

# THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY

## HEBREWS 1-2

The book of Hebrews was written to Jewish believers who had embraced Jesus as Messiah, but were struggling to follow Him... At the time, the Temple was standing, sacrifices were offered, feast days were observed - *the religion of Judaism was at its zenith.*

Jewish friends and family were scoffing out-loud at these **crazy Christians**. *Why would anyone leave behind the security blanket of ancient traditions and institutions to follow a no-name preacher from Galilee?*

And mounting pressure was being applied. Some of these Hebrew believers had been banished from their families - their land and property had been confiscated - they'd been excommunicated from the synagogue...

***The heat was on!***

The message was renounce Jesus or be banished from the community. They were tempted to deny Christ and return to the cozy confines of Jewish religion.

This letter was written to affirm and strengthen the faith of these teetering believers. The book of Hebrews explains how **Jesus is better than Judaism!**

He's better than *the OT prophets, the angels, the Law, Moses, Joshua, the Jewish priesthood*. He works in a *better Temple, makes better promises, establishes a better covenant, offers a better sacrifice*. **God has replaced the fixtures of Judaism with faith in Jesus.**

And the emphasis in the book of Hebrews is don't go back! Hold on to your faith! Hebrews teaches us **that Jesus is better than any other way of life! Be proud of Jesus!** Don't back down from what you believe!

And one sidebar before we plunge in - since no author is mentioned, *who wrote the book of Hebrews?*

There are a whole host of fascinating suggestions...

Scholars have argued for Timothy, Philip, Barnabas, Apollos - even Aquila and Priscilla. Some suggest Paul wrote it in Hebrew, and Luke translated it into Greek.

*Who wrote Hebrews?* Only God knows for sure. But here's the important point - it really doesn't matter who held the pen, for it was the Holy Spirit who inspired what was written. *Ultimately, the author was God.*

Hebrews begins with the most fundamental fact in the universe, **"God." God is.** The symmetry and order seen in creation testifies of a Creator. *Design* necessitates a *designer*. You don't get order and symmetry from randomness and chance. **God is...**

The founder of modern astronomy, Johannes Kepler, once wrote, **"The undevout astronomer is mad."** Simple laws of probability explain how ludicrous it is to suggest the universe sprung up from chance and chaos...

Take ten quarters - take a magic-marker and number them 1 through 10. The odds of pulling out #1 is 1 in 10.

The odds of pulling out #1 and #2 in order is 1 in 100. The odds of pulling out #s 1, 2, and 3 in order would be 1 in 1000.

And the odds of pulling out #'s 1 through 10 in sequence would be 1 in 10 billion.

Now realize the simplest living cells consist of strings of 55 amino acids assembled in exact sequence. Thus, the odds of these chemicals emerging by chance from a primordial soup *in order 1 through 55* to form a living cell is beyond any sort of responsible speculation.

Our planet, and its burgeoning life, is best explained by the existence of a Creator. That's why the psalmist says, "**The fool has said in his heart, there is no God.**"

*God is...* but verse 1 also conveys the second most fundamental fact in all the universe, **God has spoken.**

**"God who at various times and in various ways spoke..."** The God who exists is not silent. He's spoken into time and space, and declared His will to humanity.

Philosopher, Christopher Morley, once wrote, "**My theology, briefly, is that the universe was dictated, but not signed.**" In other words, God exists, but He remains incognito. He refuses to play his cards. He stays mum.

*An atheist* denies God exists. *An agnostic* refuses to believe He's spoken. But the writer of the book of Hebrews assures us, "**God is AND He has spoken.**"

Verse 1 in a Greek Bible uses the terms "**polumeros and polutropos**" or **many portions and many ways...**

*God spoke through many mouthpieces and by many methods* **"in time past to the fathers by the prophets."**

In the OT God's revelation unfolded bit by bit - a portion at a time - like the unrolling of a scroll. Each of the prophets

penned a successive line in the unfolding drama... **Isaiah**, the salvation of the Lord. **Jeremiah**, the judgment of the Lord. **Ezekiel**, the glory of the Lord. **Daniel**, the Lord's sovereignty. **Hosea**, the love of the Lord. **Zechariah**, the faithfulness of the Lord.

