FALL QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016
THEME: GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY SEEN PROPHETICALLY
UNIT TWO – THE SOVEREIGNTY OF JESUS CHRIST…

“JESUS CHRIST IS THE SUPERIOR IMAGE OF THE TRUE GOD
IN FLESH”

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Hebrews 1:1-14
Required Reading: Hebrews 1-14; Colossians 1:14-21
Motto Text: Hebrews 1:1-3, “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds: Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

Reliable Resources: Standard Lesson Commentary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Logos Electronic Bible Software; Hebrews by Dr. H. A. Ironside; Thomas Nelson Bible Notes

INTRODUCTION
According to the introductory notes to the book of Hebrews by Thomas Nelson Publishers, the following thoughts help us to appreciate the epistle to the Hebrews: “Many Jewish believers, having stepped out of Judaism into Christianity, want to reverse their course in order to escape persecution by their countrymen. The writer of Hebrews exhorts them to (go on unto perfection) 6:1. His appeal is based on the superiority of Christ over the Judaic system. Christ is better than the angels, for they worship Him. He is better than Moses, for He created Him. He is better than the Aaronic priesthood, for His sacrifice was once for all time. He is better than the law, for He mediates a better covenant. In short, there is more to be gained in Christ than to be lost in Judaism. Pressing on in Christ produces tested faith, self-discipline, and a visible love seen in good works.” Now let us examine the lesson entitled “Jesus Christ is the Superior Image of the True God in Flesh.”

Anticipated Power Points are:
- Jesus Christ as the Superior to any Previous Presenter. Hebrews 1:1-2a
- Jesus Christ as the Superior to any Previous Portrait of God. Hebrews 1:2b-3
- Jesus Christ as the Superior to the Angelic realm. Hebrews 1:4-8
- Jesus Christ as the Superior to all Sacrifices. Hebrews 1:9
- Jesus Christ as the Superior Above All Throughout Eternity. Hebrews 1:10-14

LESSON OUTLINE

Jesus Christ, as the Superior Image of God in Flesh:

I. Jesus Christ as the Superior to any Previous Presenter. Hebrews 1:1-2a
   A. The everlasting God introduces the readers to Jesus Christ His Son as we open the epistle. He is the image of the invisible God! vs. 1a
   B. Jesus is the expression of God personified. He supersedes all means and measures the Father used to communicate His message to fallen mankind. In the past, God spoke through mankind, angels, animals, dreams, visions, etc. But in the days since the revealing of Jesus Christ, He has chosen to express His message through Him!

II. Jesus Christ as the Superior to any Previous Portrait of God. Hebrews 1:2b-3
   Jesus Christ as the image of God in flesh:
   “And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.” Colossians 1:17
   1. Christ is God’s Visible Co-regent. “heir of all things.”
   2. Christ is God’s Viable Creator. “made the worlds.”
   3. Christ is God’s Vivid Clearness. “brightness of his glory.”
4. Christ is God’s Very Character. “image of His person.”
5. Christ is God’s Valuable Controller. “upholds all things.”
6. Christ is God’s Voluntary Cleanser. “purged our sins.”
7. Christ is God’s Victorious Completer. “sat down on the right hand of Majesty.”

III. Jesus Christ as the Superior to the Angelic Realm. Hebrews 1:4-8
A. His mysterious creation. vs. 4-5. 1 Timothy 3:16, “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

B. His mysterious appointment. vs. 6. Psalm 2:5-12, “Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.”

C. His mysterious majesty. vs. 7-8. Revelation 5:11-14, “And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.”

IV. Jesus Christ as the Superior to all Sacrifices. Hebrews 1:9
Beloved, as one reads the epistle, it is evident that the blood of any other creature cannot compare with the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 9:24 – 10:10, “For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

V. Jesus Christ as the Superior Above all Throughout Eternity. Hebrews 1:10-14
Jesus Christ is the person that created all things in the universe and He, in the context of the lesson, has been offered a seat at the right hand of the Father! (Read Colossians 1:16-21). Jesus’ superiority dwarfs the presence and power of angels, principalities and powers of the universe forever!

Closing:
Beloved, thank God that Jesus Christ is the superior image of God in flesh, and if you are not saved and kept by Him, you are sadly perishing. Jesus said in John 14:9, “…he that hath seen me hath seen the Father…” I am standing on the promises of His word, and fully accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. He is superior to all and is God’s image clothed in flesh! “Angels bow before Him; heaven and earth adore Him. What a mighty God we serve!”

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TV Broadcast: WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.
Looking Ahead: October 9, 2016 Hebrews 3:1-6; Matthew 7:24-29
Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.