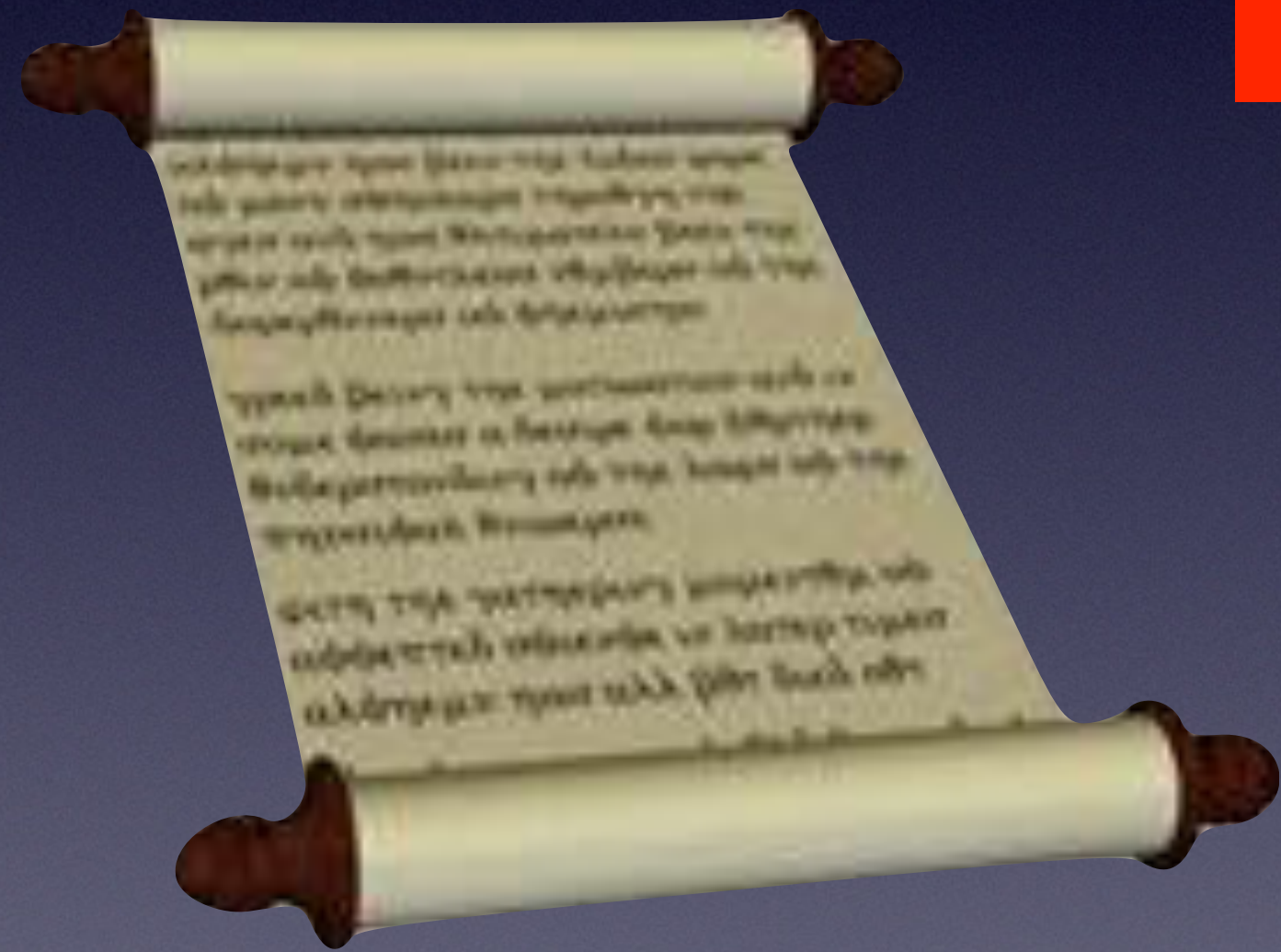


God Has Spoken

Hebrews 1:1-3



3 years **NT survey** - exposure to each book, its themes and content

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Hebrews - Superiority of Christ - transition the Old Covenant to the New Covenant

Superiority of

Better than Levitical Priesthood

Better than Moses



"Better than the angels"

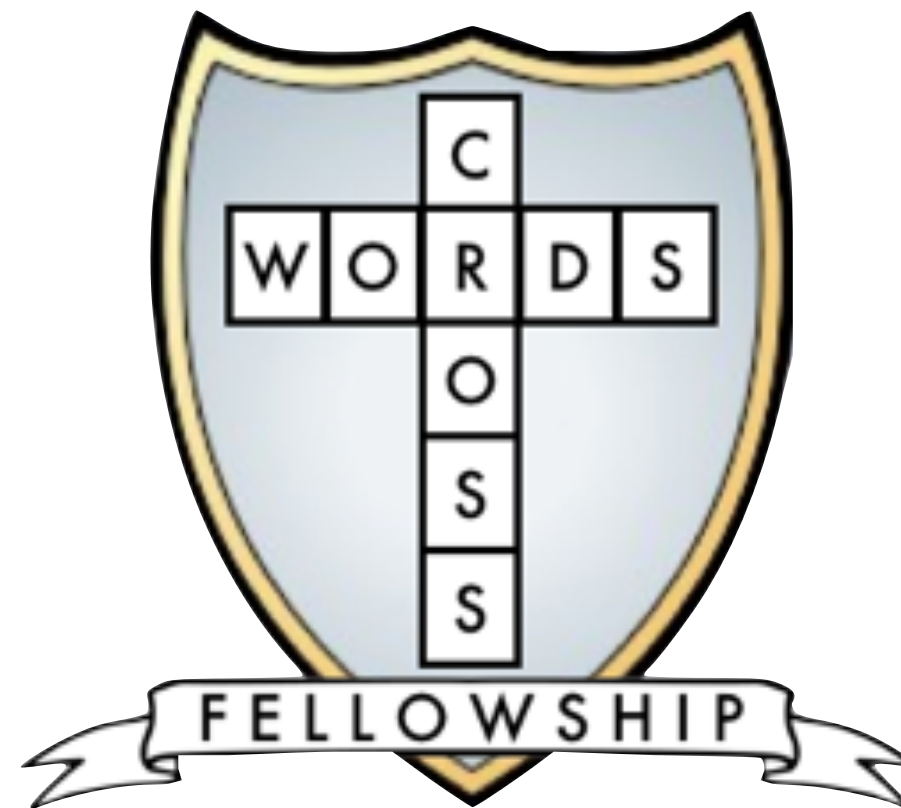
"Better covenant"

