

HEBREWS 1

FIRST DAY: Introduction

You don't need greater faith ... your faith **is** great! Faith does not rest in our ability to believe, but rather in the *TRUTH* we believe in and stand upon.

The Hebrew Christians were being pressured by suffering, trials, and persecution to place their faith in other things. These other things included angels, laws, rituals, sacrifices, religious systems, and the temple. The author of Hebrews wrote this epistle so that his readers would understand the superiority of what they already held and had received through Christ.

He wrote to inform them that their faith was great because:

- Their Savior was great
- Their salvation was great
- The grace they received through faith was great
- It was based in greater things than the law, rituals, sacrifices, and the temple
- Their covenant through Christ was great
- It was the same great faith of the patriarch Abraham
- It held great promise
- It was the power behind the great exploits and endurance of the Old Testament heroes
- It alone offered the greatest rewards

It's time to understand the greatness of your faith lest you, like these Hebrew believers, be tempted to succumb to the forces against you. The danger is to put more faith in the pressures of life than in the God who is with you, in you, and for you!

Ask God to open your heart and mind to understand the greatness of your faith in Christ.

SECOND DAY: Read Hebrews 1:1–4

1. Significantly, Hebrews 1:1 opens with *GOD*. According to this verse, how did God speak *in time past*?
 - a. To whom did He speak?
 - b. By whom did He speak?
2. By whom has God spoken *in these last days*? Hebrews 1:2a
 - a. Warren Wiersbe says, *Jesus Christ was God's "last word" as far as revelation is concerned. Christ is the source, center, and end of everything that God has to say.*¹ Why is this revelation greater than the one that came before? See also John 12:49–50, 14:10.
3. In Hebrews 1:2b–3a the author went on to describe the greatness of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Use the following chart to note and comment on His superiority:

HEBREWS 1:2b-3a	CROSS REFERENCES	WHY JESUS IS GREATER
<i>... whom He has appointed heir of all things</i>	Psalm 2:8 Ephesians 1:22–23	
<i>... through whom also He made the worlds</i>	John 1:3 Colossians 1:16	
<i>... who being the brightness of His glory</i>	John 1:14 2 Corinthians 4:6	
<i>... and the express image of His person</i>	Colossians 1:15, 19	
<i>... upholding all things by the word of His power</i>	Colossians 1:17 Revelation 4:11	

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- a. How does recognizing the superiority of Jesus strengthen your faith?
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4. After describing His Person, the author declared the actions of God's *Son*. Use Hebrews 1:3b–4 to answer the following:
 - a. What did He purge? (verse 3b)
 - (1) Why is it noteworthy that He did these things *by Himself*? See John 10:17–18.
 - b. Referring to the *right hand*, David Guzik says, *This is a position of majesty, of honor, of glory, and of finished work.*² What does this communicate to you about the greatness of Jesus and His work?
 - c. Who is Jesus *so much better* than? (verse 4a)
 - d. What did He obtain *by inheritance*? (verse 4b)
 - (1) Link this with Ephesians 1:21 and Philippians 2:9–10 and share your thoughts.
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5. What does the name of Jesus convey to you?

THIRD DAY: Read Hebrews 1:5–7

1. Having declared that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is clearly *better than the angels* (Hebrews 1:4), the author continued to support this fact by pulling portions of Scripture from the Old Testament (Psalm 2:7 and 2 Samuel 7:14a). Why is it important to see that God said these things to Jesus exclusively? Hebrews 1:5

2. Hebrews 1:6–7 (NLT) says, *And when He brought His supreme Son into the world, God said, “Let all of God’s angels worship Him.” Regarding the angels, He says, “He sends His angels like the winds, His servants like flames of fire.”* Use the following Scriptures to highlight the ministry of angels:
 - a. Matthew 25:31

 - b. Matthew 26:53

 - c. Luke 2:10–14

 - d. Luke 22:43

 - e. Revelation 5:11–12

3. From your study today, share something that stands out to you concerning the supremacy of Jesus.

FOURTH DAY: Read Hebrews 1:8–12

1. In Hebrews 1:8–9 the author, quoting Psalm 45:6–7, contrasted what God said to His Son, Jesus, with what He previously said *of the angels*. Use Hebrews 1:8–9 to answer the following:

a. How did God address His Son? (verse 8a)

(1) Why is this significant? See also John 1:1.

b. What did God declare about:

(1) The *throne* of His Son (verse 8a)

(2) The *scepter* of His Son (verse 8b)

(3) The passion of His Son (verse 9a)

(4) The anointing of His Son (verse 9b)

(a) Take special note of the *oil* of His anointing. Link this with John 15:11, 16:24, and 17:13. What do you see?

2. To underscore the greatness of God's Son, in Hebrews 1:10–12 the author quoted Psalm 102:25–27. Use phrases from these verses that reveal:

a. The creative power of the Son

b. The eternity of the Son

c. The immutability (the unchanging nature) of the Son

(1) How does this minister to you about the greatness of Jesus?

(2) Which of these attributes of Jesus do you need to be reminded of today?

FIFTH DAY: Read Hebrews 1:13–14

1. As you read the following Scripture, recall that the Hebrews, to whom this epistle was written, were under intense persecution and pressure to abandon their faith: *And God never said to any of the angels, “Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet”* (Hebrews 1:13 NLT). How might this word have strengthened their faith?
 - a. This reference from Psalm 110:1, a key Messianic verse, is quoted four other times in the New Testament. What does this convey to you about the essentiality of understanding the greatness of Jesus?

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b. Use the following verses to note and comment on the greatness of your Savior:

(1) Psalm 2:7–9

(2) Matthew 28:18

(3) John 5:22–23, 26–27

(4) 1 Peter 3:22

(a) What stands out to you about the relationship of God the Father to His Son? See also Matthew 3:17, 17:5.

2. In Hebrews 1:14a how did the author describe the angels?

a. What were they *sent forth* to do? Hebrews 1:14b

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c. Jesus

d. Angels

e. The greatness of your faith

2. Taking what you've studied this week, write a sentence, psalm, poem, or word of praise.

