

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Hebrews 1

Lesson 1

Men have usually looked upon the prophets of religion as great men of God. They have seen the prophets of God as God's special messengers and servants. Jesus is better. Men have also given much attention and adoration to angels. After all, they are a magnificent and glorious order of beings who have been created by God to also be His messengers and servants. Jesus is better. The first chapter of Hebrews gives us some very good reasons why. Meditate upon them, soak in them, rejoice in them as you refresh yourself in the truths about the King who came to serve and save and rule over all.

DAY ONE: Read Hebrews 1

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

- a. Hebrews 1 has been divided into two sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-4

Verses 5-14

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

After titling each section, record a title for Chapter 1.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

God/Father, Jesus/Son, angels, and better

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Hebrews 1. Remember, as you mark these words, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them. Note that verses 5-14 contain quotes from the Old Testament. They refer to Jesus. We will see this more clearly as we continue studying this chapter.

3. Using the chart titled *Jesus*, make a list of at least five things Hebrews 1 reveals about Him. (Challenge: list more.) You do not need to list everything. This is your list. Therefore, list what is important to you. You will be using this chart throughout our study of Hebrews to record attributes, characteristics, and things Jesus has and will accomplish. We have provided some sample answers to get you started.
 - a. Share something from your list about Jesus that has touched your heart.

DAY TWO: Read Hebrews 1:1-4

1. God has used various ways to speak to His people. Who did He use in *time past*? verse 1
2. The phrase *time past* (verse 1) refers to the time prior to the first coming of Christ. The phrase *last days* (verse 2) refers to the time since His first coming. What do we learn from verse 2 about the *last days*?
3. Verses 2 and 3 of Hebrews 1 reveal some incredible attributes about Jesus, attributes that can only be used to describe Jesus. Look up the following verses and match them, by drawing a line, to the attributes revealed in Hebrews 1:2-3.
 - a. *heir of all things* 1 John 3:5
 - b. *made the worlds* 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - c. *brightness of His glory* John 13:3
 - d. *express image of His person* John 1:3
 - e. *upholds all things* Colossians 1:17
 - f. *purged our sins* Romans 8:34
 - g. *sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.* John 1:14

1.) Using the above verses, what works did Jesus do that only God can do?

2.) How does it impact you to read Scripture that verifies other verses?

4. Hebrews 1:4 is the prelude to the following section which compares Jesus with *angels*. What does verse 4 say about Jesus as compared to the *angels*?
5. Jesus has a *more excellent name than the angels*. What are some of His names that the angels do not have?
 - a. From Philippians 2:9,10 record what is stated about Jesus' *name*.

DAY THREE: Read Hebrews 1:5-13

1. In verses 5-13 you will discover seven declarations, which confirm Christ's superiority to the angels. Record the statement from the Old Testament reference below that verifies each of the declarations.

<u>Declaration</u>	<u>Old Testament Reference</u>	<u>Statement</u>
a. Hebrews 1:5a	Psalm 2:7	
b. Hebrews 1:5b	2 Samuel 7:14a	
c. Hebrews 1:6a	Psalm 97:7b (<i>gods</i> in this verse refers to supernatural beings)	
d. Hebrews 1:7	Psalm 104:4 (<i>His</i> is the emphasis in this verse)	
e. Hebrews 1:8,9	Psalm 45:6,7	
f. Hebrews 1:13	Psalm 110:1	

2. Choose a phrase or verse about Jesus from Hebrews 1:5-13 that enriches your knowledge of Him.

- a. How does this knowledge affect your life today?

3. Jesus' exalted position of authority and honor revealed in this passage obviously sets Him far above the angels. Meditate upon this: No angel could ever die for our sins. From this passage, briefly explain in your own words why Jesus is superior to the angels.

DAY FOUR: Read Hebrews 1:5-9

1. According to verse 5, what title did the Father give Jesus that He has given to no other?
 - a. A *son* has privileges that no other has. As we have previously learned, verse 5a is a quotation from Psalm 2:7. Read the next verse (Psalm 2:8) and record what the *Father* has given the *Son*.

2. Verse 5 refers to Jesus as *begotten* and verse 6 refers to Him as *first born*. These titles do not refer to the origin of Jesus (they do not declare that He had a beginning), but rather to His importance over all; the fact that He has pre-eminence and priority over all. What does John 1:1-3 say that verifies this?

3. What command did God give the angels? verse 6
 - a. Record the angels' words of worship from Revelation 5:11-12.

4. Angels are often referred to as *ministers*. What does God say about *angels/ministers* in Hebrews 1:7?
 - a. In contrast, what does He say to the *Son* in verse 8?
 - 1.) What title is Jesus given in this verse?
 - a.) Record the awesome, confirming words of Romans 9:5.

 - b.) Record the words of Isaiah 45:22.

 - (1.) Why do you think it is important to know that Jesus is *God*?

 - 2.) How long will Jesus reign? Hebrews 1:8
Challenge: Define the word *scepter*.
 - a.) Describe what you think a kingdom ruled by *Jesus* will be like.

5. Read Hebrews 1:9. What does Jesus *love*?
 - a. What does He *hate*?
 - b. Contrast the terms *righteousness* and *lawlessness*.
 - c. Why are you glad that Jesus *loves righteousness* and *hates lawlessness*?
 - 1.) What would be your fate if Jesus judged you according to His *hate for lawlessness*?
 - a.) How do you know He won't? Use Psalm 130:3-4 to answer this question.

DAY FIVE: Read Hebrews 1:10-14

1. Jesus is not only God, but as God, He is Creator. What does verse 10 say about this?
2. Contrast the temporal with the Eternal as you record the first phrase of Hebrews 1:11
 - a. Verify this by recording Psalm 90:2 and Matthew 24:35.
3. What analogy does God use to describe the fate of the earth and the heavens in Hebrews 1:11b, 12?
 - a. Add the words of Isaiah 34:4 to this. What thoughts come to your mind?
4. Again, in the latter part of verse 12, the temporal and the Eternal are contrasted. What does this verse reveal?
 - a. *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever* (Hebrews 13:8). In what ways does this fact impact your life?
5. What awesome position does Jesus, and only Jesus, have? Hebrews 1:13
 - a. At the *right hand* is the ultimate position of authority. Only Jesus may sit there. Upon returning to heaven He sat at the Father's *right hand*. One day God will make *His enemies His footstool*. According to Romans 14:9, why did Jesus *die, rise, and live again*?

6. Jesus came and died so that He might reign. In contrast, what were *angels sent forth* to do?
Hebrews 1:14
 - a. Who are those who will *inherit salvation*?
 - b. Angels are not kings, they are servants. Meditate on the awesome fact that *angels minister to* all those who believe. What does this say to you about your importance to God?

DAY SIX: Review Hebrews 1

1. Since God has *in these last days spoken to us by His Son*, what does this teach us about *heeding* the words of Jesus?
2. Using what you have learned from this lesson, what would you say to someone who worships angels?
3. Some of those who received this letter, were considering leaving the teachings of Christ and returning to the teachings of Judaism. If this were you, what statements in Hebrews 1 would cause you to see that "Jesus is better"?
4. How has this lesson affected your faith?

*And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*

- Revelation 19:16