God revealed Himself *in many portions*, but also *in many ways*... The prophets were versatile in their deliveries. Some preached - others acted out object lessons - or did miracles - or interpreted dreams...

In times past, God spoke through *many mouths and many methods*, but He **“has in these last days spoken to us by His Son.”** God's revelation is no longer coming to us piecemeal. Today, God has packaged all He's wanted to say to us in one divine revelation. In these last days God has spoken by His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Jesus is God's complete and final word to man!**

If you want to hear what God has to say to the world today, and understand His will; *then behold His Son!*

**“Whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds...”** The creation came through Jesus, belongs to Jesus, and is His in the end.

And here in verse 3 is an explanation of the nature of Jesus, **“who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person...”** This is why Jesus is superior to the OT prophets... *examine His nature...*

He is “**the brightness of (God’s) glory...**” Jesus is to God’s glory what a flash bulb is to the light in this room. He is the full blaze or concentration of God’s glory.

Psalm 72:19 shouts, “**Let all the earth be filled with God’s glory.**” But take the glory that’s spread over “**all the earth**” - glory the entire universe can’t contain - and compact it into a single life - and you’ll have Jesus.

Our Lord is “**the brightness of His glory.**”

He is also “**the express image of (God’s) person.**” Jesus isn’t just a *reflection of God*, He is the “**express image,**” or exact *representation of God*. In other words, He’s not just similar in form, but He’s of the same stuff.

**Jesus is like God in both form and substance.**

A stone statue might be similar in shape to its human subject, *but stone isn’t flesh*. The familiar statue of Hammering Hank looks like Hank, but it obviously isn’t Hank Aaron. Yet Jesus was not only God’s look-alike, He was of the same substance. As God is, Jesus is!

Take a plastic apple. Appearance-wise it resembles an apple, but bite it and you’ll realize it’s not. Yet take a bite of Jesus, and you’ll conclude He’s not just God *in shape*, but also *in substance*. **What God is, Jesus is.**

And Jesus is not only the Creator of the universe, but also its Sustainer. Verse 3, He is “**upholding all things by the word of His power...**” Jesus is the atomic glue!

The nucleus of every atom is a mystery. Coulomb’s Law of physics teaches that like charges repel. *Thus, what keeps the bundle of protons in every atom’s nuclei from splitting apart?*

There must be something or someone stronger than molecular mechanics.

Hebrews tells us it's Jesus that *"upholds all things!"*

By the power of His word He keeps the universe from unraveling. *And closer to home... It's the power of His Word that keeps my life and your life intact!*

And as if upholding all things were not a big enough job, Jesus also had a mission to accomplish. Verse 3 tells us He came to save what He'd always upheld.

For *"when He had by Himself purged our sins..."*

*I love this verse!* Jesus purged our sin *"by Himself."* He needed no one's help! He alone blotted out our sin.

Realize **our salvation is a one man job!** Without the Father's intervention - or angelic assistance - or the stupefying narcotic the Romans tried to give Him to deaden the pain (*no, performance enhancing drugs for Jesus*) - our Lord endured the cross, purged our sins, paid our debt, then conquered death - *all by Himself!*

And now God has rewarded and exalted Jesus. He has *"sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels..."*

The angels hover around God's throne, but Jesus occupies a seat. Apparently, God's throne is a dual-seater. There's a place at God's right hand for Jesus!

His nature makes Him better than the prophets, and His exaltation positions Him above even the angels!

In Judaism, angelic beings were highly revered - *they were practically worshipped*. Since angels lived in God's presence, and helped convey the Law to Moses they were often elevated to divine status.

And it's not just the Jews who've made this mistake.

People today, in our pseudo-spiritual culture like to fixate on angels and angelic visitations. They'd be better off if they were concerned with obeying God.

