

Readings

Scripture

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

- Hebrews 1:1-4 (English Standard Version)

Reflection Questions

(Taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- During Advent we reflect upon many prophetic writings that God gave his people in various times and places. What is the author of Hebrews saying is different about how he has spoken by his Son?
- Look at the opening verses of Paul's letters. What is different about the beginning of Hebrews compared to Paul's letters?
- Compare Hebrews 13:22 "I appeal to you, brothers, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly" with Acts 13:15, 'After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it.'" What is the author of Hebrews calling what he wrote? What would we call that today if we heard or read it? Hint: look at what Paul does and says in Acts 13:16-41
- What are some other places in the New Testament where Jesus Christ is named as the Creator?
- Can you find any other places in the New Testament that tell us that Jesus reveals the Father?
- What comfort and encouragement is it to you that Jesus is all the things that he is declared to be in verses 1-4?
- What response should we have to these things?

Sermon Outline

The Only Son of God

Hebrews 1:1-4

What Child is This?

Stephen Baldwin

The joy of God the Father is that every living creature would know that Jesus Christ is his eternal, exalted Son.

The Son speaks a better word. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

He is...

- Creator of the world
- Heir of the world

The Son gives a clearer revelation. (Hebrews 1:3)

He is...

- The revealer of the Father
- The sustainer of the universe

The Son has a higher name. (Hebrews 1:4)

He is...

- The Redeemer
- The Exalted One