"Better hope"

Studies in the Epistle to the Hebrews
CrossWords

Superiority of Christ

Studies in the Epistle to the Hebrews



COUNTRYSIDE BIBLE CHURCH
2016-2017 SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

Epistle to the Hebrews

Summary

The theme of the epistle to the Hebrews is the superiority of Jesus Christ. That is abundantly clear. What is not clear is who the author is and specifically to whom the epistle was written. In contrast to other New Testament epistles, the author is not named. Scholars have suggested the apostle Paul, Luke, Philip, Barnabas, Apollos, Aquila or possibly a woman such as Priscilla. But there has never been a consensus supporting the authorship of any of these possibilities. Dr. S. Lewis Johnson notes that according to the opening verses, the writer pens that “**God.....has spoken** to us in His Son” and in the 30 plus quotes from the Old Testament, the writer never mentions human authors with the exception of **God speaking through David** (Hebrews 4:7). Three times in the gospels, the Father audibly speaks and each time, He glorified His Son, Jesus Christ. It is entirely possible that the human author of Hebrews has been hidden in order to emphasize the divine authorship of the message, and what greater authority is there to decree and proclaim the superiority of Jesus Christ than God Himself!

To whom was the epistle to the Hebrews written? Dr. John MacArthur states, “When the various NT books were formally brought together into one collection shortly after A.D. 100, the titles were added for convenience. This epistle’s title bears the traditional Greek title, ‘To the Hebrews,’ which was attested by at least the second century A.D. Within the epistle itself, however, there is no identification of the recipients as either Hebrews (Jews) or Gentiles. Since the epistle is filled with references to Hebrew history and religion and does not address any particular Gentile or pagan practice, the traditional title has been maintained.....Emphases on the Levitical priesthood and on sacrifices, as well as the absence of any reference to the Gentiles, support the conclusion that a community of Hebrews was the recipient of the epistle.”

Some scholars have suggested that the message of Hebrews is the same message Jesus delivered to some of His disciples on the road to Emmaus. Those disciples were in danger of abandoning Jesus Christ and returning to Judaism so Jesus said to them, ““O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?” Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures” (Luke 24:25-27). Similarly, Hebrews was written to comfort the Jewish believers in their persecution and to prevent them from returning to Judaism. It was also written to unbelieving Jews, some of whom were intellectually convinced but spiritually uncommitted. The main point is that Jesus Christ is so far superior to every aspect of Judaism that, in rejecting Him and/or returning to Judaism, they were choosing to follow an inferior and powerless system. A key word in Hebrews is “**better.**” The epistle moves through the main features and persons of the Old Testament and demonstrates that Jesus Christ is better than all of them. Jesus Christ is better than the prophets, better than the angels, better than Moses, better than Joshua, better than Aaron and better than the Levitical priesthood. Jesus Christ brings a better covenant and is a better “once for all” sacrifice resulting in a better rest. Further since, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8) and He is the eternal infinite God, He cannot be “bested.”

What a vital message this is for us to heed today for it is God Who has spoken through His Son! “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son” (Hebrews 1:1-2), and God the Father has said, "This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!" (Mark 9:7)

September

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

October

Hebrews 2:9

But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

November

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

February

Hebrews 6:19-20

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

March

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

April

Hebrews 9:11-12

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

May

Hebrews 10:24-25

and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

June

Hebrews 11:1, 6

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

July

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

August

Hebrews 13:20-21

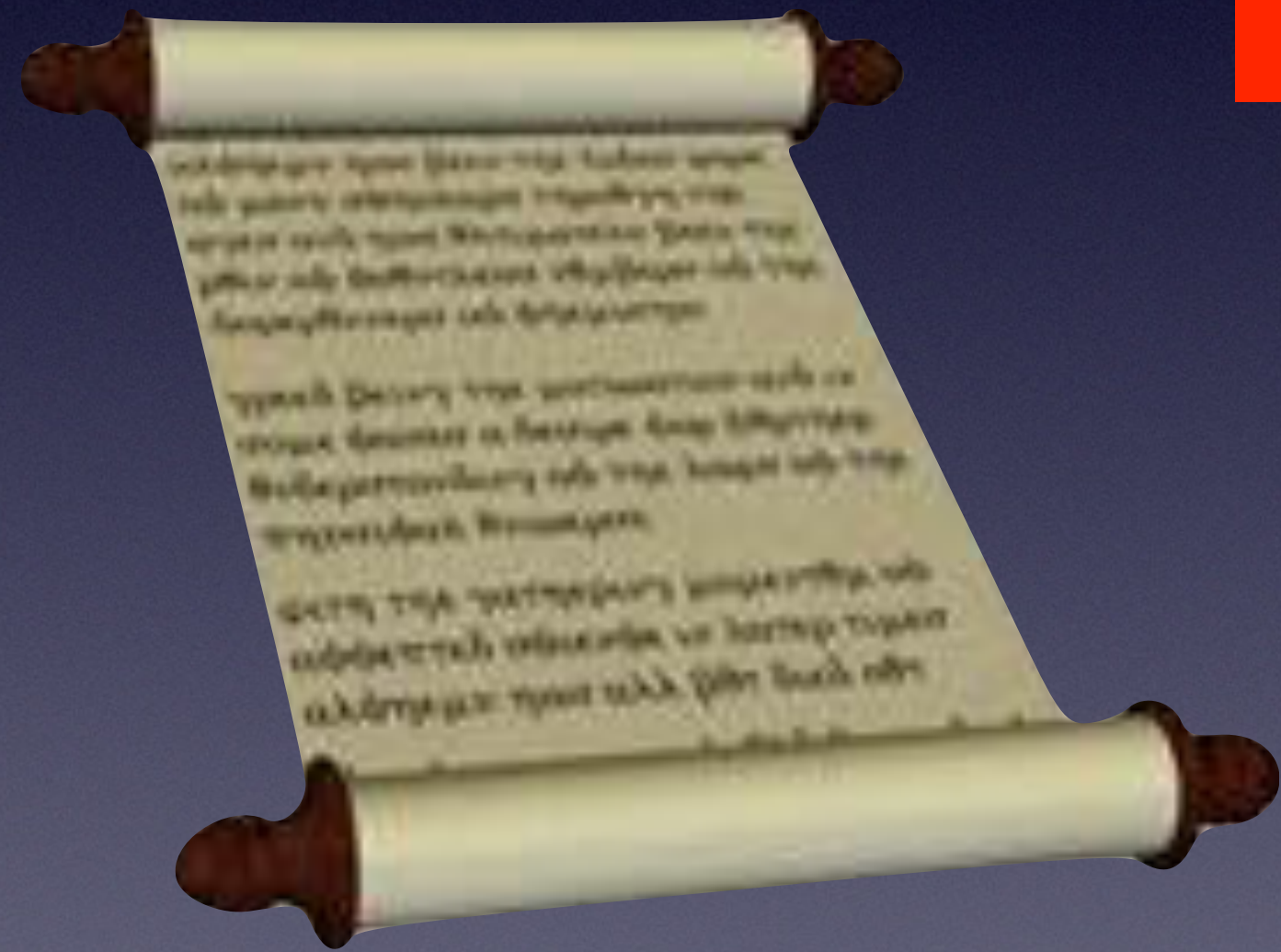
Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

