

10th January 2021

Hebrews 1:1-3
“Jesus: the Glorious King who speaks”



The Letter to the Hebrews. We do not know who wrote it. Hebrews was written to Christian Jews (13:22-25) who were most likely persecuted (10:32-34). It was most probably written between Jesus' ascension (~AD33) and the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem (AD70). Hebrews shows the Gospel declared in the New Testament is in perfect harmony with the Old Testament. Many Old Testament prophecies are fulfilled in the New Testament. "The New is in the Old concealed, the Old is in the New revealed."

1. God speaks. Hebrews 1:1. 'long ago' = creation e.g. "let there be light" (Genesis 1:3). "at many times" = Abraham, Moses, Samuel, David, Job. "in many ways" = face-to-face, dreams & visions, angels, Balaam's donkey. "by the prophets" = 17 books written by prophets (note 2 Peter 1:20-21). God reveals His redemptive plan from Genesis to Revelation, from creation to new creation. The great creator God (how great a being..., a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere – John Mason) is not silent. God speaks through creation (Psalm 19:1-6) and through words (Psalm 19:7-11).

2. God speaks through His Son. Hebrews 1:2-3. Jesus the Word (John 1:1), the Word of Life (1 John 1:1). Jesus speaks not just through the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), and other recorded speech in the Gospels, but also through His life, death, and resurrection, the foundation of the New Testament and fulfilment of Old Testament promises, types and shadows. The Son is the appointed heir, the creator, God in equal essence, sustainer of creation, Saviour and King (unpacked on 8th November 2020).

3. God still speaks. Listen to Him through the Scriptures, read it for yourself, watch or listen to God's Word being preached, pray for the Holy Spirit to imprint it on your heart, memorise it.

- i) God is the same God in both Old and New Testaments.*
- ii) Read both Old and New Testaments. Look for New Testament truths concealed in the Old Testament, and for Old Testament truths revealed in the New Testament – promises fulfilled and types & shadows realised.*
- iii) See how redemption's story starts in Genesis and develops through the Bible to finality in Revelation.*
- iv) Read the Bible through systematically like one book.*