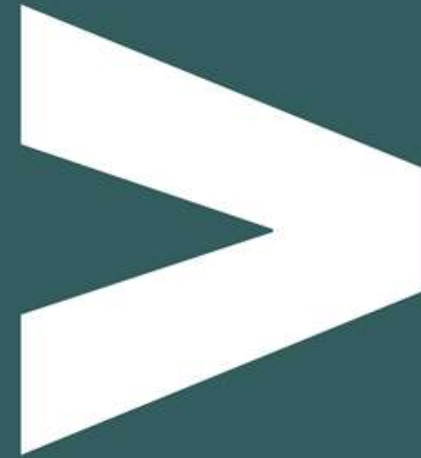


# **GREATER THAN THE ANGELS**

Hebrews 1:4-14



# WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT ANGELS

- Render worship & special service to God
- Spectators & participants in God's mighty works
- More powerful than men
- Superior to fallen man
- Bring messages to men
- Rejoice when sinners are saved
- Assist in answering prayer
- Can't procreate, but are created beings
- Fight forces of evil
- Patrol the earth
- Deliver men from danger
- Give guidance
- Provide encouragement

- Bring punishment
- Look after children
- Can be entertained unknowingly
- Ministered to Christ
- Can move with incredible speed
- Can fly
- Myriads upon myriads in number
- Divided into ranks
- Are named: Michael, Gabriel
- Often imitated by Satan
- Will offer continual praise in heaven

# HEBREWS 2:2

- *“For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable ...”* (ESV)
- *“For if the message spoken by angels was binding ...”* (NIV)

*“Bebaios”*—firm, guaranteed binding

# HEBREWS 1:4-7

*“Having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you?’ Or again, ‘I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son?’ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’ Of the angels he says, ‘He makes his angels winds, and his ministers ...’”*

# HEBREWS 1:7-11

*“‘a flame of fire.’ But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’ And, ‘You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you ...’”*

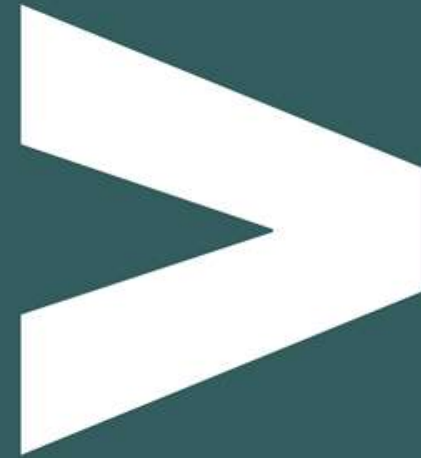
# HEBREWS 1:11-14

*“remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.’ And to which of the angels has he ever said, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?’ Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?”*

(ESV)

# **GREATER IN TITLE**

Jesus has inherited a more  
excellent name





# ARGUMENT #1

- The angels are created servants, but the uncreated Christ came to earth as the supreme servant and by so doing, became Son. Because of this, he obtained a far more excellent name.

# O.T. QUOTATIONS

*“I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me,  
‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you.’”*

(Ps 2:7, ESV)

*I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a  
son.”*

(2 Sam 7:14, ESV)

# HEBREWS 1:5

*“For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you?’”*

(ESV)

# LUKE 3:22

*“The heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.’”*

(ESV)

# ROMANS 1:3-4

*“Concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness ...”* (ESV)

# PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

*“Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth ... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”* (ESV)

# FULLY DIVINE, FULLY HUMAN

HEBREWS 

*“But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.’”*

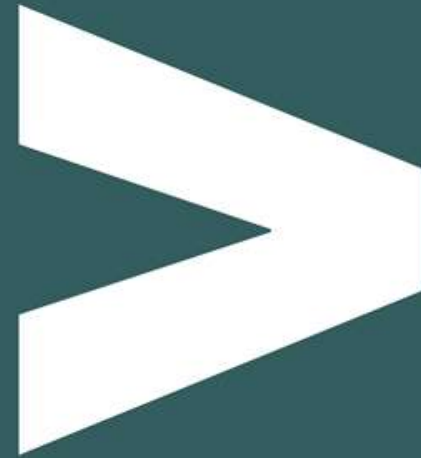
(Heb 1:8, ESV)

*“You are my Son, today I have begotten you.”*

(Heb 1:3, ESV)

# **GREATER IN WORSHIP**

*“Let all God’s angels  
worship him.” (6)*





# ARGUMENT #2

- If angels worship Jesus, Jesus must be greater. It is an absolute sin and violation of God's law to worship anyone but God. If God says angels are to worship the Son, then the Son must be God.

