



Lesson 14

Title: Christ is Superior to the Angels (Part 6)

Scripture: Hebrews 2:17-18

Not for Lazy Disciples (See Hebrews 6:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:15)

Jesus the Christ Is Superior Over the Angels

Why Was Christ Made Lower than Angels?

- Christ became man so that for us He might become . . .
 - ① OUR SUBSTITUTE (Hebrews 2:9)
 - ② OUR CAPTAIN and AUTHOR of OUR salvation. (2:10)
 - ③ OUR SANCTIFIER (2:11-13)
 - ④ OUR CONQUEROR (2:14)
 - ⑤ Our RESCUER (2:15-16)

Two More Accomplishments (2:17)

- ⑥ OUR merciful and faithful HIGH PRIEST (2:17)
- ⑦ OUR PROPITIATOR (2:17)

THEREFORE . . . (2:17)

- This word takes us back to the Holy Spirit's arguments that started in 1:4 as He set out to prove Christ's superiority over angels!
- In order to **accomplish** all of these things Christ **had to made like His brethren . . .**
- If Christ was going to REDEEM His people He **had** to be made like His brethren!
- **BEWARE:** The word "all" is not universal! NEVER do we interpret the Bible by what one verse says. **BUT** we **ALWAYS** interpret a verse by what the whole Bible says! This "all" is **qualified** by verses such as Hebrews 4:15.

The High Priest

- The INTERCESSOR for God's people.
- He entered the Holy of Holies for God's people and only God's people.
- The names of HIS people were on his shoulders. Exodus 39:4, 6, 7.
 - A picture of "carrying" his people before their God.
 - A shoulder was a picture of power and responsibility.
 - Consider: Isaiah 9:6; Luke 15:4-5
- The names of HIS people were on his breastplate (over his heart). Exodus 28:15ff.
 - The breastplate was a picture of a place of love, compassion and nurturing.
 - The breastplate was called the "breastplate of judgment" because it held the Urim and Thummin – stones of judgment. God has commit judgment to Christ.
- **The names of HIS people on his shoulders and breastplate pictured Christ and His people as ONE.**
- The HIGH PRIEST could make intercession for his people because he was appointed or ordained by God to do so. No other priest could enter the Holy of Holies.
- The HIGH PRIEST was God's appointed MEDIATOR between Himself and man.

Christ: Our Merciful and Faithful High Priest (2:17)

- The Son of God became the Son of Man in order to become our High Priest.
 - Only the Son of God could fulfill this position:
 - ① Because of the great disparity between God and man.
 - God lives in inapproachable light, glory and majesty while man lives in dust and ashes. (1 Timothy 6:16)
 - ② Because the nature of God is so different from the nature of man. God is pure and holy. Man is not pure and polluted with sin.
 - ③ Because God and man are enemies.
- ONLY JESUS CHRIST THE GOD-MAN CAN BE THE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN.** (1 Timothy 2:5, 6)
- He is MERCIFUL towards man and FAITHFUL towards God!
 - His mercy does not compromise God's truths.

Our Propitiator (2:17) (see Romans 3:25; 1 John 2:2; 4:10)

- “propitiation” – NOT “reconciliation”.
 - Reconciliation is one of the effects or fruit of propitiation.
 - Reconciliation is between God and us.
 - **Propitiation is solely Godward.**
- Propitiation is appeasing of God’s holy anger and righteous wrath.
- Reconciliation is the entering into peace with God. (Romans 5:1)
- **Was God unjust in pouring out His wrath on to an innocent person?**
 - Consider Psalm 69:5; 40:12 – then Romans 8:32!
- Because Christ is OUR Head He was held responsible for His body’s sinful acts! Just as condemnation came upon us because of Adam’s one offense! (Romans 5:18)
- BECAUSE Christ was ONE WITH US (by become like us in all things) our sins became His sins and God did not spare even His own son!
- **Christ came to PROPITIATE the holy wrath and anger of GOD in my place!**

Before the Throne of God Above We Have a Strong High Priest

3