

Hebrews 1:4-14

Why Jesus is Greater than the Angels



Who Are Angels?

- **They are real, created beings**

Ps 148:2,5; Matt 25:31

- **They were all created by Christ at the time of creation**

Gen 2:1, Job 38:6-7, Matt 22:28-30

- **They are spirit beings distinct from mankind**

Heb 1:14, Luke 24:39

- **They are intelligent, powerful, and emotional beings**

2 Pet 2:11, Ps 103:20, Luke 15:10

- **They are countless in number**

Dan 7:10, Rev 5:11

- **They have various ranks and special classes**

Jud 9, Rev 12:7-8, Ezek 1:5-14, Isa 6:2-7

What Do Angels Do?

To God

- They praise and worship Him (Ps 148:1-2, Heb 1:6, Isa 6:3)
- Obey and carry out His word (Ps 103:20)

To Christ

- Gave revelation to man concerning Him (Matt 1:20, Luke 2:8-15, Matt 28:5-6)
- Ministered to Him after the temptation and in Gethsemane (Matt 4:11, Luke 22:43)
- Rolled away the stone from the tomb
- Will accompany Him at the 2nd Coming (2 Thess 1:7)
- Will separate the wheat from the tares (Matt 13:39-40)

What Do Angels Do?

To unbelievers

- Announce God's judgments (Gen 19:13, Rev 14:6-7, 19:17-18)
- Separate the unrighteous from the righteous (Matt 13:39-40)
- Carry out God's judgments (Acts 12:23, Rev 16:1)

What Do Angels Do?

To believers

- Generally minister (Heb 1:14)
- Provide physical protection and provision (1 Kings 19:5-7, Ps 91:11-13, Acts 5:19; 12:7-11)
- Assist in the revelation of God's Law (Acts 7:38,53)
- Assist in answers to prayer (Dan 9:20-27, Acts 12:5-10)
- Aid in getting the gospel message to the lost (Acts 8:26, 10:3)
- Encourage (Acts 27:23-24)
- Observe (1 Cor 4:9, 11:10, Eph 3:10, 1 Pet 1:12)
- Escort souls of believers to heaven (Luke 16:22)

The Claim

- **Jesus is much better than the angels (v4a)**

Five Reasons Why Jesus is Greater than Angels

1. Because Jesus inherited a more excellent name than that of angels (vv4b-5)

- Angels are ministers, messengers, and created servants of God (*given*)
- Only Jesus is given the name of God's Son
- Psalm 2:7 and 2 Samuel 7:14 both show that God has decreed Messiah as His Son

Five Reasons Why Jesus is Greater than Angels

2. Because Jesus is worshipped, even by the angels (v6)

- Psalm 97:7 shows that angels worship Jesus
- Jesus is the firstborn – the chief one in terms of position and authority

Five Reasons Why Jesus is Greater than Angels

3. Because the nature of Jesus transcends that of angels (vv7-9)

- Psalm 104:4 shows that angels were created for His purposes (v7)
- Psalm 45:6-7 shows that, by the Father's own declaration:
 - Jesus is God and is King forever (v8a)
 - Jesus rules in righteousness, which He loves (vv8b-9a)
 - Jesus has been anointed by God above angels (v9b)

Five Reasons Why Jesus is Greater than Angels

4. Because Jesus is eternal, unlike all things created (vv10-12)

- Psalm 102:25-27 shows that:
 - Jesus, as Creator, is eternal
 - Jesus, unlike the earth and heavens, will never change

Five Reasons Why Jesus is Greater than Angels

5. Because Jesus has a greater destiny (vv13-14)

- Psalm 110:1 shows that the destiny of Jesus is to reign forever over all (v13)
- The destiny of angels is to render service on behalf of the heirs of salvation (v14)

Observations & Application

- In chapter 1 we have seen Christ's divine names, divine works, divine worth, and divine attributes
- Christ is greater than all things, including angels
- Do the declarations of your heart match those of God concerning His Son?
- Praise the Lord for such an amazing Savior!