

DISCUSSION IDEAS
WHO HAS CREDENTIALS LIKE JESUS?

Hebrews 1:1-4

Jan. 4th, 2015

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♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: WHO DO I LISTEN TO? WHO SHAPES MY VALUES?**

Whether or not you have read any of the philosophers or writers whom Paul mentioned on Sunday, these are people who have deeply influenced the world we live in.

How do their ideas get put in your mind? List a few sources, like teachers, TV, movies, friends who or what else?

What about some well known TV preachers and motivational speakers?

What about Joyce Meyer, or Ken Copeland? Do you really know what these teachers believe about Jesus, or about his Word? (You might be greatly surprised.)

So who can we trust?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT JESUS' CREDENTIALS REALLY ARE?**

Read through Heb. 1:1-4.

Verse 1: What does this verse state about God's revelation of Himself?

- Think about the "many times", or "many stages". What are some of the different points in biblical history where God revealed a new bit of information?
- What are some of the "different ways" that God used to reveal Himself and His Truth?
- By what messengers did God send this information in the times before Jesus?

Verse 2: How different is the new means of God's revelation of Himself?

- God has now revealed Himself through a SON (His Son). What quality and credibility is given to the messenger?
- What do we know about Who Jesus really is from the second part of this verse?
- What term here shows Jesus' superiority to other messengers?

Verse 3 (first part): What is revealed here about Who Jesus really is?

- Compare John 1:1-3.
- How does this verse relate to Genesis 1:1?
- How does Colossians 1:17 relate?
- Think about the POWER Jesus has. What would happen if He just let go and stopped "upholding" the whole universe?
- What does all this say about His Deity?

Verse 3 (second part): Jesus' task.

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- What is significant about stating that "He sat down"?
- What is significant about sitting down at the right hand of the Majesty on high?

Verse 4: Jesus' NAME.

- Jesus' NAME shows His superiority to angels. Who are the angels? Who were they created to serve?

There are a lot of false ideas which people believe about angels. What is the problem with undue emphasis on them?

- What is this superior name? Look at Phil. 1:9-11. Remember when we studied this previously?

To quote from that message¹:

"Though before the incarnation Jesus was fully divine, He did not possess this name until the Father bestowed it upon Him following His death, burial and resurrection.

"What is this name and its significance?

"First, it is not the name "Jesus". Jesus received this name from Joseph (as directed by an angel, Matt. 1:21). "...at the name of Jesus..." in verse 10 refers not to the name "Jesus", but to the name that Jesus possesses; that is, the name that is above every name.

"The second observation is that this name is *the name* that is above every name. Do we have any clue as to what name is *the name* that is above every name? Actually, we do. For a Jew, such as the Apostle Paul, the name that is above every name is God the Father's personal name, YAHWEH.

"The name that is above every name is God the Father's personal name, YAHWEH."

♦ REFLECTION:

How does all the above clearly show that Jesus is THE SUPREME person to listen to?

The Jews put a high credibility on prophets and on angels. Who do you trust as a source of Truth?

We are immersed in the world and are bombarded by a godless world view. How can we counter this?

By what standard can we evaluate everything that we hear or see?

How does WHO Jesus really is relate to our trust in the Bible?

¹ 2012-12-30 The Name That is Above Every Name_manuscript