

Book of Hebrews
Adult Sunday School Class
Faith Baptist Church 2010-2011

Lesson 1: Hebrews 1:1-4

I. God has spoken to us (vs. 1, 2)

1. In the past, how did God speak and to whom? (Psalm 68:11; John 5:39; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21)

How did He speak to Moses? (Exodus 33:11)

2. How did He speak in these last days; and to whom? (See John 1:1)

Jesus Christ is God's final Word.

Think carefully through the following questions in order to get at the question of how God communicates with man.

What do John 8:28 and 12:50 tell us about what Jesus said and the source of His words? What do John 14:26; John 15:26 and John 16:13 tell us about what the Holy Spirit says? And finally, what is the source of the written Word?
2 Peter 1:21

Notice what Jesus says about His words in John 6:63.

3. Consider some responses to the Word. (Exodus 20:21; Isaiah 66:2; James 1:22; Jeremiah 15:16)
4. Describe the role of the Word in Salvation. I Corinthians 15:2; James 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:15

II. Description of the Son (vs. 2-4)

1. He was appointed heir of all things. (See also Ephesians 1:18; Colossians 1:15-17)
2. Through whom He made the worlds. (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16)
3. Brightness of His glory (See again Colossians 1:15-17)
4. Express image of His person (He is the impress of his substance).
What did Jesus say? (John 14:9)
5. Upholding all things by His powerful word. (Colossians 1:17)
6. Purged our sins by Himself. Purged is *catharsis*: cleansed or purified
(We'll study this more thoroughly later in the book.)

7. Sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. What does this position signify?
(See also Psalm 110:1; Matthew 22:44; Ephesians 1:20, 21; Hebrews 10:13)

8. Much better than the angels. Why? (vs. 4)
By what means did He have a more excellent name than they?

Digging Deeper

This section of each lesson will ask questions that will challenge you to dig deeper into the text as well as compare Scripture with Scripture to discern some insights that are not right out on the surface.

- Do a study of acceptable and unacceptable responses to the Word in Scripture.
- Make a list of metaphors used in Scripture to describe the Word. For example, the Word is a lamp; the Word is a hammer.
- Study the power of the Word or the Gospel. What is the Word capable of? What does it mean that His Word will not return void?
- I'm intrigued by the fact that Jesus and the Holy Spirit only spoke what they received of the Father. Try to write this out in a paragraph to explain it to a young person or a new Christian. What does it say about the God-head to realize that neither Christ nor the Holy Spirit speak their own Words but only what they received from God the Father?
- Study the concept of the fact that Christ is at the right hand of God the Father. What does that position entail and what are the implications of the phrase "until He makes your enemies your footstool"?

Prompts to Initiate Meditation

This section of each lesson will contain statements and questions that are not so much to be answered directly but rather to stimulate thoughtful meditation.

- Think about your reaction to the fact that the God who made the universe has spoken. Think about your response to that word. Are you more like the Israelites or like Moses?
- Think about how great He is, how small you are and what an awesome and amazing privilege it is to hear from God through His Word.
- If Christ is the heir of all things, consider the fact that you are part of His inheritance, and He is pleased with what He has received.
- Think through the idea that it is the word of Christ that holds all of the universe together. It is an active holding. And what happens when he stops holding it together?
- Think about what God must be like if Christ is the exact representation of His person.
- Consider the fact that every one of your sins have been purged if you are in Christ.
- God has invested everything in "The Word", both spoken and written, rather than in the visual. Think through the implications of this in your life with respect to how much time you invest in listening and reading the Word compared to other forms of media.