# SOME ANGEL VISITS

- Abraham/Sarah (Genesis 15-16)
- Moses (Numbers 21:34; Deuteronomy 3:2)
- Joshua (Joshua 8:1)
- Jeremiah (Lamentations 3:57)
- Daniel (Daniel 10:12)
- Zechariah (Luke 1:13)
- Mary (Luke 1:30)
- Shepherds (Luke 2:10)
- Peter (Acts 27:23)
- John (Revelation 1:17)

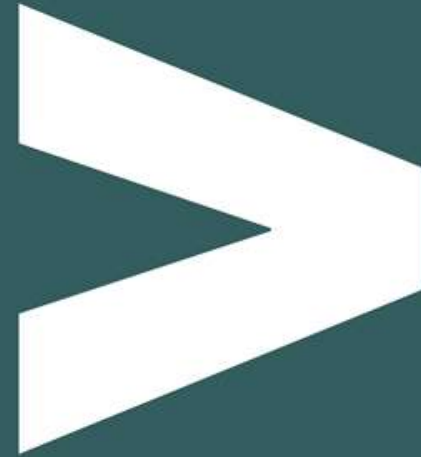
# REVELATION 22:8-9

*“I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel ... but he said to me, ‘You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.’”*

(ESV)

# **GREATER IN NATURE**

Jesus acts in righteousness and  
loves righteousness



# ARGUMENT #3

- Jesus will rule forever with the scepter of righteousness.

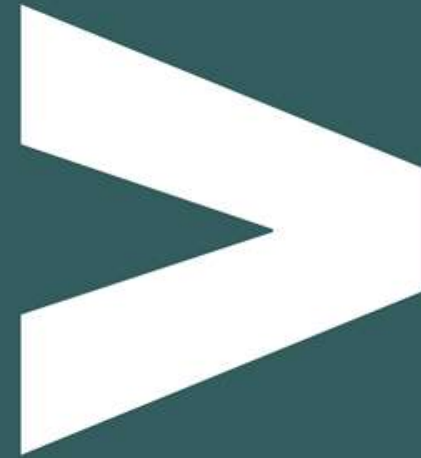
# HEBREWS 1:8-9

*“But of the Son [Jesus] he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God [Jesus], your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’”*

(ESV)

# **GREATER IN EXISTENCE**

Jesus existed  
before all things



# ARGUMENT #4

- Jesus Christ is superior to the angels because he existed eternally. Jesus created the heavens and the earth and the angels. That fact makes him superior.



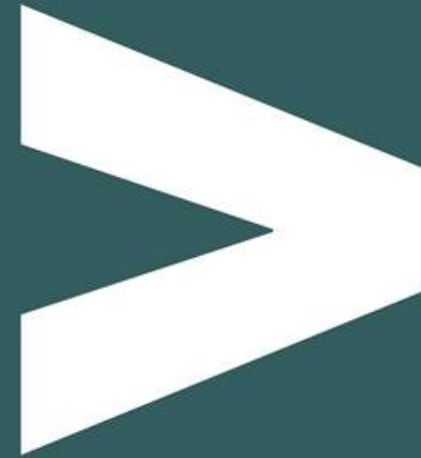
# HEBREWS 1:10-12

*“And, ‘You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.’”*

(ESV)

# GREATER IN POSITION

*“To which of the angels has he ever said, ‘Sit at my right hand?’” (13)*



# ARGUMENT #5

- No angel has ever been promised a place at God's right hand—only Jesus Christ.

# PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11

*“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

(ESV)

# HEBREWS 1:14

*“Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?”*

(ESV)

# WHAT ARE YOU RUNNING BACK TO?

- The familiar?
- The comfortable?
- The commonly accepted?
- The popular?
- The convenient?
- The established?

# **GREATER THAN THE ANGELS**

We often trade Jesus Christ for something worth far less.

