

THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S SON

Introduction

- 1) Our God is a **great God** (Psa. 104:1; 145:3-6; 147:5!)
 - a) God is above all and greater than all (child's prayer: "*God is great, God is good...*")
- 2) All that characterizes God is great, and all that proceeds from Him is great (Psa. 71:19)
 - a) This greatness extends to all the Godhead – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- 3) This lesson will consider the greatness of God's Son (Lk. 1:30-33)
- 4) One passage that clearly describes the greatness of God's son is **Hebrews 1:1-4**
 - a) Sets the theme for the entire book of Hebrews – *superiority of Jesus, the Son of God*

ASPECTS OF THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S SON:

I) **God has Spoken to Us by His Son (vv. 1-2)**

- A) God spoke at various times and in different ways in time past (Patriarchal and Mosaic ages)
- B) Now in these last days God has spoken to us by His Son (fulfilled prophecy Deut. 18:18-19)
 - 1) Contrast of **time**: *in time past – these last days*
 - 2) Contrast of **manner**: *at various times/in different ways – by His Son*
 - 3) Contrast of **spokesmen**: *the prophets – His Son*
- C) The Son is superior as God's prophet of divine revelation today (Jn. 12:48-50; 16:13-15)

II) **Appointed Heir of All Things (v. 2)**

- A) "Heir" = one who obtains a lot or portion, especially of an inheritance (Vine)
- B) Christ is heir of *all* things (Col. 1:16; Psa. 2:8; Matt. 28:18; 1 Cor. 15:27; Acts 10:36)

III) **Through Whom Also He Made the Worlds (v. 2)**

- A) "Worlds" (lit. "ages") – material universe of space and time (Heb. 11:3; Jn. 1:1-3)
- B) All things owe their existence to God and His Son (1 Cor. 8:6)

IV) **The Brightness of His Glory (v. 3)**

- A) The Son is the radiance and shining forth of God's glory (Jn. 1:14; Matt. 17:2; Rev. 1:16)

V) **The Express Image of His Person (v. 3)** ["Exact representation of His nature" (NASV)]

- A) "Image" (Gk. *charakter*) – stamp, die, seal, impression – an exact likeness in *every* way
- B) Indisputable language confirming the deity of Christ, the Son
 - 1) Compare "image" (Gk. *eikon*) in Colossians 1:15 – likeness, representation, picture (icon)

VI) **Upholding All Things by the Word of His Power (v. 3)**

- A) Worlds framed by the Word (Heb. 11:3), and upheld (borne, carried) by the Word
- B) In Him all things "consist" (lit. "stand together"; Col. 1:17 – order, precision; Acts 17:25)

VII) **Purged Our Sins (v. 3)**

- A) Work of Christ as High Priest on behalf of sinful man – redemption by a cleansing from sin!
- B) Major theme of Hebrews and new covenant – superior sacrifice and blood (9:11-14; 1 Jn. 1:7)

VIII) **Sat Down at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High (v. 3)**

- A) Dignity, honor, exaltation, authority of a King (Psa. 110:1-2; Acts 2:34-35; Heb. 8:1)
- B) An OT priest "stands" daily offering sacrifices; Jesus "sat" after one offering (Heb. 10:11-12)

IX) **Better than the Angels...Obtained a More Excellent Name than They (vv. 4, 5-14)**

- A) "Better" used 13x in Hebrews; superiority of Son in name, rank, and message (Eph. 1:20-21)

Conclusion

We see Jesus, the Son of God, as the superior **Prophet, Priest, and King** – the divine Heir and glorious Creator. All hail the power and majesty of Jesus' name! Have you obeyed Him today?