **God has spoken in these last days through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ**
 - a. In the fullness of time God sent His Son – Gal. 4:4 – 5
 - b. The teachings of Jesus Christ in the gospels are the words of the Son of God – John 5:19,24; 12:47 – 50
3. **The glorious character of the Jesus Christ the Son of God**
 - a. God the Father appointed Him heir of all things
 - Acts 2:36 – He has made Him both Lord & Christ
 - Heir – dignity & dominion – an heir is the successor to the father in all that He has.
Jesus said I and the Father are one – John 10:30, 5:19
 - Jesus Christ is the possessor and disposer of all things
All power is given to Jesus Christ Matt. 28:18
All of creation is given to Jesus Christ Ps. 2: 7-8
All judgment is given to Jesus Christ Matt. 25:31,32
 - Jesus Christ was appointed from eternity to be the Son of God born into the world – Ps. 2:7; Acts 2:23; 1 Pet. 1:11, 19 -20 – appointed to suffer & to glory, Ps. 89:27
 - b. Through whom He also made the world
 - Jesus Christ is the creator of all things visible & invisible Col. 1:16
 - c. He is the radiance of His glory
 - Jesus Christ is the brightness of God’s glory 1 Tim. 6:16
 - d. He is the exact representation of His nature
 - Jesus Christ is the image of God like a stamp or coin engraved by the original Col. 1:15, John 1:18
 1. He is self - existent – He never had a beginning
 2. He is light – He is the visible representation of the unseen God the Father
 3. He is the great mystery of godliness 1 Tim. 3:16
 - e. He upholds all things by the word of His power
 - Jesus Christ preserves & governs the entire created order Col. 1: 16 -17
 - f. When He had made purification of sins
 - Jesus Christ came to purge our sins 1 John 1:7
 - Jesus Christ completed the work of purging sin Heb. 9: 11-13
 - g. When He made purification of sins He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high
 - Jesus Christ is now the exalted ascended Lord in the highest place of honor Rev. 5:13
 - Jesus Christ now has completed the work of sacrifice for sin – He sat down – there were no chairs in the Tabernacle furniture for the priest to sit down. Jesus said on the cross – It is finished John 19:30
 - Jesus Christ is at the right hand = place of power & honor
 - Jesus Christ is now exalted to the Majesty = the greatness, place of Sovereignty
 - Jesus Christ is now exalted to the high place = the highest heights. The highest seat now belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ who once had no place to lay His head!