Everybody wants to be **touched by an angel** - but Hebrews says it's far better to be touched by Jesus!

And verse 4 tells us why, "as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You?" Here he quotes Psalm 2:7. "And again (this time he quotes 2 Samuel 7:14): "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son?"

Here are two OT passages where *God the Father* addresses *God the Son*. The Bible teaches Almighty God has a Son. The doctrine of the Trinity, and the deity of Jesus, is taught in the OT, as well as in the NT.

*Remember the thinking in Hebrew culture...* the son of a goat is a goat - the son of a cow is a cow - the son of a man is a man - and thus, the phrase "son of God" meant that Jesus is God. To refer to Jesus as the "son of God" was to ascribe to Him equality with God.

The point of this passage is that angels are **servants of God**, but Jesus is *His Son*. Nowhere is an angel ever referred to as a child, or offspring of God. This puts Jesus in His own category - *better than angels!*

Verse 6, “But when He again brings the firstborn into the world...” And remember the term “*firstborn*” doesn’t always mean “*born first*.” Solomon was David’s tenth son, but Psalm 89:27 refers to him as his “*firstborn*.”

It’s a title of authority and privilege in a family. Jesus was firstborn, or *head and heir* of God’s Creation.

He goes on to write when Jesus came into the world, the Father said, “Let all the angels of God worship Him.” On that first Christmas, not just the angels who appeared to shepherds on the outskirts of Bethlehem, but all the angels in every corner of the universe, stopped in their tracks, and worshipped Jesus.

And here’s the point, *why worship angels when angels worship Jesus?* Angels are God’s servants, His messengers, while Jesus is ***the hero of angels!***

Verse 7, “And of the angels He says: “Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire. But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.” Again, angels are heaven’s helpers.

Angels wait on God and the saints of God. They *serve before the throne*, but the Son, the Lord Jesus, *sits on God’s throne!* Why get excited about *busboys* when you can have a relationship with the *Boss*?

Verses 7-8 are great verses to remember the next time you talk to a Jehovah’s Witness. Their misled missionaries claim Jesus was once the angel Michael.

But here Jesus is placed in juxtaposition to angels. He's a different order of being - *greater than angels*.

The psalmist says, *"to the Son He (that is God) says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever..."* God calls Jesus God. That's a strong proof-text for the deity of Jesus. *Show this verse to the cultist at your door...*

Verse 9, *"You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions."* Here's a verse that gives us a glimpse into the personality of Jesus while He was on Earth...

Jesus was a passionate, fiery person. He both *loved* and *hated*... loved righteousness and hated rebellion.

And God anointed or doused Him with an extraordinary measure of gladness. *I believe Jesus was a fun person to be around.* Some of the movies made about Jesus portray Him as strait-laced, stoic, even somber - like His face was chiseled out of granite.

But verse 9 tells us He was anointed *"with the oil of gladness more than His companions."* He was jovial and fun-loving. I have no doubt our Lord wore a smile.

Verse 10, *"And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed."*

The birth of a human being is their beginning. That's true of all humans, **but one**. Jesus' Bethlehem birth wasn't His first rodeo. He'd been to Earth before.

The Bible teaches the pre-existence of Jesus. Here in verse 10 we're told, Jesus *"laid the foundation of the earth..."* - *"the heavens are the work of His hands..."*

Jesus played a role in the Father's work from the creation. And He'll be at the Father's right hand in the end, when the universe is packed up like an old coat.

Amazingly, verse 12 sounds like it was written by a modern day physicist. Astronomers tell us we live in an expanding universe, but eventually the galaxies will slow down and the gravitational force will take over.

The universe will collapse in on itself.

Here, the writer quotes Psalm 102 - *the heavens will fold up like a cloak*. Yet of Jesus he says, *"You are the same, and Your years will not fail."* The physical universe will be no more, but Jesus will remain forever.

*"But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool?"*

The Father promises His Son dominion over all His enemies. *The angel's know service, not conquest!* Jesus alone holds the scepter and rules the universe!

