

## WHAT IS THE INCARNATE SON OF GOD THEREFORE? - Heb 1-4, Part 1

### INTRODUCTION

1. The ambiguous title: who is Jesus & what is He doing?

#### 1st: Two Defining Points of Reference

1. Heb 1:1-2 Incarnation is divine speech seen/heard *in these last days*
2. Creation: Heb assumes structure of redemptive history [creation, fall, redemption & consummation]. The incarnate & resurrected Son of God connects creation w/ consummation.
3. OT: assumption: readers know OT history & esp'ly cultus [temple, sacs]: NCov is *better* than OCov.
4. We embrace Bibl'al meta-narrative; panoramic perspective of reality
  - i. D.A.Carson, *The Gagging of God* [1996]. PostMod pluralism wh/ opposes idea that history has a goal [eschatology]. Carson on Hebs.
  - ii. Hebs' structure: instruction, warnings, appeals to persevere.

#### 2nd: Who Is The Incarnate Son of God?

1. "Therefore" [2:14,17; 3:1,7,10; 4:1,6,11,14,16]: why these applies?
2. Chpt 1 intro's Son of God as better than angels
  - i. v3-4 Jesus: Creator, Redeemer - enthroned: *better name*: YHWH
  - ii. v5 Son of God [Ps 2:7] & Son of David [2S 7:14]: divine Messiah
  - iii. v6 - At incarnation angels worshiped [Ps 97:7 - angels chorus in Lk 2]
  - iv. Jesus *better* than angels - v7-12 [Ps 104:4; Ps 45:6-7; Ps 102].
  - v. v13-14 - reiterates creaturely service of angels citing Ps 110 again.

#### 3rd: What is The Incarnate Son of God There For?

1. Jesus in *better than the angels*. 2:1-5 Role at Sinai/giving Law [Dt 33:2; A 7:38,53]. Jewish tradition replete w/ speculation re: angels.
2. 2:1-5 = warning: v1 *pay attention & do not drift way*. Complacent drift

#### For 2nd time: Who Is The Incarnate Son of God?

1. 2:5-8 Jesus compared w/ Adam [Ps 8] in new creation: better.

2. While living in original creation, we have better salvation than in OCov, but do not yet see the consummated state of glory.

#### For 3rd time: Who Is The Incarnate Son of God?

1. 2:9-13 our suffering & resurrected Redeemer. 1st use of *Jesus*
  - i. *for a little while* - Ps 8 [in v7] - *suffering* then *glory*
  - ii. Why? to *taste death for everyone* - context: His *congregation, sons, brethren, children*.
2. v10-11a profiles *Father's* will - mission of incarnate Son *was fitting to bring many sons to glory* - thru His *perfect* obedience - entailed *suffering*.
  - i. Jesus is not ashamed of us - *His brethren* [Ps 22:22; Isa 8:17-18]
  - ii. We are united to Jesus: *gladness above His companions* - us!

#### For 3rd time: What Is The Incarnate Son of God There For?

1. v10-16 to rescue children given to Him: Son *shares* our humanity. Why? To die. What results?
  - i. destroy works of devil [1Jn 3:8; Gn 3:15] How did Satan have *the power of death*? 1C 15:57 - as legal adversary: accuse, indict: wrath. Jesus bears wrath in our place. The adversary has no case.
  - ii. free slaves - *had & were* = past: Jesus accomplished His mission: [Col 1:13-14; A 26:18; 2T 2:26]. We are liberated from guilt, sin, death. No longer slaves due to *fear of death* - no more deception.
2. v16 Jesus not rescue fallen angels whose rebellion is met w/ unmediated justice. God's grace give to *the seed of Abraham* [Gal 3:29]. Isa 41:8-10

#### For 4th time: What Is The Incarnate Son of God There For?

1. Heb 2:17-18 Jesus: *High priest* - *make propitiation for sins*: blood of Lamb of God, our Passover.
2. Jesus overcame more temptation than we realize & can help us to overcome when we are tempted.

#### Final Question this AM: Therefore, Who Is The Incarnate Son of God?

1. Heb 3:1 - *Jesus - Apostle - High Priest* - identity & mission
2. Jesus: the incarnate Son of God - come to rescue us!

3. Therefore - *consider* Jesus - know Him as He is revealed in Scripture & receive Him by faith: be embraced by His love as His *holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling*. AMEN.