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## **The Uniqueness of Jesus Hebrews 2**

In Hebrews 1, the Holy Spirit clearly identifies Jesus as divine — He is the Son of God (1.5), which makes Him God, Himself (1.8). And if that was all that was written, truly that would be enough to recognize Jesus as unique in this world. But continuing on, the Holy Spirit emphasizes another distinct quality of the Divine Son of God in chapter 2 — His humanity.

Once again, the Holy Spirit draws a contrast between the things of Moses and the things of Jesus (remember: the immediate audience for this letter were Christians who were seriously considering a return to the Old Covenant). While the Law of Moses addressed and punished sin (2.2; cf. Galatians 3.19), a greater salvation is available through Jesus the Lord (Hebrews 2.3), a salvation vouched by the miracles which were wrought both by Jesus and the apostles. While Moses up the mountain to receive a message from God through the mediation of angels, then came down the mountain to deliver that message to the people of Israel,

things with Jesus were different. The Son (1.8), the Lord (2.3), came in flesh (2.14) and shared the message of salvation (2.3). And it was to this greater salvation and greater mediator that the Holy Spirit was calling His audience — and still is calling today.

Jesus' entry into the world in flesh was not simply to share a message. Greater still than Moses, Jesus came to die (2.9) and thus secure the salvation (2.10-11) revealed in His Gospel. The salvation which is offered through Jesus is absolute. Through His death, Jesus stripped Satan of his power (2.14), thus delivering hope and freedom to those of us who have sinned.

And, lest anyone should question whether or not Jesus acted for them, the Holy Spirit answers in no uncertain terms — Jesus "does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the seed of Abraham" (2.16). Affirming the universal scope of the offer of salvation in Jesus Christ while still keeping in mind his original audience, the author of Hebrews skillfully points out the uniqueness of Jesus and what that means for all people. -TS

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