Again, he's showing us Jesus's superiority over angels. Verse 14, *"Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"* God never

ordained angels to rule. Only one angel wants to rule, and that's Lucifer, the devil.

Dominion is man's destiny. The Bible promises that one day you and I will reign with Jesus. Angels were created to serve and minister to us - *heirs of salvation*.

To many verse 14 promotes the idea of **guardian angels**. God assigns an angel to protect each believer. Psalm 91:11 is another such verse, "He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways." Angels are tasked with protecting God's children.

It's interesting, that according to a 2008 Baylor University survey, 55% of Americans said they believe they've been protected from harm by a guardian angel.

When I get to Heaven, one thing I'm going to do is find my angel and thank him for the overtime he put in pulling me out of scraps... *I believe in guardian angels, but realize I don't trust in angels. I trust in their Boss.*

**The angel who ministers to you doesn't love you.**

He's just following orders. It's "**The God of Angel of Armies that's always by my side.**" God might send an angel to show His compassion, but it's Jesus who cares! Always remember, **Jesus is better than angels!**

We need to trust Jesus, thus the author warns us in 2:1, "**Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.**"

It's hard to believe the Hebrews were drifting from their faith in Christ. But Jewish relatives, and religion, and tradition, and former superstition, and social ties all acted like a powerful

undertow that was taking the tiny raft of believing Jews further from their hope in Christ.

They were drifting. It was time for them to wake up!

“For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward...” The word spoken through angels was the OT Law. In Acts 7, Stephen pointed out the Law of Moses was mediated through angels - and God took seriously this angel-delivered covenant. The Jews who violated it ended up dying in the wilderness.

But if God enforces the covenant conveyed by angels - and Jesus is the Lord of the angels - how much more seriously will He take the covenant instituted by Christ Himself - the covenant of faith?

This is why the writer warns us in verse 3, “how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation...”

*Our Savior and His salvation make for a relationship with God the OT Jews could only dream about!* So if it were a crime to neglect the covenant given by angels, how much more serious is it to neglect the covenant created by Jesus? *We too need to stop our drifting!*

And he clarifies this “*great salvation*” of which He’s speaking, “which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord...” The superior Gospel was delivered - not by prophets, or by angels - but by the Lord Himself!

“And was confirmed to us by those who heard Him...” Human eyewitnesses staked their integrity on their testimony

of Jesus. Men and women were willing to die for the truth of what they saw and heard.

And God too testified of the Gospel, verse 4, “**God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?**” The Gospel of Jesus is a covenant on which God Himself placed His stamp of approval.

Signs, and wonders, and miracles, and supernatural displays of the Holy Spirit accompanied the spread of the Gospel wherever it was preached... And nowhere does the Bible speak of the ceasing of these miracles and spiritual gifts. Even today, the *Spirit of God* still confirms the *truth of God* through supernatural means.

The author’s point is that the Gospel of Jesus is superior to the Jewish covenant in every way, *and if you can’t neglect the lessor and escape its judgment, how can you ignore the greater and expect different?*

The Hebrews’ initial step of faith was not enough, **they had to continue in their faith.** We too need to trust in the sufficiency of Jesus, lest we drift away...

In Chapter 1 Jesus is superior to the angels because **He is God.** In Chapter 2 He’s greater than the angels because **He is man.** Angels aren’t God, yet Jesus is... And no angel ever became a man, yet Jesus did...

And here’s why he joined the ranks of humankind, verse 5, “**For (God) has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. But one testified in a certain place,**

**saying...**" Here the author of Hebrews quotes the psalmist, David, in Psalm 8...

Picture a young shepherd boy, lying in the open field, curled up in his bedroll, next to a dwindling fire. David gazes into the heavens. Out in the countryside, away from the city lights, you can see 5000 stars with the naked eye. With a 4-inch telescope you can see two million stars. And with the 200-inch telescope on Mount Palomar in California you can see a billion stars.

