

The Superior Spokesman His Divinity & His Humanity (Heb. 1-2)

Introduction

In beginning his attempt to persuade Jewish Christians to remain faithful to Jesus Christ and His doctrine, the author must establish Jesus Christ Himself. He must be shown worthy enough to be followed and not abandoned. Such proof will be more than sufficient to persuade any Christian to remain faithful to the Lord and not fall away (cp. Acts 11:23). Saints must hold fast to and stand upon His word to avoid vain faith that leads to apostasy (cp. 1 Cor. 15:1-2). Thus, the identity of the Christ is the theme of the opening 2 chapters of this epistle.

Heb. 1 discusses the deity of the Christ, while the majority of Heb. 2 presents His humanity.

The Divinity Of Christ (Heb. 1:1 - 2:4)

1. What is the basic sentence of 1:1-2a? [*Identify only the main subject & main verb*] List some of the different ways in which God has spoken in the past?
2. What "days" are spoken of in 1:2a? Find other passages that mention this Biblical time period and how they help us identify when it is. Thought question: why would it be so important for us to know precisely when this time period takes place?
3. Besides being God's final "Spokesman," how else is Christ depicted in 1:2b-3?
4. To whom is Christ compared in 1:4? Thought question: why would this be significant to those to whom this epistle was initially addressed? (cp. Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2)

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Lesson 2

5. Beginning at **1:5**, the writer cites 7 passages from the O.T. to further prove Christ's superiority. *[Of these 7, 6 are from the Psalms (5 direct & 1 indirect quotation)].* In the spaces provided below, write the passage the author cites and how he uses it to prove Christ's superiority.

v. 5a _____

v. 5b _____

v. 6 _____

v. 7 _____

vv. 8-9 _____

vv. 10-12 _____

v. 13 _____

6. What does the author further teach about angels in **1:14**? In what ways do angels "serve" those who will inherit salvation? Be able to supply Biblical support for your answer(s).
7. Given that Christ is superior to angels, what is our obligation today? **(2:1a)** What will happen if we do not "give the more earnest heed" to what the Lord says? **(2:1b)** What obvious truth is implied in **2:1b** that most of the religious world denies?
8. How "sure" or "steadfast" is God's word depicted in **2:2-3a**? What do you think it means to "neglect" this salvation offered through the word of God? (cp. Mt. 22:5)
9. How has God's word spoken through His Son been confirmed? **(2:3b-4)** *Thought question:* be able to factor in Lk. 10:16 into this "confirmation process" mentioned here in Heb. 2:3b-4.

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Lesson 2

The Humanity Of Christ (*Heb. 2:5-18*)

[Heb. 2:5-8 can be tricky and open to many interpretations. Please read & re-read this section before answering these questions.]

10. Who do you think is the "man" under discussion in these verses? From where does the author quote, and what is the point he is attempting to make with this quotation?

11. Be able to explain the last phrase in 2:8.

12. Who is the "Him" referenced beginning in 2:9? By use of the contrasting "But," what do you think is the author's point? How has this Man been crowned with glory and honor?

13. Based on 2:10, what was the mission of Jesus? What term is used to describe Jesus in 2:10b, and why would such a term be appropriate in this discussion?

14. In 2:11-13, what connection does the author make between "the Man" Jesus and those He sanctifies? How does this "Man" view those who He sanctifies? From what O.T. passages does the author quote?

15. What do we have in common with this "Man" in 2:14-15? What 2 reasons are given for the death of Jesus Christ? Be able to explain just how serious a condition humanity was facing, citing other Biblical passages for support.

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16. Thought question: in what sense was Jesus able to “destroy” or “render powerless” the devil?

17. “Therefore” (2:17a), to accomplish these purposes, what did this “Man” have to undergo? On the basis of this, what did that make Him? (2:17b) Be able to define “propitiation.”

18. What kind of “high priest” is Jesus? (2:18; cp. 4:15-16) What is He able to do based on what He had to endure?