

Christ Church Cathedral
Dean's Bible Study—Intro to Hebrews and Chapters 1, 2
Wednesday, January 14, 2026
Chapter 1 & 2

Chapter 1

God Has Spoken by His Son

¹ Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³ He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made 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.

The Son Is Superior to Angels

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'?

Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?

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

⁷ Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.'

⁸ But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever,
and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre 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.'

¹⁰ And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

¹² like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

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

¹⁴ Are not all angels ^[f] spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Warning to Pay Attention

2 Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. ² For if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, ³ how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, ⁴ while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will.

Exaltation through Abasement

⁵ Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶ But someone has testified somewhere, ‘What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷ You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honour,

⁸ subjecting all things under their feet.’

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹ but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, ‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

¹³ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.