**Jesus, Our Great High Priest**

**Hebrews: Hearing and Obeying God’s Son**

**Hebrews 1:1-4**

**Why follow Jesus?**

The first paragraph of Hebrews explodes with truth about Jesus. God has been speaking in various ways through the prophets (*i. e.*, in the Tanakh, The Bible Jesus Read), but it is a new day, the latter days, and things have changed. Here’s how. . .

* + God now has spoken through His Son.
  + God’s Son has inherited all things.
  + God’s Son made all things.
  + God’s Son is the essence of God’s glory.
  + God’s Son precisely mirrors God’s image
  + God’s Son’s word holds together the entire cosmos.
  + God’s Son purged (cleansed, wiped away) sins.
  + God’s Son is now seated at God’s right hand.
  + God’s Son has proven Himself far superior to all of the angels.
  + God’s Son has a reputation (name) far more excellent than angels.

Let’s take these one at a time, and ask ourselves some questions. . .

*1. God now has spoken through Jesus*. (v. 2)

Jesus is God’s most intimate Messenger, His last word. Why would we look for another messenger? Matt. 3:16, 17; 17:1-8

*2. Jesus has earned the right to inherit all things.*

ALL THINGS. Why would we look to anyone higher than the owner of all creation? Psalm 2:8; Matthew 28:18; Phil. 2

*3. The pre-incarnate Son, Jesus created all things.*

ALL THINGS. Why would we look for someone wiser than the One who created us? John 1:3; Colossians 1:16

*4. Jesus radiates the very glory (shekinah) of God.*

He is the very essence of God’s glory. Why would we look for someone more glorious (famous, influential)? John 1:14

*5. Jesus precisely mirrors all that God is (His attributes).*

Jesus IS God, so to see the Son is to see the Father. John 1:1, 2; 14:8-11. Why would we look for God anywhere else?

*6. Jesus holds creation together by the power of His word.*

All is under His control, down to subatomic particles. Why would we look elsewhere for power? Colossians 1:17

*7. Jesus paid for our sins. All of them.*

Only He has the power and right to forgive. Why would we trust in our own righteousness? John 1:7; Revelation 7:14

*8. Jesus and His work were fully ratified and accepted by God.*

He resides in the place of cosmic authority. Why would we ask for a more influential teacher? Mark 16:19; Rom. 8:34

*9. Jesus (given all the above) is far greater than all heavenly beings.*

For a while lower than the angels, He is exalted above them. Why would we desire a lesser being? Psalm 8:5, 6

*10. Jesus is worthy of all honor and worship.*

God has given Him the name. Why would we look elsewhere for someone to worship? Acts 7:53; Gal.

3:19; Phil. 2:9-11.