Hebrews - The Superiority of Christ		
Date	Passage	
DOCTRINE		
The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Position - Hebrews 1:1 - 4:13		
Sep 11, 2016	Heb 1:1-3	Jesus Christ, Better than the Angels
Sep 18, 2016		Mark Scarborough Report
Sep 25, 2016	Heb 1:4-14	Jesus Christ, Better than the Angels
Oct 2, 2016	Heb 2:1-4	A Warning: Neglecting So Great Salvation
Oct 9, 2016	Heb 2:5-9	Jesus Christ, Made Lower than the Angels
Oct 16, 2016	Heb 2:10-18	Jesus Christ, the Author of Salvation
Oct 23, 2016	Heb 3:1-6	Jesus Christ, Better than Moses
Oct 30, 2016	Heb 3:7-11	A Warning: Hardened Hearts
Nov 6, 2016	Heb 3:12-19	A Warning: Unbelieving Hearts
Nov 13, 2016	Heb 4:1-13	A Better Rest
The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Priesthood - Hebrews 4:14 - 7:28		
Nov 20, 2016	Heb 4:14-16	Jesus Christ, Our High Priest
Nov 27, 2016	Heb 5:1-4	The Aaronic Priesthood
Dec 4, 2016	Heb 5:5-10	Jesus Christ, a Priest according to the order of Melchizedek
Dec 11, 2016	Heb 5:11-14	Solid food of the Word vs Milk of the Word
Dec 18, 2016	Heb 6:1-8	A Warning: Peril of Falling Away
Dec 25, 2016		Christmas - No Adult Sunday School
Jan 1, 2017		New Years - No Adult Sunday School
Jan 8, 2017		Short Series: God's Word for the Family
Jan 15, 2017		Short Series: God's Word for the Family
Jan 22, 2017		Short Series: God's Word for the Family
Jan 29, 2017		Short Series: God's Word for the Family
Feb 5, 2017	Heb 6:9-12	Better Things that Accompany Salvation
Feb 12, 2017		Essentials Conference
Feb 19, 2017	Heb 6:13-20	The Oath of God
Feb 26, 2017	Heb 7:1-10	The Priesthood of Melchizedek, Like Jesus Christ
Mar 5, 2017	Heb 7:11-22	The Need for a New Priesthood
Mar 12, 2017	Heb 7:23-28	The Permanent Priesthood of Jesus Christ

The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Priestly Ministry - Heb. 8:1 - 10:18		
Mar 19, 2017	Heb 8:1-6	The Better Ministry of Jesus Christ
Mar 26, 2017	Heb 8:7-13	The New Covenant
Apr 2, 2017		Biography Combined Adult Sunday School
Apr 9, 2017	Heb 9:1-10	The Old Covenant Explained
Apr 16, 2017		Easter - No Adult Sunday School
Apr 23, 2017	Heb 9:11-14	The New Covenant Explained
Apr 30, 2017	Heb 9:15-22	Covenant Defined
May 7, 2017	Heb 9:23-28	Jesus Christ, Mediator of the Better Covenant
May 14, 2017	Heb 10:1-9	Jesus Christ, the Fulfillment of the Sacrificial System
May 21, 2017	Heb 10:10-18	Jesus Christ, the Sufficient and Effective Sacrifice
PRACTICE		
The Superiority of the Believer's Privileges - Hebrews 10:19 - 12:29		
May 28, 2017	Heb 10:19-25	Call to Enter the Holy Place by the Blood of Jesus Christ
Jun 4, 2017	Heb 10:26-31	A Warning: Falling into the Hands of the Living God
Jun 11, 2017	Heb 10:32-39	Persevering Faith
Jun 18, 2017	Heb 11:1-7	The Necessity of Faith
Jun 25, 2017	Heb 11:8-12	The Faith of Abraham and Sarah
Jul 2, 2017	Heb 11:13-16	Faith Without Receiving the Promise
Jul 9, 2017	Heb 11:17-22	Faith in the Future Temporal Blessing and the Messiah
Jul 16, 2017	Heb 11:23-31	Faith of the People of God - Moses through Joshua
Jul 23, 2017	Heb 11:32-40	Faith in Enduring Persecution and Martyrdom
Jul 30, 2017	Heb 12:1-11	Running the Race with Endurance and Being Disciplined
Aug 6, 2017		Ministry Fair - No Adult Sunday School
Aug 13, 2017	Heb 12:12-17	Living Out the Spiritual Life in Relationships with Others
Aug 20, 2017	Heb 12:18-29	Mount Sinai and Mount Zion Compared
The Superiority of Christian Behavior - Hebrews 13:1-25		
Aug 27, 2017	Heb 13:1-7	Concluding Moral Directions
Sep 3, 2017	Heb 13:8-16	Concluding Religious Directions
Sep 10, 2017	Heb 13:17-25	Call for Prayer and a Final Benediction