David is admiring God's handiwork - the beauty and enormity of His creation. He's pondering God... *when suddenly he's struck with an unexpected realization...*

God sits on the precipice of heaven, and who knows what vistas are in His sights, *yet what captivates His attention?* It suddenly hits David, while he sits on earth thinking of God, God is in heaven thinking of him!

David is amazed, **"What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You take care of him?"**

**You have made him a little lower than the angels..."**

In terms of our physical composition humans are not much. You can purchase the raw materials that make up a human body with a \$20 bill and still get change.

Yet the value of a human being is not wrapped up in what **he is** - but in **what God intended him to be.**

As David says, **you have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet."** Man was made in God's

image, and given dominion over nature - animals, agriculture, angels - *until he sinned...*

Verse 8, “For in that (God) put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.” For the moment, the human race remains in its fallen state.

As Augustine put it, “Man is a good thing spoiled.” Humorist, Will Rogers put it this way, “God made man a little lower than the angels and he has been getting a little lower ever since.” *Isn't that the truth!*

Today the glory of mankind - both *his origination* and *his coronation* - is almost completely hidden from view.

*This is why babies get aborted... This is the logic of wicked men who attempt ethnic cleansing... We lose sight of the value of human life. View humankind apart from God's ultimate intentions and we're just another animal herd who's population needs to be thinned out.*

But there is one place where you get a glimpse of what men were meant to be. Verse 9 tells us, “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.” Jesus chained Himself to the plight of all humans, and died in our place, in order to set us free to be all that God intended for us to be.

When you know Jesus, you can't help but be pro-life!

In Christ you see the value of all men. You see God's image in them. You become a lover of human life.

Verse 10, “For it was fitting for Him (God), for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect (that is, complete) through sufferings.”

Some truths aren't fully discerned until they're experienced. Take the sensation of pain... I can read a scientific explanation of pain. I can hear descriptions of pain. I can observe someone else in pain - *but what do I really know about pain until I've tasted it myself?*

And for this reason the *invincible* God made Himself *vulnerable*. He drank our cup of suffering. He bore the pain of our sin in His own body. He wanted to experience our dilemma from an insider's point of view.

The word “*captain*” in verse 10 can be translated “*trailblazer or pioneer.*” Jesus blazed a new trail. He broke new ground. He established a new way to live...

Rather than bypass suffering, Jesus was the first to be glorified through it. He brought life from death, snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. He pioneered a new way. He became invincible by being vulnerable.

Now Jesus stands on the glory-side and invites us to follow. Will we surrender our will, even suffer for His sake? If we're vulnerable, He'll insure we overcome!

“For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren...” Jesus is the sanctifier. He's working to make us holy and pure... We are the sanctified. But amazingly, He considers us one!

The King of Creation calls us His *“brethren.”*

The whole time I was growing up I wanted a big brother. In my family I was the big brother, and I saw the benefits. When Ken got to High School the coach already knew his name - he had a ride to school - kids who didn't want to mess with me, didn't pick on him.

*A kid brother has it easier than a big brother!*

I would love to have had someone older, stronger, wiser who'd look out for me, and teach me the ropes.

But after 20-plus years I got my big brother. The day I pledged my life to Jesus, *He became my big brother!*

And now I've got it made. God knows my name. Jesus carries me where He's headed. *And you better not pick on me if you don't want to mess with Jesus!*

Sometimes big brothers pick on their siblings, but not Jesus. He picks us up! Even if you act goofy and do stupid stuff to embarrass Him, Jesus still loves you.

We're told in verse 11, *“He is not ashamed to call (us) brethren...”* Jesus always wants you by His side!

**Saying:** (And Hebrews 2:12 is a quote from Psalm 22:22) *“I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.”*

*Notice where Jesus hangs out?* He's in the assembly of the church - *with us* - singing praise to the Father!

That's why we need to worship God sincerely.

You wouldn't be lethargic, lamely mouthing words to God, if you knew Jesus was standing right next to you. *Well, He is! He is standing next to us singing praise!*

Verse 13, "And again: "I will put My trust in Him." Jesus is trusting in the Father as He intercedes for us.

