

Jesus < ∞

Introduction

The Hot Fudge Supremacy - the fudge isn't better than the ice cream, it completes the ice cream. In that sense it is better. The same with Jesus. It's what the original readers needed to understand. It's what many today need to understand. Jesus is greater than infinity.

Ingression

This is what we're going to see as we jump into Hebrews.

Inspiration

Always weird to study an epistle. Studying someone else's mail. Like middle school love notes. "Dear Corby, I want to break up with you." Now what did she mean by that? Epistles are much more than this of course. [2] **2 Timothy 3:16-17**.

- Obviously very Jewish mindset. Matthew was a primer to Jewish thinking about Jesus. Hebrews is the Leviticus of the NT. About to get schooled.
- Who wrote it? Don't know. Not interested in arguing about it. I don't have a strong opinion after this round of study.
- When written? Probably before 70 AD. No mention of persecution of Christians or destruction of Temple.
- Why written? [3] **To communicate the supremacy of Christ over the angels, Moses, the Aaronic priesthood, and the Law. Also to give warnings on how to avoid replacing Jesus with anything else.**

Ingression

With that in mind, let's read **Hebrews 1:1-3**.

God Speaks 1:1-2 [4]

It's easy to look back and have reverence for how God spoke. In the moment we might have told them they were crazy.

- How about today?
- Over used? Shouldn't we expect it?
- How can we tell? See Habakkuk 1 study. Short answer, consistency and fulfillment.

Various times - part, portions. At this time God gave this much. At another time He gave that much.

Various ways - just so. In what ways did God speak? What portion did He give that person?

- The emphasis is on the different times and ways in which God spoke, setting up what he is about to say concerning speaking through his son today.
- There is a definite article in front of God. The God who did that, you know that one, also did this. The God who spoke has also now spoken.
- In times past doesn't mean just in the past. It means something like last years model. Not to be discarded because its old, but because it served its purpose.
- Prophet, an out-speaker.
- In these last days isn't eschatological, but in contrast to the past.

- [5] It isn't just what the Son said, it's what He was and is. Contrasted with the prophets. It all comes back to who do you say that I am? **John 1:1, 14:9**
- **Jesus is superior in terms of what was revealed and Who was revealing it.**

Who is this Son? 1:2-3 [6a]

After pointing out speaking through the son he then qualifies the son.

- **Jesus was appointed heir of all things.**
- - And, BTW, Jesus was a cooperative agent in creation, not just a vessel. **Genesis 1.**
 - **[6b] Ephesians 3:9, Colossians 3:16, Romans 11:36, 1 Corinthians 8:6, John 1:3, Hebrews 11:3.**
- **[6c] Radiance**, a beam of light that looks like the thing that is emitting it.
- **Express image** comes from the engraving of a coin stamp. Character.
- **Upholder of all things** To bear up, have in charge, direct, govern. His power as expressed through His word. That's all God has to do, speak. What are we talking about? God spoke, and has now spoken. Jesus is the Word/Logos.
- The one who **[6d] purged our sins**, process of purification through sacrifice. **God didn't just wave our sins away. They were paid for.**
- And then **sat at the right hand of God**. Either side of the throne is a position of honor. Some cultures considered left (Persians). Others, like Hebrews/Jews the right. Can be seen in name of Jacob/Israel's son's name Benjamin, son of my right hand.

Imploration

This is Jesus. What does your picture of Jesus look like? It's not even close to reality. Vamp on Jesus pre-incarnation, incarnate, and resurrected.

Is this your Jesus? What do you look to for validation, fulfillment, integrity, righteousness, satisfaction, identity? If it's anything other than Jesus you are missing the point. Jesus is greater than.

Has He spoken to you? Has He shown Himself to you as God? Have you discerned that He has been upholding you this whole time? Has He purged your sins? Would you like Him to?