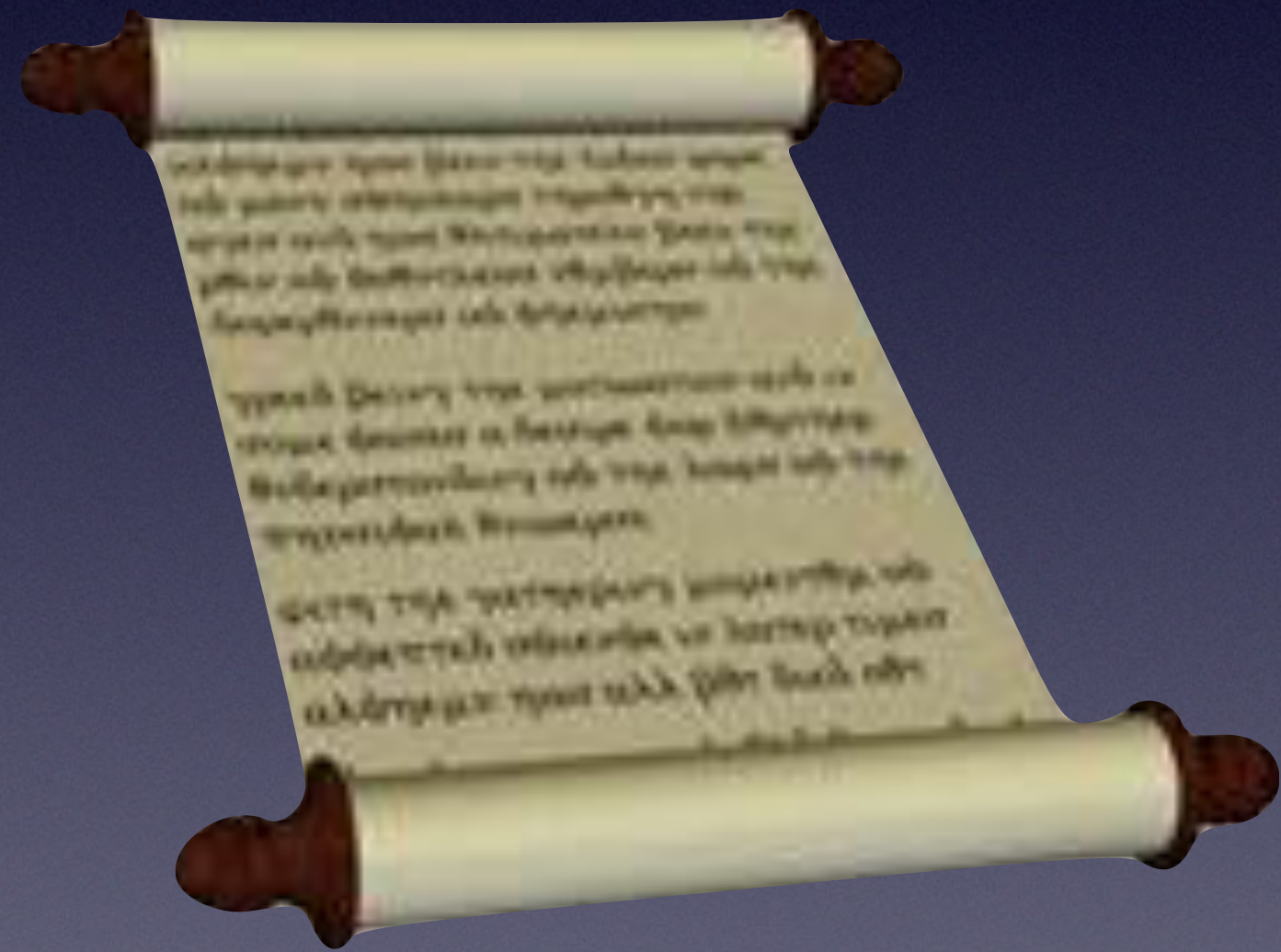
God Has Spoken

Hebrews 1:1-3



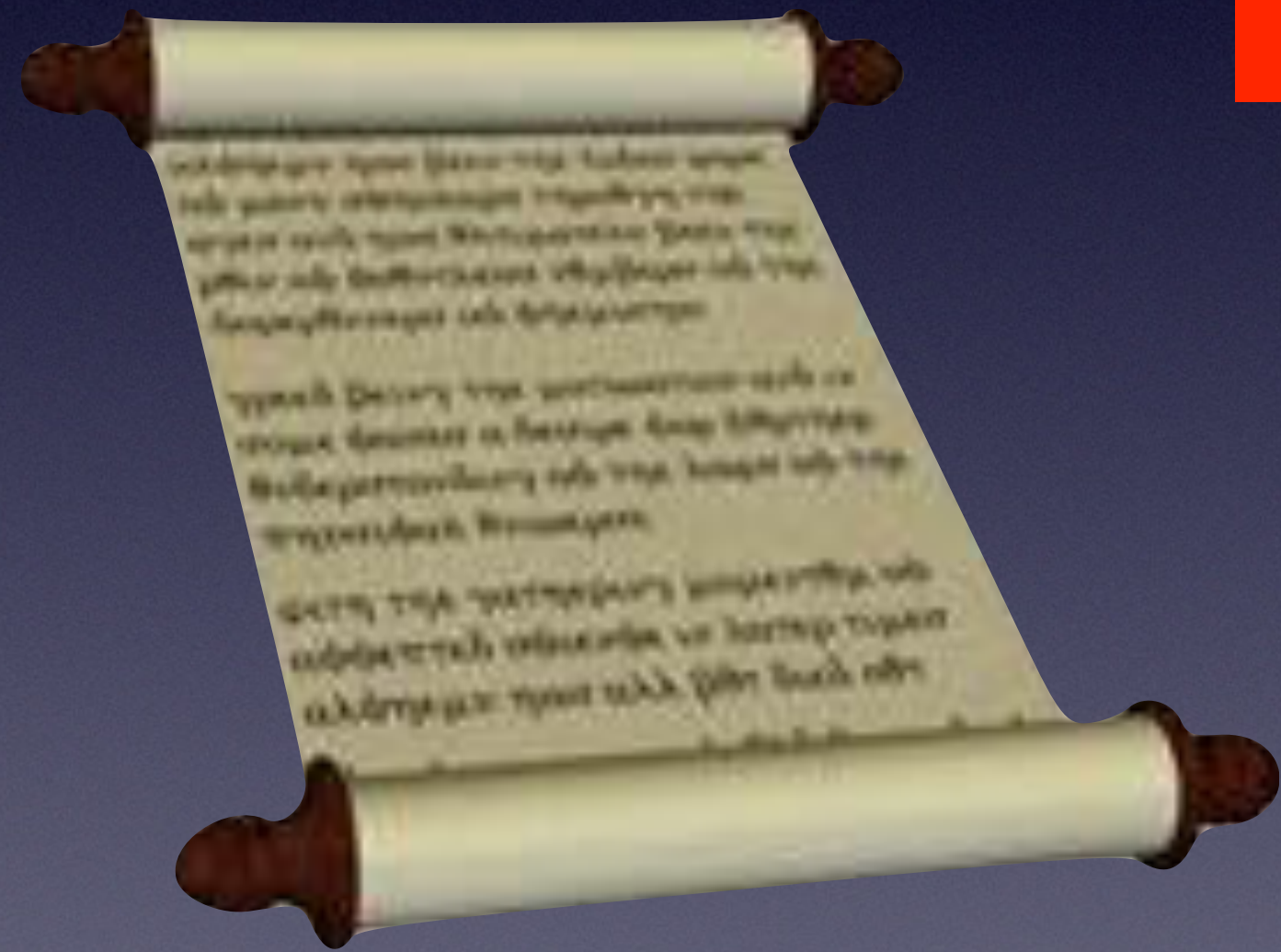
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Theme: The Superiority of Christ

