**Lesson 1 Hebrews 1:1-14**



**Hebrews 1:1-14 (NIV)**   
1  In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,   
2  but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.   
3  The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.   
4  So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.   
5  For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?   
6  And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."   
7  In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire."   
8  But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.   
9  You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."   
10  He also says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.   
11  They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.   
12  You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."   
13  To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?   
14  Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?



NIV Study Bible

**Chapter 1**

[1:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A1) In the past. In contrast to "in these last days" ([v. 2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2)), the Messianic era inaugurated by the incarnation (see [Ac 2:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+2%3A17); [1Ti 4:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ti+4%3A1); [1Jn 2:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+2%3A18) and notes). God spoke. Cf. "he has spoken" ([v. 2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2)). God is the ultimate author of both the OT and the NT. to our forefathers. In contrast to "to us" ([v. 2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2)). through the prophets. All OT writers are here viewed as prophets in that their testimony was preparation for the coming of Christ; cf. "by his Son" ([v. 2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2)), a new and unique category of revelation in contrast to that of the prophets. at many times and in various ways. The OT revelation was occasional and lacking in finality.

[1:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2-3) The superiority of God's revelation through his Son is demonstrated by seven great descriptive statements about him: (1) appointed heir of all things. The incarnate Son, having performed the work of redemption, was gloriously exalted to the position of the firstborn heir of God, i.e., he received the inheritance of God's estate ("all things"). See [Ro 8:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+8%3A17). (2) through whom he made the universe. See [Jn 1:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+1%3A3); [1Co 8:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+8%3A6); [Col 1:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A16) and note. (3) radiance of God's glory. As the brilliance of the sun is inseparable from the sun itself, so the Son's radiance is inseparable from deity, for he himself is God, the second person of the Trinity (see [Jn 1:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+1%3A14),[18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+1%3A18) and notes). (4) exact representation of his being. Jesus is not merely an image or reflection of God. Because the Son himself is God (see note on [Ro 9:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+9%3A5)), he is the absolutely authentic representation of God's being (see [Jn 14:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+14%3A9); [Col 1:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A15) and note). (5) sustaining all things. Christ is not like Atlas, the mythical Greek god who held the world on his shoulders. The Son dynamically holds together all that has been created through him ([Col 1:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A17)). (6) provided purification for sins. Through his redeeming death on the cross (see [7:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A27); [9:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A12); [Tit 2:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Tit+2%3A14) and notes). (7) sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Being seated at God's right hand indicates that Christ is actively ruling with God as Lord over all (see [v. 13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A13); [8:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A1); [10:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A12); [12:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+12%3A2); [Mt 26:64](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+26%3A64); [Ac 2:23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+2%3A23); [5:34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+5%3A34); [Ro 8:34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+8%3A34); [Eph 1:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A20); [Col 3:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+3%3A1); [1Pe 3:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+3%3A22)).

[1:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2) these last days. The time when all that was promised and worked toward in the OT was coming to fulfillment (see [v. 1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A1); [Jas 5:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jas+5%3A3); [2Pe 3:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Pe+3%3A3) and notes; see also [1Pe 1:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+1%3A20); [Jude 18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jude+1%3A18)).

[1:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A4) superior to the angels. To most Jews angels were exalted beings, especially revered because they were involved in giving the law at Sinai (see [2:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+2%3A2)) and to the Jews the law was God's supreme revelation. The Dead Sea Scrolls reflect the expectation that the archangel Michael would be the supreme figure in the Messianic kingdom. name. See [Php 2:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Php+2%3A9) and note. What follows indicates that this name was "Son"—a name to which no angel could lay claim.

[1:5-14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A5-14) Christ's superiority to angels is documented by seven OT quotations (see NIV text notes), showing that he is God's Son, that he is worshiped by angels and that, though he is God, he is distinguished from the Father.

