BETTER THAN ANGELS

Hebrews 1:4-14

We have BETTER revelation than spectacular moments!
JESUS is God's LAST WORD — the BEST revelation of the Father.
"He who has seen ME has seen the Father." *(John 14:9)*

THE FASCINATION WITH ANGELS

- When we look back at impressive moments of Scripture, we think: *"I wish I could have been there!"*
- When angels go up & down Jacob's ladder.
- When angel appears to Dan, Zech, Mary, Joseph, or shepherds.
- Other occasions when God sends angels to communicate with His people.
- "If God would just speak to US that way today. It would solve so many problems."
- People tell about angels speaking to them, telling them what to do.
- We've forgotten warning that Satan sends emissaries dressed as "angels of light."

Hebrews: desire to go back to days when God speaks through angels => iant step backward!

THE SUPERIOR REVELATION WE HAVE

- ✓ We have **BETTER** revelation than spectacular moments!
- ✓ Jesus brought us the **BEST** revelation of the Father.
- ✓ He's God's **LAST WORD**!
- ✓ Jesus is the best revelation, because seeing Jesus is the same as seeing the Father.
- ✓ When Philip asks Jesus to show them the Father, Jesus replies: *"He who has seen ME has seen the Father."* *(John 14:9)*

1:1-3 – Jesus is better revelation of the Father than the prophets.
SON-REVELATION is better than PROPHET-REVELATION!

THE SITUATION & PURPOSE OF HEBREWS

- Written to Jewish believers, hanging on by fingernails as a torrent of persecution swirls around them, threatening to overwhelm them because of their faith.
- To escape persecution, many have returned to Judaism.
- Others who haven't returned are considering that option.
- Wondering if their faith is worth sacrifice, they're starting to drift.
- Writer wants us to consider the implications; urges us not to turn back.
- He exhorts us to endure persecution.
- Rather than turn back, continue growing in faith.

Begins showing Jesus is BETTER THAN JUDAISM.

1st EVIDENCE

JESUS presents the BEST revelation of the Father.

- Best revelation didn't come from O.T. prophets. 1:1-3

SON-REVELATION is better than PROPHET-REVELATION!

2nd EVIDENCE

SON revelation is better than spectacular, angel-revelation.

- Better than appearance of angels with direct message from God.

SON-REVELATION is better than ANGEL-REVELATION!

His revelation is... **BETTER THAN THE ANGELS 1:4-2:18** ...because...

1 JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN A GREATER NAME 1:4-5

"Having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs." *(v.5)*

For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are My Son, today I have begotten you"?
Or again, *"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to Me a son"?*
(Quoting Psalm 2 & 2 Samuel 7)

Better name => **SON**

- God never calls any individual angel "son."
- Psalms 2:7 – "You are My Son; today I have begotten you."
- At coronation, the King is "adopted by God." God establishes a Father/Son relationship between the King and Himself.
- Being **SON** is better than being **ANGEL**!

2 JESUS GIVEN A GREATER POSITION 1:6-14

Series of passages demonstrate Jesus is **GOD!**

- ✓ He is appointed as **HEIR** of all things. *(v.2)*
- ✓ Through whom also He made the worlds. *(v.2)*
- ✓ He is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature. *(v.3)*
- ✓ He upholds all things by the word of His power. *(v.3)*
- ✓ He has made purification for sins. *(v.3)*
- ✓ He is seated at the right hand of the Majesty on high. *(v.3)*
- ✓ He is far superior to angels *(v.4)*, who are only "ministering spirits." *(v.14)*

Therefore, Messiah is superior to the angels.
He is God's unique Son,
greater in NAME and greater in **POSITION**.

THE CONCLUSION

- ❖ Do not turn back!
- ❖ Continue in faith and endure persecution.
- ❖ We have the BEST revelation – JESUS, God's Last Word!
- ❖ Jesus is better than angels in **NAME** and in **POSITION** – He is **GOD**!

Fix our eyes on
JESUS,
the Author and
Perfector of our faith!
(Hebrews 12:2)

"Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." *(Hebrews 2:1)*