

# Sovereign Over the Angels

Text: Hebrews 1:7-9

Date: 9-24-23

## 1. Jesus has a more excellent name (Heb. 2:4b-5).

## 2. Jesus is worshipped by the angels (Heb. 2:6).

The author of Hebrews makes it clear that all the angels will worship Christ.

If angels worship only God and angels worship Jesus, then Jesus is God! If the angels are to worship Jesus, He must be superior to them! Angels worshipped Him at His first coming (Luke 2:13-14), and if this is a reference to Christ's second coming, then angels will worship Him again!

## 3. Jesus controls the angels (Heb. 1:7)

Christ controls the angels because He created them (Col. 1:16).

God often commands His messengers to be agents of swift destruction. This pictures a display best described by lightning, light, or fire.

Angels have characteristics of wind and fire but that dwarfs in comparison to Jesus Christ in all His glory. And so, just as the wind and fire are subservient to the Creator and to Jesus, angels are also simply servants of the Sovereign and His Son. The mutable, changing, temporary nature of angels is overshadowed by the eternal glorious Son of God.

## 4. Jesus as King has all rights over angels (Heb. 1:8).

Comparing Jesus with the angels, the author writes that the Son is far greater because of His possession of the throne and all authority.

The Father Himself declares that the Son:

- Has a throne - King
- Is called God - Sovereign and Lord
- Is Eternal – Immortal and Infinite
- Holds a Scepter – Authority

Jesus Christ is not just another god among gods. He is not just a good man or good prophet. He is not just a man; He is God.

Jesus has an eternal throne from which He will in the future rule for all eternity. He is Sovereign and while the enemy has some control over the earth, everything falls under the Sovereign guidance of Jesus Christ. His scepter symbolizes His authority and sovereignty. God has tasked His Son with the governing power over all operations as King of the Kingdom. His rule will be a governance of absolute righteousness during the millennial reign.

Thus Jesus is the eternal King whereby He rules the eternal Kingdom on an eternal throne. Truly no angel is close to His nature, character, or action.

## 5. Jesus loves righteousness (Heb. 1:9)

How is it that Christ can rule in the manner and way that He will in the future kingdom? Because His nature is one that loves righteousness. His character is righteous. His motives are righteous. His rule will be righteous.

“God never varies; His motives, His actions, His character never waver. He is total light. He is total righteousness. Displayed in everything Jesus did was His love for righteousness. Even more than the psalmist could He say, “O how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day” (Ps. 119:97)”<sup>1</sup>

The One who loves righteousness, then, must hate wickedness and evil. This is the cross personified. This is humility, love, holiness, justice, grace, mercy, and righteousness all rolled together as one. A person cannot love righteousness without despising iniquity.

If you say you love righteousness then you cannot also say you love sin. If you truly love God you will hate lawlessness. There was never a person in this world that hated sin and loved righteousness like Jesus Christ. This was His character on this earth at all times.

And if our desire is to become like Christ, then we too must hate sin and love righteousness. The person that walks the path of conformity to Christ can only grow in this manner.

**Explanation/anointing:** This anointing points to His exaltation through the resurrection and subsequent ascension back to heaven whereby He works His heavenly ministry on behalf of all believers.

Jesus’s highest title means the Anointed One because He is God’s Anointed. At His exaltation He was given a name above every name (Phil. 2:9-10) whereby all will bow including angels. Eph. 1:20-22

### **Conclusion**

Christ is over all the angels in power, character, as Deity, in worship, in nature for He is above and over all. Creation is finite but Jesus is infinite. He is superior to angels and all angelic beings.

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<sup>1</sup> MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1983). Hebrews (p. 34). Moody Press.