

Hebrews 1:1-9

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Unknown author. Paul? Priscilla? Many unique Greek words.
Emphasis of Hebrews 1 is upon God speaking.

“God having spoken to the fathers in the prophets long ago, in many parts and in many ways” (v.1).
Prophets are mentioned once more in Hebrews 11.

“In these last days has spoken to us by his Son” (v.2).
Appointed heir of all things, through whom He made the ages = history.

Theologically: Jewish age → Church Age; 400 year gap; Jesus lifted up.
Personally? Ancient, fragmented, revealed truth vs. universal principles.

Concrete: light flashing forth of glory; Abstract: exact expression of legal standing.
Carrying everything along by the word of his power. All in the present tense.

Having made purification for sins, sat down at right hand of Majesty on high: past tense.
Purify means ‘eliminate impurities’; Eph. 5:26-27: church spotless without wrinkle.

Angel means human or supernatural messenger. Mentioned 11x in 1:4-2:16, then in 12:22 and 13:2.
Heavens are the work of Jesus’ hands (1:11). Holy brethren are partakers of a heavenly calling (3:1).

Theologically: Judaism associated with angels; Christianity with Jesus.
Personally? angelic thinking vs. incarnational thinking.

Angel = finite, abstract, name. Human = finite, concrete, body. eg. Barber Bob, nurse Nancy.

1) Inherited a better name than angels (v.4).

God exalted Jesus and gave him a name above all names (Phil. 2:9).

2) Today begotten; will be Father – Son. A new relationship starting (v.5).

And the Word became flesh... the only begotten of the Father (John 1:14).

3) God introduces his firstborn again into the inhabited world: Let angels of God worship him (v.6).

Angels said 'Glory to God in the highest at Jesus birth' (Luke 2:14).

4) Angels are winds and flames. Son has eternal throne and righteous scepter.

Angels saying 'Worthy is the Lamb' (Rev. 5:12).

5) Jesus loved righteousness; hated lawlessness. Anointed with gladness above companions.

Jesus did what he saw the Father doing (John 5:19).

Personally?

1) Specialized names rule today. Name of Jesus ignored. Key is inheritance (v.2).

2) Incarnation goes beyond specialization. Key is looking for universal character.

3) God brings Incarnation again to inhabited world. Specialization under Incarnation.

4) Righteousness versus continuation. Doing what God is doing.

5) Loving God's ways. Repulsed by rebellion. Greater joy in following God.

The Big Picture:

Laid foundation of earth, made heavens. They will utterly perish; Jesus will continue.

They will become obsolete, be rolled up, changed. Like outer clothes. Jesus is the same.

God will make Jesus' enemies a footstool.

Angels are ministering spirits, help those who will inherit salvation. Compare with v.4.