And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me." Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same... Jesus took on our mortality so we could share in His immortality, and "That through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

Jesus took on a human body to die for all humans.

Ironically, through His death Jesus destroyed him who had the "power of death," thus freeing us from the "fear of death." On the cross Jesus stripped Satan of death's power. Today, the Grim Reaper bows to Jesus. The tombstone has become a stepping stone to glory.

Did you hear about the man suffering from severe headaches? He tried Aspirin, Tylenol, Motrin - Extra Strength - nothing worked. Finally, he went to the doc.

The doctor did a brain scan and X-rays. A couple of days later, the man went back in for the results.

The doctor announced, "I've got awful news. Your condition is terminal." The patient was shook up, "Doc, say it ain't so!" "No, I'm afraid the results are conclusive. There's no doubt."

The man asked, "How much time do I have left?" The doctor answered, "10..."

The patient wanted to know, "10 what? 10 years? 10 months? 10 days?" The doctor continued, "9, 8, 7, 6..."

Hey, like that patient, unless the Lord returns, we'll all die. And it's the *fear of death* that haunts us most.

Like an ominous cloud hovering over a picnic - even if it never rains - the mere threat of it spoils the fun.

That's the way it is with death. It's the fear of death that steals the joys of life... *The thrill of a baby's birth is tempered by the realization that one day the body you lay in the bassinet will be laid in a grave... The joy of a wedding is dimmed by the inevitable separation that death will one day create...* Death is the great spoiler!

For centuries the *fear of death* ruled the hood. It's tyranny went unchecked, until Jesus moved onto the block! We're told through His death, Jesus destroyed Satan's power. The Greek word "*destroyed*" means "to render useless." Jesus declawed the tiger of death.

He stripped death of its fear element. Jesus paid sin's penalty, and united us to God. Death no longer means the cessation of life. It no longer robs us of what matters. In Christ, death is no longer our punishment for sin. It's now our graduation to *greater blessing*, and *higher glory*, and *eternal life* in God's presence.

Verse 16, "For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham."

God gave blessings to Jesus and to those who follow Him that He would've never have dole out to angels.

“Therefore, in all things (Jesus) had to be made like His brethren that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God...” One reason God’s Son became a man was to qualify as priest. Men are appointed priests and Jesus came to be our Priest!

The Latin word for “*priest*” or “*pontif*” means literally, “*bridge-builder.*” Jesus built history’s longest bridge. He built a bridge from heaven to earth, from God to man.

And God had two requirements for a good priest. He has to be **faithful to God**, and **merciful toward man**.

A priest had to represent God’s truth clearly and boldly; yet he also had to empathize with man’s frailty.

Most people go to one extreme or the other. They stand up for truth, and become judgmental - or they sympathize with men, and soften God’s demands.

*But not Jesus!* He was both faithful and merciful!

And Jesus came, **to make propitiation for the sins of the people...** The term “*propitiation*” means “*a place of mercy.*” The Hebrew word is “*kipporeth*” or “*mercyseat.*”

The mercy seat was the gold lid that covered the Ark of the Covenant in the Temple’s innermost sanctum. Over this mercy seat God’s glory rested. This was where the priest applied the blood, and atoned for sin.

God’s truth and mercy kissed and were reconciled at the mercy seat. In this one place God’s **righteousness was satisfied** and His **compassion was realized**.

And today Jesus is our mercy seat. He is the one place in the world where sinful men can find mercy.

Verse 18, “For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.”

What angel knows what it’s like to tire, or get sleepy, or feel pain, or bleed, or be rejected by a friend? Yet Jesus was tempted in all these ways! *And why?* So He can help us when we encounter the same temptations.

The words “*able to aid*” is the translation of a Greek phrase which means “to run to the cry of a child.” Jesus knows the trials and hardship you experience. We have a High Priest who helps us where it hurts!

Realize, Jesus is better... than prophets, than angels, than any other way... *don’t drift!* Keep believing! We’ll learn in Hebrews, Jesus is sufficient for every need.