

**WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**  
**Hebrews 1:1-2:4**  
**12/18/16**

Read Hebrews 1:1-6

To most people Christmas is a time of family celebration full of fun, foods, presents, and traditions. Our traditional secular Christmas music reflects that theme.

“I’ll be home for Christmas . . .”

“I’m dreaming of a white Christmas . . . “

“Chestnuts roasting on an open fire . . .”

“I’ll have a blue Christmas without you . . .”

But in the end, Christmas is about answering one question.

*“What Child is this?”*

**1. Jesus is the ultimate self-revelation of God. 1:1-3**

**a. God has revealed Himself in many ways over the ages. v. 1**

- *God spoke to the fathers in the prophets*
- *God spoke to them in many portions- bits and pieces*
- *God spoke to them in many ways-*
  - ◆ *God spoke to them through a burning bush, a pillar of fire, a voice from heaven, etc.*
- *But God’s ultimate revelation of Himself is in His Son.*
  - ◆ *The prophets were mere human messengers.*
  - ◆ *But in Jesus we have a visible, touchable, visit from God.*

**b. Jesus is God’s Son. v. 2a**

**Isaiah 9:6** For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

**Matthew 1:23** "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**John 1:14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

**JESUS IS GOD IN A MANGER!!!**

**JESUS IS THE ULTIMATE SELF-REVELATION OF GOD.**

**c. Jesus has been appointed heir of all things. v. 2b**

He will reign over the entire creation as both God and man.

**d. Jesus is the agent of creation. v. 2c**

**John 1:3** All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Jesus created everything that is.

He created the earth, our solar system, the entire universe.

It is estimated that there are between 100-200 billion galaxies.

In just our galaxy, the Milky Way, there are between 100-400 billion stars

You could put almost a million earths inside our sun.

The earth was created with countless interdependent symbiotic relationships.

It has just the right organisms to maintain the oxygen cycle, the nitrogen cycle, and the carbon cycle.

Jesus is the Creator our human bodies.

The average human heart will beat 800 million times in a lifetime. It will pump enough blood to fill a string of railroad tank cars 215 miles long. (Pocatello to Provo)

Jesus is the Creator of both the material world and the immaterial spirit world

**Colossians 1:15-17** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

*Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God because He is God.*

**e. Jesus reveals the glory and nature of God. v. 3**

- **He manifests God's power.**

Jesus healed the leper, calmed the storm, cast out demons.

He gave sight to the blind and speech to the mute.

He raised the dead and ultimately arose Himself from the tomb.

- **He reveals God's holiness.**

**1 Peter 2:22** WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH

**1 John 3:5** . . . in Him there is no sin.

- **He reveals God's mind.**

Jesus taught God's ways and let us know what God thinks.

He taught us;

- ◇ The seriousness of our sins
- ◇ How to have victory over temptation
- ◇ How to handle rejection and insults
- ◇ How to treat our enemies

◇ How to set priorities in life for those things that really matter

- He reveals God's heart.

In Jesus we see God's mercy, love, and compassion for mankind.

- He showed us God's salvation.

◆ He came to make purification for our sins.

**f. Jesus is now seated at God's right hand. v. 3**

This is the position of honor and authority.

This is a position of intercession

**Romans 8:34** . . . who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

*Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God.*

As such . . .

**2. Jesus Is Superior To The Angels. 1:4-14**

Angels played a prominent role at the time of Jesus' birth.

Luke 1:11-20 An angel spoke to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist.

Luke 1:26-38 An angel spoke to Mary

Luke 2:8-14 a multitude of angels appeared to the shepherds

Matthew 1:18-24; 2:13 Twice the Angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.

**a. Jesus is God's Son, while angels are God's servants. vv. 4-5, 14**

Jesus has a more excellent name. (linage)

◆ Jesus has always been the Son of God.

◆ He was *begotten* as a man.

**b. Jesus is the firstborn of all Creation, while angels worship Him. v. 6**

**firstborn-** does not mean that Jesus was created first.

It refers to rank and position, not order of birth.

Esau was older than Jacob, but Jacob was given the position of firstborn. (Exodus 4:22).

David was his father's youngest son but he was given the position of firstborn. (Psalm 89:27)

Jesus has the highest rank in all of creation- visible and invisible.

*Jesus' superiority to angels is seen in the fact that they are called to worship Him.*

**c. Jesus is God while angels are His ministers. vv. 7-9**

Angels serve before His throne, act as messengers, execute God's judgment, etc.

**But Jesus is God. vv. 8-9**

◆ He is called *God*.

◆ He has the *Scepter*- the symbol of authority.

♦ He was *Anointed*- ordained or appointed to rule as the God-man.

d. Jesus is the eternal, unchangeable *Creator*, while angels are *created* beings. vv. 10-12

e. Jesus is *seated* while they are *serving*. vv. 13-14

Jesus is our Lord while angels serve those who are saved.

Guardian angels, messengers, bring answers to prayer, etc.

### 3. Beware That You Do Not *Drift Away* 2:1

No one here can say that God has not revealed Himself to them.

- The evidence of the creation
- The internal testimony of God's Spirit
- The conscience that God has given us
- The testimony of the prophets found in the scriptures.
- ♦ Hundreds of fulfilled prophecies
- The birth, teachings, miracles, life, death and resurrection of Jesus

All of us have heard about Jesus but some may not take it seriously.

### 4. Do Not Neglect So Great A *Salvation*. 2:2-4

Christ is greater than the prophets.

He is greater than the angels.

He is God.

He is the Creator, Sustainer, Judge, and Savior

The Christmas Child is God in a manger.

v. 3 How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?

1 John 5:11-12 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,

Galatians 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.