

Hebrews 1.4-14

“Jesus! Ain’t No Comparison”

HOLY Week time of GREAT JOY for All Christians

PONDER & PROCLAIM – Ground Zero Christian Faith – Cross & Resurrection

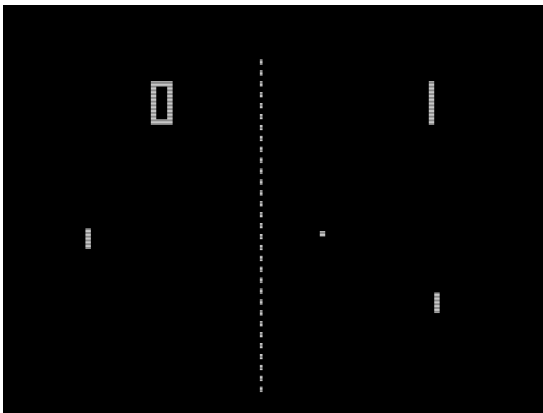
SPECIAL Joy for ME > TRUSTED Jesus for my Salvation Easter Week 1972

You all REMEMBER 1972....Right??!.. What was TRENDING in 1972??

Took NOSTALGIC Trip down MEMORY LANE...



All my High School friends were JEALOUS when I got this DIGITAL WATCH!



We played a COOL Video game called PONG!
(Look at the COLOR and GRAPHICS!!)



And the girls were beautiful in their
Maxis, Minis, and Knee Socks

Background of Hebrews 1 – ANGELS were Trending for JEWS of First Century



When JEWS and CHRISTIANS in 1st Century
thought of Angels they did NOT Imagine this GAL...



Nor would they ever IMAGINE
these GUYS Either...

C.S. Lewis wrote “The Screwtape Letters” IMAGINATIVE Exhortation
About SATAN & Fallen ANGELS – Laments such WEAK Images of Angels...

“the chubby infantile nudes of Raphael...the soft, slim, girlish angels of
nineteenth century art...so feminine they avoid being voluptuous only by their
total insipidity...They are a pernicious symbol. In Scripture the visitation of an
angel is always alarming; it has to begin by saying ‘Fear not.’” C.S. Lewis

Angels mentioned 100 X’s in OT & 160 X’s in NT

MOST of the Time when Angel shows up in Bible – 1st words say “Fear Not!”
the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What troubles
you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the boy...” Genesis 21.17

“Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and
humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard” Daniel 10.12

the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been
heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son” Luke 1.13

the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God...”
 Luke 1.30



Biblical Angels are MIGHTY, GLORIOUS, SHINING

>> and there are LOTS of Them

Word ANGEL = MESSENGER

Many Times Angels Deliver God’s Judgment

SEE Here: God’s Angel BINDING Satan w/ a CHAIN

ANGELS ANNOUNCED both BIRTH and the RESURRECTION of Jesus

...an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen...” Matthew 28.2-6

As we STEP into Book of Hebrews > Author’s THEME “Jesus is BETTER”

Greek word for BETTER used MORE in Hebrews than in ALL NT combined

INTRO > God’s Words came in SCATTERED PIECES in OT

FULL and FINAL Word of God has NOW Come in WORD made FLESH

Old COVENANT Sacrifices for Sin INNUMERABLE and INADEQUATE

Jesus made ONCE FOR ALL PERFECT Sacrifice of the NEW Covenant

RESURRECTED Jesus provides BETTER Revelation & REDEMPTION

After INTRO, Writer > CONCRETE EXAMPLES Just HOW Great Jesus is...