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Content: An explanation of the contrast between the temporal, incomplete and ineffective provisions of the Old Covenant given by Moses versus the eternal, complete and saving provisions of the New Covenant centered on the completed and ongoing work of the Superior Lord Jesus Christ. It is a warning to Christians not to fall back from faith in Christ in the midst of trials with an exhortation to press on to maturity in Christ.

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Author: God the Holy Spirit

Theme Statement

God has progressively revealed the details of the gospel through the prophets in the Old Testament and now has revealed the gospel with finality through a Son identified as His heir, the Creator, the radiance of His own glory, representative of His exact nature, the Sustainer of the universe, the Sacrifice for sins and the One exalted to His own right hand.

God

God



Prophets

God

Spoke

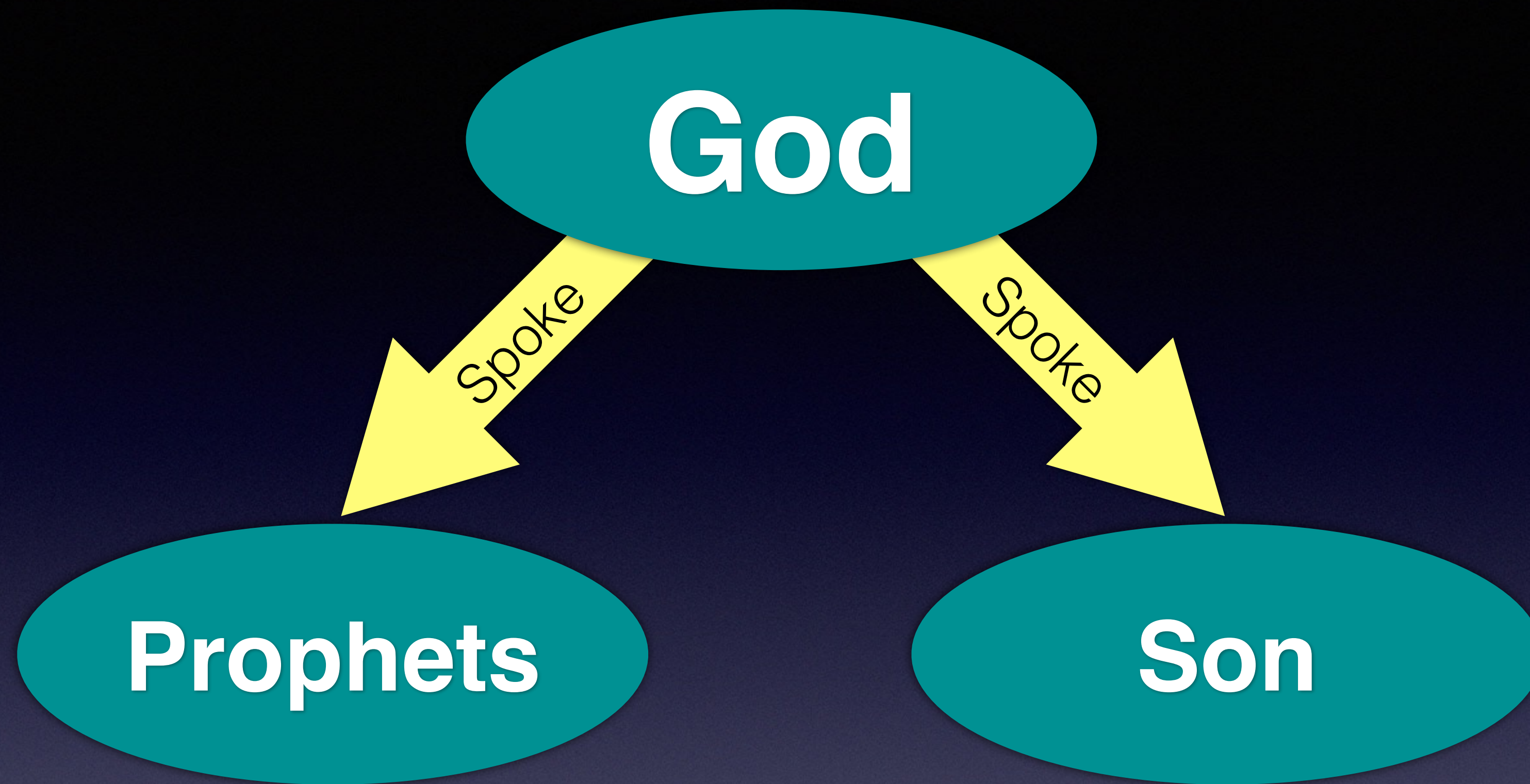
Prophets

To the Fathers

Long Ago

In many portions

In many ways

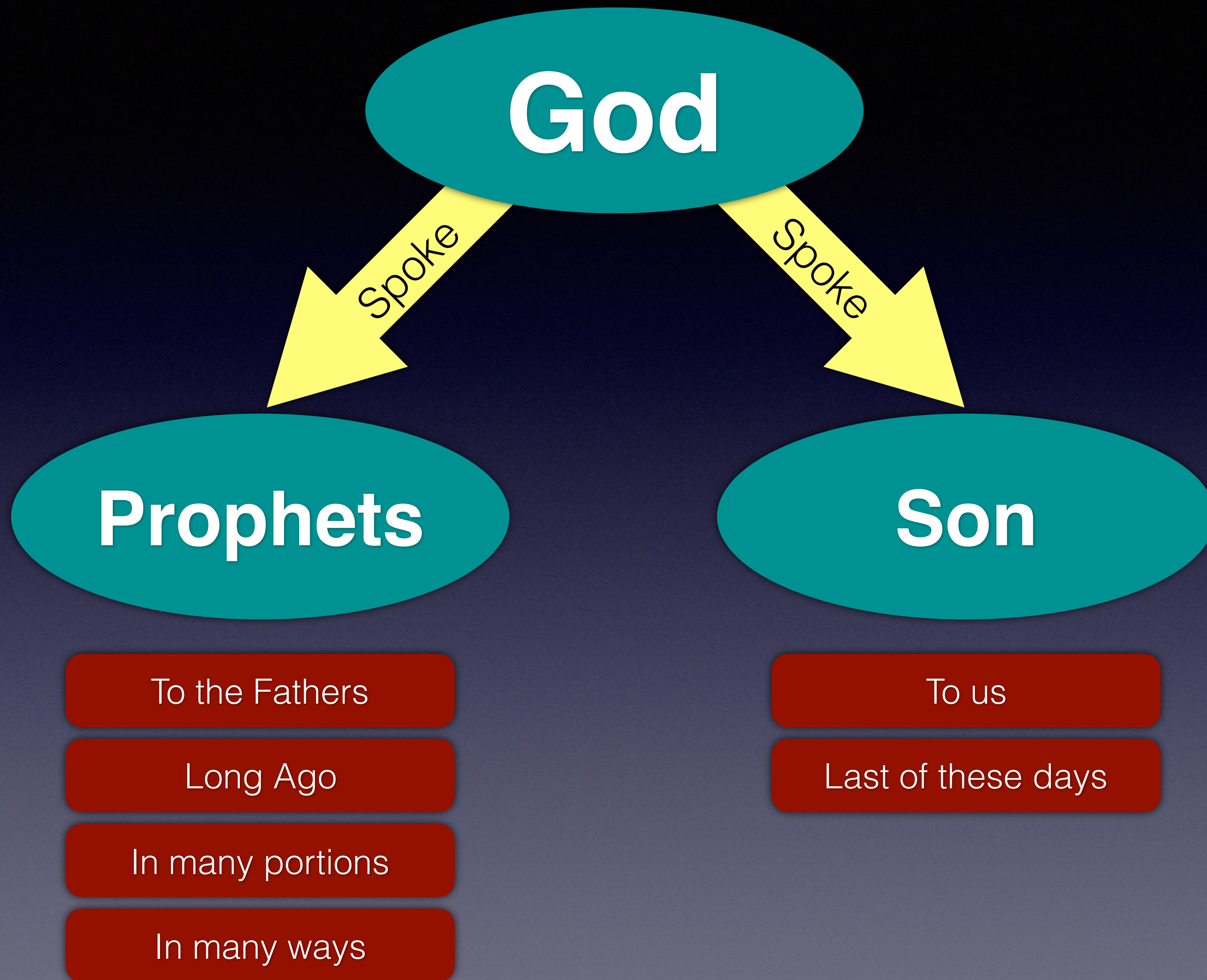


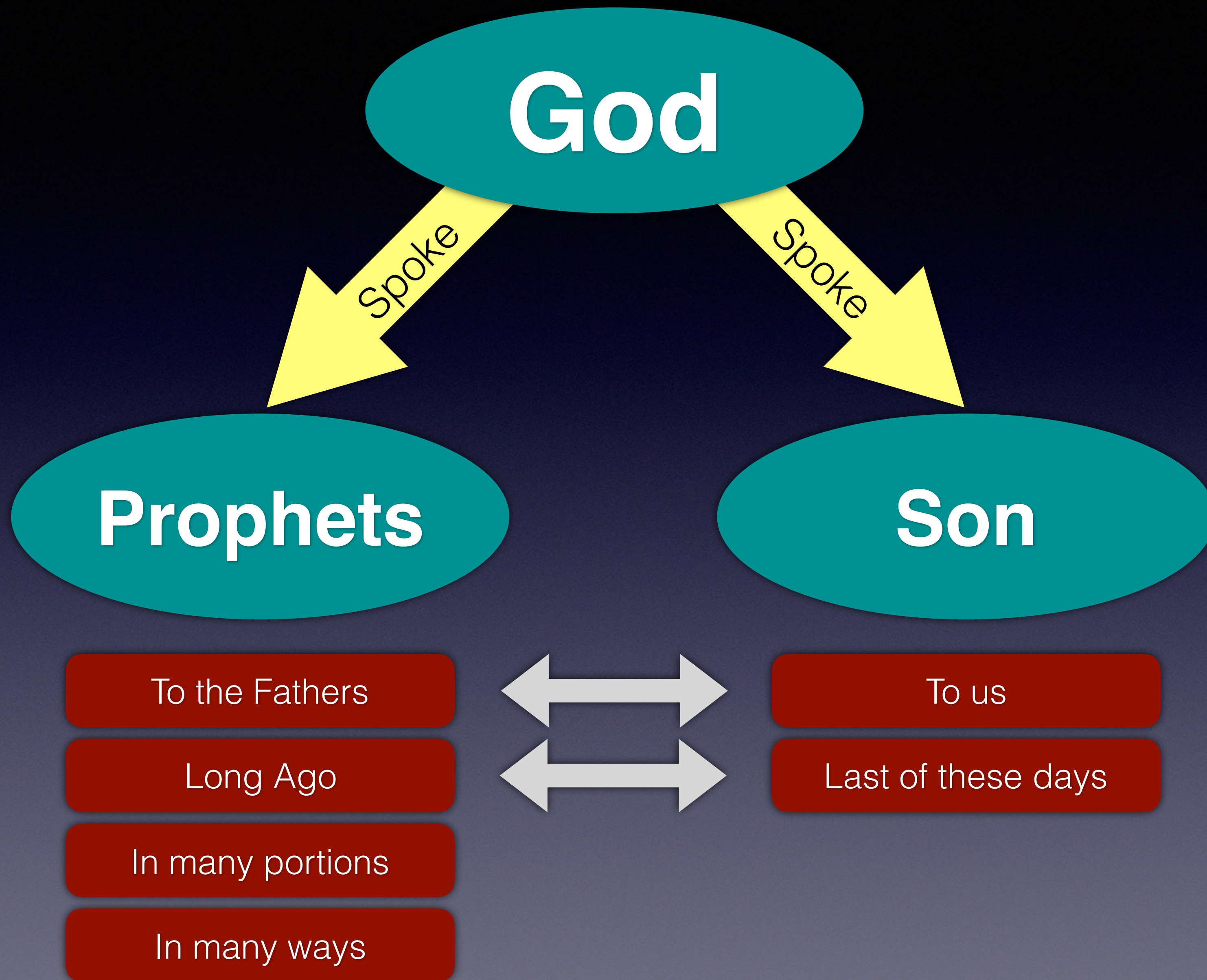
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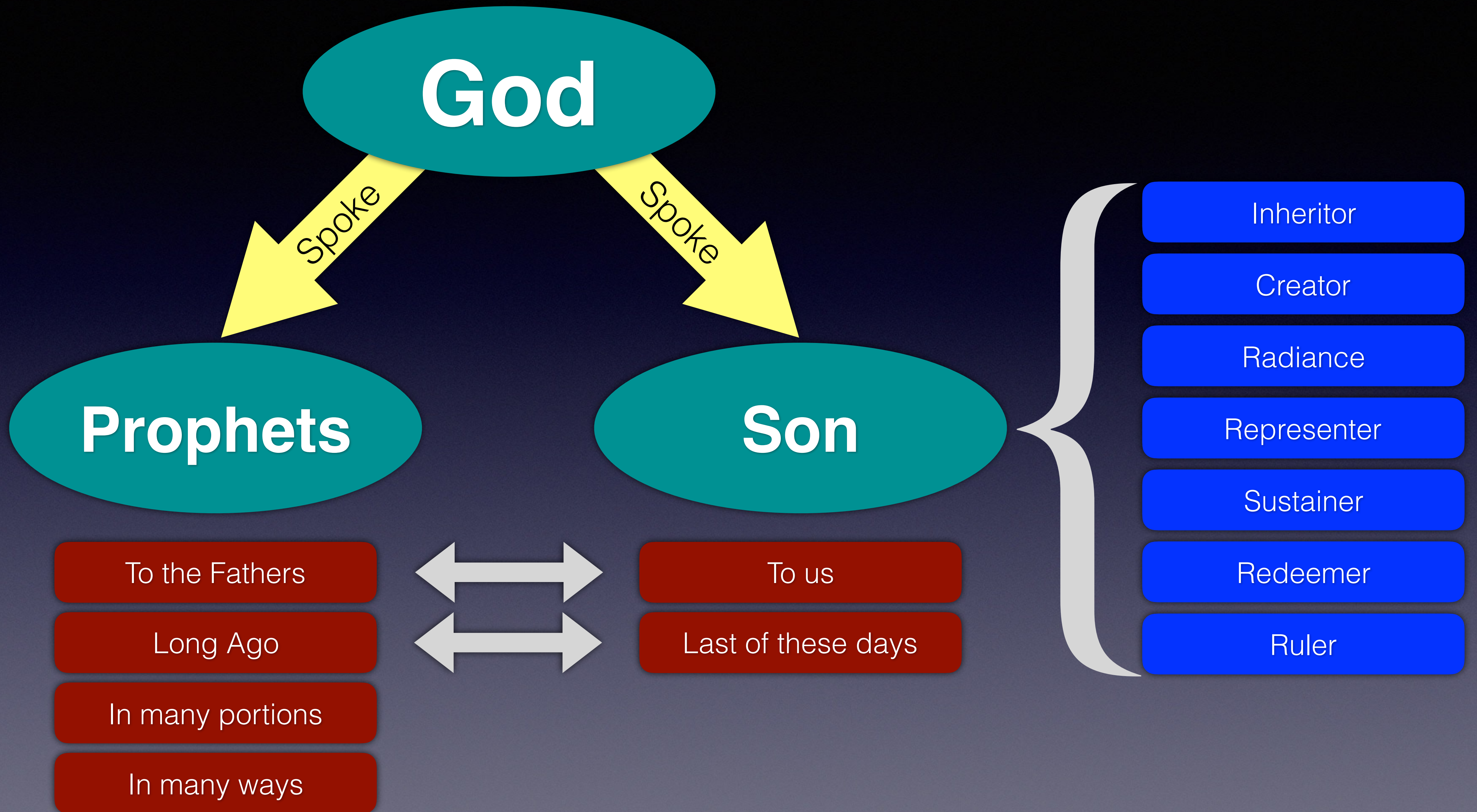
Long Ago

In many portions

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“God has Spoken”



F. F. Bruce

“This initial affirmation is basic to the whole argument of this epistle, as indeed it is basic to the Christian faith. Had God remained silent, enshrouded in thick darkness, the plight of mankind would have been desperate indeed; but now he has spoken His revealing, redeeming, and life-giving word, and in His light we see light. Our author is not thinking of that general revelation of Himself which God has given in creation, providence and conscience —

‘Lo, these are but the outskirts of His ways; and how small a whisper do we hear of Him?’ (Job 26:14)

but of that special revelation which He has given in two stages: first, to the fathers through the prophets, and finally in His Son.”