[1:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A5) You are my Son; today I have become your Father. This passage ([Ps 2:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+2%3A7)) is quoted in [Ac 13:33](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+13%3A33) as fulfilled in Christ's resurrection (cf. [Ro 1:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+1%3A4)). I will be his Father, and he will be my Son. Jews acknowledged [2Sa 7:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Sa+7%3A14) (of which this passage is a quotation) and [Ps 2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+2) to be Messianic in their ultimate application (see [Lk 1:32-33](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+1%3A32-33) and notes). This royal personage is neither an angel nor an archangel; he is God's Son.

[1:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A6) firstborn. See [Col 1:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A15) and note. Let all God's angels worship him. The author quotes a line that was in his Greek version of Deuteronomy (see NIV text note). This statement, which in the OT refers to the Lord God (Yahweh), is here applied to Christ, giving clear indication of his full deity. The very beings with whom Christ is being compared are commanded to proclaim his superiority by worshiping him.

[1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A7) He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire. [Ps 104:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+104%3A4) speaks of the storm wind and the lightning as agents of God's purposes. The Septuagint (the pre-Christian Greek translation of the OT), which the author of Hebrews quotes as the version familiar to his readers, reflects the developing doctrine of angels during the period between the OT and the NT. angels. English "angel" comes from the Greek word angelos, which means "messenger" or "agent." The Hebrew word most often translated "angel" has essentially the same meaning.

[1:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A8) But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever." The author selects a passage that intimates the deity of the Messianic (and Davidic) King, further demonstrating the Son's superiority over angels (see [Ps 45:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+45%3A6) and note).

[1:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A10) In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth. As in [v. 6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A6), a passage addressed to Yahweh ("O Lord") is applied to the Son.

[1:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A13) Sit at my right hand. See note on [vv. 2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2-3). [Ps 110](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+110) is applied repeatedly to Jesus in Hebrews ([vv. 3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A3),[13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A13); [5:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+5%3A6),[10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+5%3A10); [6:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+6%3A20); [7:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A3),[11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A11),[17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A17),[21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A21); [8:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A1); [10:12-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A12-13); [12:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+12%3A2)).

[1:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A14) ministering spirits. Christ reigns; angels minister as those sent to serve.

**NIV Study Bible**.

**Open it**

1. What situations might tempt a Christian to turn his or her back on Christ?   
 **Death in the family, especially a child, Lose of job.**

2. How do you think you might react if you saw an angel?   
 **Faint, and then ask why God sent you to me**  
  
**Explore it**

3. How did God speak to people in the past? ([1:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A1))   
 **Through the prophets in many portions and ways**

4. What unique honors or activities did God the Father delegate to Jesus? ([1:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2))   
 **He appointed him heir of all things, and made the world through him**

5. What does Jesus show us about the nature of God? ([1:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A3))   
 **His radiance of His glory and the exact representation of his nature, upholds all things by the word of His power.**

6. What does Christ’s exalted status in heaven say about His similarity to angels? ([1:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A4))   
 **He has become as much better than the angels as he has inherited a more excellent name than they**

7. How is Jesus distinguished from God? ([1:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A5))   
 **He is Gods Son, and God is his father**

8. What is the relationship of Jesus and the angels? ([1:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A6))   
 **Let all the angles of God worship Hime**

9. What are angels like? ([1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A7))   
 **Who makes his angles winds, and his ministers a fire.**

10. What name or title applies to Jesus, the Son? ([1:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A8))   
 **Jesus is the righteous scepter of His kingdom**

11. What is Jesus’ nature? ([1:10-12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A10-12))   
 **"YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS; 11  THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL BECOME OLD LIKE A GARMENT,   
12  AND LIKE A MANTLE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END."**

12. What do angels do? ([1:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A14))   
 **They are all ministering spirts, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation.**  
  
**Get it**

13. What difference does it make to you that Jesus is "heir of all things" and that the Father made the universe through Him?   
 **It shows how powerful he is and why I worship and call him Lord, Even as the Father is.**

14. What are some ways we can honor Christ?   
 **Following his commandments**  
  
**Apply it**

15. What steps can you take to remind yourself that Jesus is the Son of God and worth following?   
 **Just did**

16. Who can you tell today about the unique person of Jesus Christ?   
 **Just did**