BEGINS w/ Something Everyone that was AWESOME > ANGELS

Angels Trending for Long Time > ANGELS Delivered LAW on SINAI

SOME ANGEL FANS in 1st Century WORSHIPPED Them

NOT Issue in Hebrews 1 > (Angel Worship is Addressed in Colossians 1)

When Hebrews was written, teachers of Scripture built support for a theological position by stringing together various Old Testament texts... The desired effect was to offer so much evidence that your listeners shook their heads in agreement with you by the end of these quotations. E. Earle Ellis

OUR Text – 7 Passages from Hebrew Scripture > Jesus Better than ANGELS

Very CAREFUL Selection of OT Texts – Some SURPRISING Choices

7 Texts should get our ATTENTION – Number of Perfection, Completion

Writer CHOSEN Golden Apples Carefully > Lift HIGH Lord Jesus Christ

Writer INTERPRETS OT way Jesus taught Easter Afternoon / Emmaus Road

Jesus: "...everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled" Luke 24.44

Wonderful BIBLE Study that Afternoon with Jesus – No AUDIO Recordings

But we DO have the NOTES – Spirit guides NT Writers to Rightly Handle OT

1. Sovereign in the Highest

v. 6 And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

FIRSTBORN Not ref HIS CREATION > He is God = Creator

Ref to his STATUS as ETERNALLY BELOVED SON

Special Place in HEART of Father > Shares His AUTHORITY

For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing...For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will
John 5.20-23

v. 7 Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire."

Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "What is your name...?" And the angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?"... And when the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD went up in the flame of the altar. Now Manoah and his wife...fell on their faces to the ground.
Judges 13.17-20

Angels INHABIT WIND and FIRE in the SERVICE of the LORD

vs. 8,9 But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

Jesus NAMED "Son" from ETERNITY > FOREVER Beloved of the FATHER
TRIUNE Love and Eternal FELLOWSHIP in God's FOREVER TODAY

Angels, his servants, may at his request take on wondrous forms, become seraphim thirty feet high or men of three hundred feet high, and perform feats beyond not only the capacity but the imagination of mankind. But they are still servants. He is the eternally enthroned, sceptered, anointed sovereign. Kent Hughes

Writer quotes Psalm 102 > Broken Man's rising Awareness of God's Grace

vs. 10-12 "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

We're Now STUFFING our WINTER Coats into the Back of our CLOSETS

In a few MONTHS Pull them Out see if they STILL HELD TOGETHER

MIGHT have to get NEW ONE and THROW Old Coat AWAY

JESUS will OUTLIVE MATERIAL Universe and Remain FOREVER Young

FIRST ADVENT – ANGELS and SHEPHERDS INVITED to WORSHIP

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”
 Luke 2.13,14

FINAL ADVENT – HIS Song of ENDLESS Worship will be SUNG...

the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”
 Revelation 5.12,13

2. Servant who went Lowest

ANGELS were Messenger Servants – Jesus was even BETTER Servant

vs. 4,5 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”?

Jewish Thought > NAME = Expressed RANK & DIGNITY, Essential Nature

NO Angel carried TITLE of SON > *to which of the angels did God ever say...*

Reference Psalm 2 > Very FITTING for US on this HOLY WEEKEND

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed...
 Psalm 2.1,2

As DAVID wrote he Thought of Philistines and Canaanites

But as HOLY Spirit INSPIRED David He thot of PILATE & CAIAPHAS

Jesus endured FULL Force of ROMAN Power Wearing Sign: King of JEWS
 Suffered RAGE of NATIONS > to be LAMB of GOD takes away Sin of World

FEARSOME Power of MAN ALLIED in Opposition to GOD is LAUGHABLE

He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you." Psalm 2.4-7

Angels are MESSENGERS – Christ is the MESSAGE

Angels are SERVANTS – Christ is the SOVEREIGN SON

v. 5 "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"

2 Sam 7 PROMISE of FOREVER Kingship Not Fulfilled by David or Solomon

SEEMS Lost amidst the Stream of Failures called KINGS in Fractured Israel

PROMISE of FOREVER KING Emerged from the TOMB of NAZARENE

...his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord Romans 1.3,4

3. Savior raised in Honor

Ends w/ Psalm 110 – BIG GUN!! OT Chapter Most Quoted in the NT!

v. 13 And to which of the angels has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?