God has Spoken through the Prophets
Hebrews 1:1

God has Spoken through the Prophets

Hebrews 1:1

1. In the Old Testament period

God has Spoken through the Prophets

Hebrews 1:1

1. In the Old Testament period
2. To the forefathers

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Leviticus - the sacrificial system, Day of Atonement, Mercy Seat, Holy of Holies

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Daniel 9:24-27 - 70 weeks

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Hebrews 1:1

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2. To the forefathers
3. In many portions
4. In many ways

God has Spoken through a Son
Hebrews 1:2a

God has Spoken through a Son
Hebrews 1:2a

1. In the last of these days

God has Spoken through a Son

Hebrews 1:2a

1. In the last of these days

Hebrews 9:26b - But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself

God has Spoken through a Son

Hebrews 1:2a

1. In the last of these days
2. To the writer and readers of the Epistle to the Hebrews

God has Spoken through a Son Who is Supreme
Hebrews 1:2b-3

God has Spoken through a Son Who is Supreme

Hebrews 1:2b-3

1. He is the Inheritor of all things

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Psalm 2:1-8 - Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!" He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, "But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain. I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your **inheritance**, and the very ends of the earth as Your **possession**.'" "

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Hebrews 1:2b-3

1. He is the Inheritor of all things
2. He is the Creator of all things

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2. He is the Creator of all things

John 1:3 - All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Colossians 1:16 - For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

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Hebrews 1:2b-3

1. He is the Inheritor of all things
2. He is the Creator of all things
3. He is the Radiance of the Glory of God

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Hebrews 1:2b-3

1. He is the Inheritor of all things
2. He is the Creator of all things
3. He is the Radiance of the Glory of God
4. He is the Exact Representation of the essence of God

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Colossians 1:15 - He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

John 14:9 - Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

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1. He is the Inheritor of all things
2. He is the Creator of all things
3. He is the Radiance of the Glory of God
4. He is the Exact Representation of the essence of God
5. He is the Sustainer of all things

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Colossians 1:17 - He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together

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6. He is the Redeemer for sinners

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Isaiah 53:5 - But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed.

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6. He is the Redeemer for sinners
7. He is the Ruler of all

God has Spoken through a Son Who is Supreme

Hebrews 1:2b-3

Ephesians 4:10 - He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)

Psalms 110 - The Lord says to my Lord: “**Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.**” The Lord will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, saying, “Rule in the midst of Your enemies.” Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew. The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” The Lord is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath. He will judge among the nations, He will fill them with corpses, He will shatter the chief men over a broad country. He will drink from the brook by the wayside; Therefore He will lift up His head.

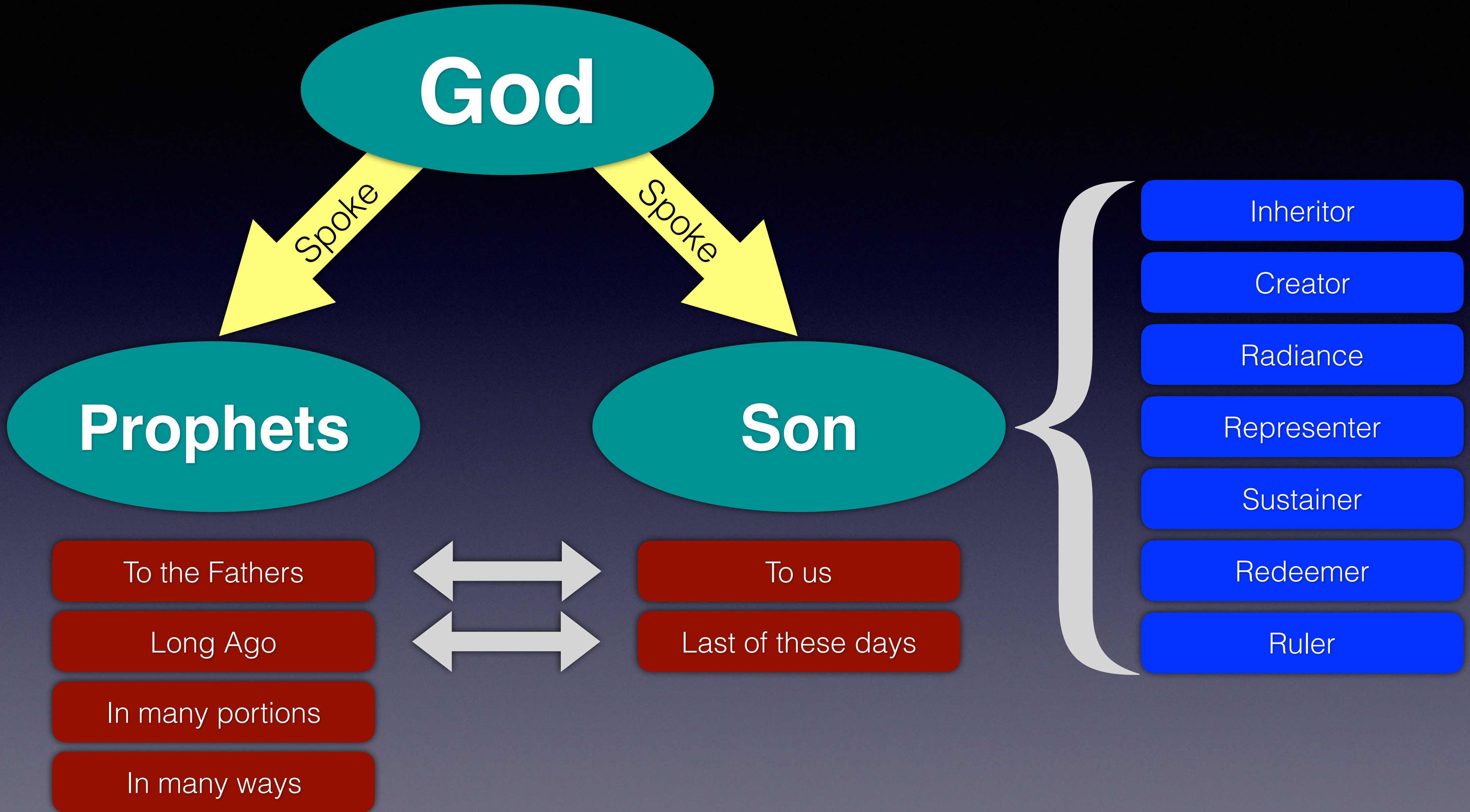
Hebrews 10:11-12 - Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, **sat down at the right hand of God**

7. He is the Ruler of all

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4. He is the Exact Representation of the essence of God
5. He is the Sustainer of all things
6. He is the Redeemer for sinners
7. He is the Ruler of all



Implications

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1. God has spoken - Listen to Him!

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Hebrews 5:11-14 - Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become **dull of hearing**. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Implications

1. God has spoken - Listen to Him!
2. Jesus Christ is the Supreme Son of God - Worship Him!

Hebrews 5:11-14 - Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become **dull of hearing**. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.