

17th January 2021

Hebrews 1:4-14
“Jesus: the Praiseworthy King who created”



This passage emphasises the Supremacy of God’s Son Jesus; He is superior to angels. The Jews during the 400 years between Old and New Testaments seemed to have developed an unhealthy intense focus on angels. “Angels are created spiritual beings with moral judgement and high intelligence but without physical bodies” – Wayne Grudem. We must accept the existence and activities of angels as God’s messengers. The 7 Old Testament quotes are from the Greek translation (Septuagint) of the Hebrew Old Testament scriptures, in comparison with our Old Testament translated direct from the Hebrew.

1. Superior Name of the Son. Hebrews 1:4-5. The two quotes are from Psalm 2:7 and 2 Samuel 7:14. Psalm 2 is here applied as God speaking of His Son Jesus (see also Matthew 3:17 & 17:5; acts 13:33; John 3:16). In context 2 Samuel God is speaking about Solomon, and in Hebrews applied as God speaking to His Son Jesus, a greater than Solomon (Matthew 12:42). Solomon built an earthly physical temple made of stone; Jesus is building a heavenly spiritual temple made up of living stones (1 Peter 2:5). We must reverence the Lord Jesus Christ’s holy Name.

2. Superior Worship of the Son. Hebrews 1:6-7. The two quotes are from Deuteronomy 32:42 (or Psalm 97:7) and Psalm 104:4. Both quotes speak of angels worshipping, ministering to God (see also Luke 2:13-14; Revelation 5:11-12). When twice John attempts to worship the angel who was revealing heaven to him, the angel rebukes him and orders him to worship God (Revelation 19:10 & 22:9). No-where in Scripture are we encouraged to worship angels. We must reserve our worship for the triune almighty God.

3. Superior Throne of the Son. Hebrews 1:8-18. The three quotes are from Psalms 45:6-7, 102:25-27 & 110:1). Psalm 45 emphasises that Jesus the Son is God, equal essence, everlasting. Both Father and Son are on the throne ruling their kingdom. The sceptre is the symbol of authority. Reference to anointing links with the Messiah. Psalm 102 reiterates that Jesus the Son is Creator, distinct from and transcendent above creation; angels like humans are created beings. Whilst the created present heaven and earth will wear out like a garment, be discarded and replaced by new, Jesus the Son will forever be the same, eternal, permanent (Hebrews 13:8). Psalm 110 refers to the conquering Son. “Jesus the Name high over all, in hell or earth or sky; angels and men before it fall, and devils fear and fly” – Charles Wesley. (Philippians 2:9-11).