Ancient World – Conquered Kings would BOW before the VICTORIOUS King

Bible: FINAL Day – Every Knee will Bow, Every Tongue Confess – Jesus Lord

ANGELS > Held in AWE for MIGHTY POWER > Some even Worshipped

Muslims mightily Impressed by Angels > Angel Texts gives NT Authenticity

Western SPIRITUAL CURIOSITY > All Wanna be Touched by ANGEL?

2017 Spiritual WARFARE Rages in Every LANGUAGE and Every LAND

WHAT Do you HOLD in AWE? WHO do you WORSHIP?

WHOEVER or WHATEVER it Is > I tell you JESUS IS BETTER

Jesus: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."
Revelation 22.13

Easter Text MOST Powerful Chapter about WHO IS JESUS in All the BIBLE
FILLED w/ Carefully CHOSEN References to Clearly PROVE He is GOD

GAVE His LIFE for YOU on CROSS 2000 years Ago
SUFFERING SATISFIED the JUSTICE of God Against our SINS
DEFEATED Death – NO Angel is MIGHTY Enough to Accomplish Salvation

You might Say "Well, that happened a LONG Time Ago" – You're Right!
But EVERY Year MORE People Believe & Follow Jesus in Every Nation
This ROOM Not just Filled on Easter > Every Sunday!

Mandarin – Korean – Indonesian – Japanese & English > Jesus PRAISED

One more AMAZING Thought...If you SERVE Jesus, ANGELS Serve You!

1858 John G. Paton asked Church in Scotland to send & wife NEW HEBRIDES
A Mr. Dickson exploded, "The cannibals! You will be eaten by cannibals!"

19 years Earlier 2 M's - Williams and Harris – Eaten on Erromanga

"Mr. Dickson, you are advanced in years now, and your own prospect is soon to be laid in the grave, there to be eaten by worms; I confess to you, that if I can but live and die serving and honoring the Lord Jesus, it will make no difference to me whether I am eaten by Cannibals or by worms; and in the Great Day my Resurrection body will rise as fair as yours in the likeness of our risen Redeemer."
John G. Paton

Arrived on Island of TANNA in New Hebrides > today VANUATU

WERE Cannibals – Many DANGERS and DISEASES >

Wife & Infant Son Died within his First 3 Months There

2nd Marriage to Margaret > 10 Children – 4 DIED in their EARLY YEARS

One DARK Night family Warned be Eaten – House Surrounded by Cannibals
 Got on their Knees to Pray – Cried to God while Savages Cried out for Them
 Sun Rose – Natives ran into Forrest – Lives Continued Normally, Safely

A year Later one of Men who ATTACKED that Night > was Converted
 Asking PATON about that night, he said,

“Who were those men with you?” John answered “Nobody, just my family”

“There were hundreds of tall men in shining garments with drawn swords
 circling about your house, so we could not attack you!”

v. 14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those
 who are to inherit salvation?

John Paton – Long life in New Hebrides – Many Converts – Churches, Schools
 110 years since his DEATH

About 85% of Vanuatu identifies itself as Christian, 21% are Evangelical

Oh that the pleasure-seeking men and women of the world could only taste and
 feel the real joy of those who know and love the true God – a heritage which the
 world . . . cannot give to them, but which the poorest and humblest followers of
 Jesus inherit and enjoy!

My heart often says within itself – when, *when* will men's eyes at home be
 opened? When will the rich and the learned . . . renounce their shallow frivolities,
 and go to live amongst the poor, the ignorant, the outcast, and the lost, and write
 their eternal fame on the souls by them blessed and brought to the Savior? Those
 who have tasted this highest joy, "The joy of the Lord," will never again ask - *Is
 Life worth living?*

John G. Paton: Missionary to the New Hebrides, An Autobiography Edited by His Brother

Hebrews 1⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” ⁷Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire.” ⁸But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” ¹⁰And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.” ¹³And to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”? ¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?