



Hebrews 1:5-2:4 – *God rules through His Son*



Having grown up near the water one of the many water sports I tried was windsurfing. It is a hard sport to master. It took me about 3 hours solid trying to get the knack of it. I pulled up the sale dropping over the other side for hours. I started at one end of Narrabeen Lake and ending up at the other end. This happens because you're concentrating so hard at sailing you forget where you are and you slowly drift.

Unlike what happened to the boat in the picture. It is a victim of a hurricane in America. It was ripped from where it was

tied up and ending up in someone's front yard.

This is what can happen in our relationship with God. We can drift away from Him. Sometimes it can happen in what seems like a hurricane but mostly it is through the slow drift away.

Hebrews recipients were struggling to persevere. The writer is encouraging them to persevere. Tells us so we might not give up the faith and gives us reasons why we should persevere.

1. Jesus is superior to angels

God said in the Old Testament that Jesus is greater than angels

Read: v.4

- **Why does he spend so much time talking about angels?**

What's the big deal with angels?

You wouldn't expect me to get up and give a sermon that had 3 points that were Jesus superior to 1. angels – 2. rabbits – 3. Lance Armstrong

Not the way we would begin. Need to look at the passage.

Read 2:2 This verse helps us understand why he talks about angels.

What they are not - wear white, float around. Curly hair and so on. Like a picture in any children's Bible.

What they are? Messengers. Not necessarily heavenly creatures. Could be the Prophets. 1:4 spiritual. Ch 2 Higher than humans. Spiritual heavenly creatures.

What's the message of the angels?

The Law - 1st 5 books of the Old Testament. Not just law but also history of Israel and promises. It is the collection of books known as the Law. God gave it to messengers and then to God's people.

Other parts of the Bible tells us this. Acts 7:38,53; Galatians 3:19

If the angels gave the law of course people would have naturally thought they were important and so the comparison. So the point of chapter one is 2:4

v.5 begins with FOR saying this is why.

4 reasons why Jesus is greater than angels.

The writer makes his point by quoting from the Old Testament. The writer and so should we consider the Old Testament God's Word as much as the New Testament.

1. The Son is God's Son

2 very important passages from the OT

5a – Psalm 2:7

5b – 2 Samuel 7:14

These are word are addressed to the King who ultimately is Jesus.

Many OT prophetic have a double meaning - an immediate meaning and a future.

These passages say a king will rule the universe. A King who lasts forever and rules forever. Jesus is God's eternal Son. He has always been the Son of God and always will be. BUT he was revealed to man as Son when he became a man.

Do you remember some of the privileges of being a child? Like when your mum was on the canteen at school. The day it was Fathers week at preschool. Great privilege in having the relationship.

Angels are not eternally God's Son.

2. The Son is to be worshipped

Jesus is called the firstborn because he exists before all creation and because all creation is his inheritance.

We are used to the idea that you worship Jesus. But this is a radical idea in the Bible.

Often when angels turned up people were terrified. It is no wonder God is about to speak to them. The angels say don't worship us.

The Son is to be worshipped. God commands his son to be worshipped. Not only to be worshipped by us but by these messengers.

3. The Son is the creator 7-12

Angels created and Son is creator.

7 – Ps 104:4 This psalm celebrates all God's creation which includes angels. Angels like winds and like fire that come and go.

The **SON IS GOD** we see in 1:8a.

He is eternal creator. He created everything.

Son is ruler who rules forever. That is why son is to be worshipped. It means his throne will last forever. His rule his kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom.

The United Nations are never united. They are always disagreeing. They go to war against each other.

Under this King all nations will be truly united. Everyone one day will acknowledge Jesus as King.

He created everything. The angels are just creatures but the Son created all things. And so the Son is so much greater.vv.10 12 Jehovah God's personal name. Jesus is that one. TO which of the angels to God ever say you are Jehovah.

4. The Son is enthroned by God

13 – Ps 110:1 Speaks about the hope of the future. The songs that speak of hope of future.

God gives Jesus the power and all authority. He is sitting at the right hand of God which is the position of power and authority. Not just a place of privilege.

If you give someone a **Power of attorney** it gives them the power over your stuff.

God gives the power of attorney to his Son. You sit at my right hand and my power and all my enemies will be down before you. To which of the angels did God say this. Even Satan is submissive to God.

The Son is superior to angels.

Many who are happy to have Jesus as more than a man but not God. You cannot do that if you believe the Bible.

What does it mean for us? What does it mean that the son is superior to angels?

2. We should listen to the message about Him.

Why?

There is a danger of drifting away from God's salvation in the Son

Read: 2:1-4

What is it that we have heard? We have heard the message given by the Son.

Announced - v.3 *by the Lord*. The message of Jesus was 1st given by him. Message of believe in Jesus and you will be saved.

Confirmed – Confirmed by those who first heard it. Eye and earwitnesses.

Testified to – v.4 God's testimony of authentic witness to it. The first preaching of the Gospel in Acts was confirmed as authentic by wonders and miraculous signs. They authenticated the role and founding message of the Apostles. There is no continuation of Apostles and the foundation has been laid.

Message of God's Son is the message of the Son not angels.

If the message of angels is binding what do you think is going to happen to you if you ignore the message of Jesus? How much more binding is the message of the Son?

What does it mean for the OT message to be Binding – no one got away with disobeying the law. God said if you obey you will be blessed and if you disobey you will be cursed. That is what happened. They disobeyed and they missed out on entering the land God had promised to them. Exactly as the law had said. Everything was binding. It held true. It was always kept to.

HOW WILL YOU ESCAPE IF YOU IGNORE THIS SALVATION? YOU WON'T.

Here is the message you shouldn't ignore.

There is not a different God in the OT. He is a God of punishment in the NT as well.

That is the danger and he gives the way to avoid it.

PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION to what you have heard.

Danger for us to drift away. Doesn't happen quickly in a flash. But slowly. That is our great danger.

What do you careful attention to in life? Your hair, your clothes, your money heaps of things. What about the road when you are driving? Easy to become complacent. I know how to drive I've been driving for years.

The USS Nimitz is the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier that bestowed its name on an entire class of ships. More than 5,000 sailors and marines and 85 aircraft on board. "Every day crews from various departments abandon their usual assignments and leave their typical tasks to participate in a curious ritual called an 'FOD walk.' FOD, an acronym for 'foreign object damage,' is anathema to the 85 aircraft that call *Nimitz* home. On an FOD walk, the crews walk every inch of the deck in three or four lines that stretch from one side of the ship to the other. With their heads down and their

eyes focused on the deck beneath them, they painstakingly search for an errant screw or a shred of metal because they know that a tiny sliver of metal can damage and ruin a multi-million dollar aircraft and even cost lives. They have been made painfully aware that carelessness can do what the most sophisticated enemy weapons can seldom accomplish: take the *Nimitz* and its flight deck out of commission. We need to vigilantly keep watch on the little things in our lives. In the same way that a screw or a piece of metal can cause a crash so ignoring what we might consider a small sin could cause us to drift from Jesus.

What does it mean to pay attention?

It is a message given by words so it means to **LISTEN**.

Jesus says in the parable of the sower that some:-

1. **Hear and reject.** Don't reject it. Often people reject not even knowing what it is. If you don't know what it is then find out.
2. **Give in because of persecutions.** You might fear this. Reality is you do.
3. Hear word receive with joy but **cares of the world** and temptations of wealth take the word away.

There many messages we hear and that we tell us ourselves. We need to pay careful attention to one message. The message about Jesus.

There is a danger for us to drift away by being distracted by things .
We must pay careful attention. This is how we avoid drifting away.