

## Text— Hebrews 1:1-12

Fellow redeemed sinners, redeemed by the blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Today we celebrate the birth of our Savior, the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ. It is truly amazing and wonderful that the Son of God took upon Himself a real human nature in the womb of the Virgin Mary and was born into this world as true man, while continuing to be true God, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily," declares Colossians 2:9.

Jesus our Savior had to be true man in order to take our place under God's Law and in order to be able to suffer and die in our place. Jesus our Savior had to be true God in order that His perfect fulfilling of God's Law might be sufficient for all people, and that His life and death might be sufficient ransom for our redemption, and that He might be able to overcome death and the devil for us.

Oh beloved, we surely should be grateful that Jesus Christ wondrously and wonderfully came into the world. Therefore, our Scripture selection can be of benefit in helping us be more appreciative of so great a gift, as it informs us concerning:

### "GOD'S SON"

With that as our theme, may we, in view of our text and with the help of the Holy Ghost, see—

- 1) Who God's Son is and what He has done
- 2) What God's Son will yet do

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Verses 1-4, ----- (Hebrews 1:1-4)

The apostle Paul began his epistle to the Hebrews, his letter to the Jews in the early New Testament era, with the following words: *God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last*

*days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.*

Observe that our text teaches us that the New Testament era in which the apostles of Christ lived is the LAST DAYS. Thus, we too are living in the last days. Accordingly, the next great event which will take place in this world is Jesus' visible return to judge the quick and the dead, for Hebrews 9:28 states, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Take it to heart that Jesus Christ IS GOD'S SON and not only the Son of a virgin named Mary, for Matthew 1:18-25 reports, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS." Yes, JESUS IS GOD WITH US! JESUS IS GOD'S SON!

Observe in the second verse of our sermon text that the deity of God's Son is emphasized, for we are informed that BY HIS SON, God the Father MADE THE WORLDS. Thus, God's Son, Jesus Christ, is the CREATOR. It's as John 1:1-3 & 14 informs us:

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” So, God’s Son, Jesus Christ, is truly the CREATOR, true God in addition to being true man.

Furthermore, it is quite beautiful and very beneficial that God in these last days spoke by His Son, Jesus Christ. Think about it. Jesus visibly walked, talked and preached for some 3½ years during His public ministry on earth; so, people were privileged to hear God’s Word from God’s own lips. Furthermore, we are privileged to have God’s Word from Jesus’ lips recorded for us in the holy Gospels in the New Testament. It’s indeed a blessing for us to have Jesus’ Words— the words of eternal life. The apostle Paul by inspiration of God declares in Romans 1:16-17, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” Romans 10:17 adds, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Consequently, I repeat, it is indeed a blessing for us to have Jesus’ Words— the words of eternal life.

Consider the fact our sermon text in verses 3 & 4 reveals that God’s Son is *the brightness of God the Father’s glory, and the express image of his person*. Hence, it is evident that God the Son is equal to God the Father since He has identical glory and is the Father’s identical image. Additionally, God’s Son, Jesus Christ, is He who is found *upholding all things by the word of his power*; and, God’s Son, Jesus Christ, is He, who, *when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they*. Accordingly, Jesus Christ, God’s Son, keeps everything preserved and

functioning, for He upholds all things; yes, “he is before all things, and by him all things consist,” as Colossians 1:17 reports.

Jesus Christ, by Himself, without any other sacrifices, purged our sins, for 1 John 1:7 teaches: “the blood of Jesus Christ [God’s] Son cleanseth us from all sin.” And, forty days after Jesus’ bodily resurrection from the dead, “he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God,” relates Mark 16:19. Thus, Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is infinitely superior to the holy angels because *he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they*.

Verse 5, ----- (Hebrews 1:5)

God the Father never said to any of His holy angels: *Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee*. Nor did God the Father say to any of His holy angels, *I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son*. No, it was to Jesus Christ ONLY that God said, as recorded in Psalm 2:7, “Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.” And, Psalm 89:26-27 prophesied, “He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation. Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.” Therefore, take it to heart that God’s Son, Jesus Christ, is eternally begotten of the Father, eternally generated of the Father according to His divinity, yet born in time according to His human nature, for Galatians 4:4-5 states, “when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.” The birth of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, in the flesh was foretold of old in Micah 5:2, which reads, “But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” Yes, Jesus Christ was born in time in Bethlehem, but He is from everlasting since He is the eternal only begotten Son of God.

Verse 6, ----- (Hebrews 1:6)

Is it not plainly evident that God commanded the angels to worship His only begotten Son when He came into the world, born in Bethlehem, for we read in Luke 2:8-14, "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 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, good will toward men." Indeed, as the angels beheld the Christ child born into the world they praised God since the Christ child IS GOD—"God... manifest in the flesh," as 1 Timothy 3:16 relates.

Verses 7-9, -----. (Hebrews 1:7-9)

The infinite superiority of God's Son, Jesus Christ, over the holy angels is again emphasized. The holy angels are created spirit beings, while God's Son is eternal as is God the Father. It is said of the Lord God in Psalm 104:4 that it is He, "Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire." But to God's Son, God says in Psalm 45:6-7, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." Take it to heart Jesus is called God by God because Jesus Christ IS GOD, as the Holy Ghost is God and the Father is God, and yet they are not three Gods but one God—the true triune God.

Thus, God the Son's ruling as King is forever and is total rule in righteousness, for God's Son, Jesus Christ, has conquered sin, death and the devil. God's Son, Jesus Christ, according to His human nature was anointed with the oil of gladness above

all His fellow human beings, for John 3:34-35 tells us, "he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand." Hence, Jesus Christ was indeed anointed with the Holy Ghost without measure according to His human nature, while according to His divine nature Jesus always was one with the Holy Ghost. But now since God's Son is incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, He as true God and true man but one Christ has full possession of the Holy Ghost.

Verse 10, -----. (Hebrews 1:10)

Notice in the tenth verse of our sermon text that God's Son is called "Lord" since He – Jesus Christ – is LORD of lords and King of kings! Furthermore, we again see that the creation of the heavens and the earth is attributed to God's Son.

Therefore, as we've pondered our sermon text thus far, we've repeatedly observed that God's Son is equal to God the Father as concerning His Godhood. Jesus Christ IS NOT a lesser God than is the Father, for He, together with the Holy Ghost and the Father, are but the one true God, for we read in Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Note well: the three individual divine Persons are but one NAME, ONE GOD, the true triune God. Accordingly, on Christmas and always, let us honor Jesus Christ, God's Son, for who He is and what He has done, because John 5:22-23 tells us in no uncertain terms, "the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him." All praise honor and glory be to Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Savior!

My friends, let us never forget that we are all sinners who desperately need the Savior, God's Son, Jesus Christ, for Holy Writ relates, "there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and

sinneth not. [And] the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 6:23; John 3:36) Let us keep our full trust and confidence in God's Son, Jesus Christ, as our personal Savior and Lord.

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As we ponder our text to its conclusion, let us see what God's Son will yet do.

Verses 10-12, ----- (Hebrews 1:10-12)

The Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the Creator and Preserver of heaven, earth and all things; and, He is also our Redeemer and Savior.

Jesus long ago accomplished the work of our redemption. Jesus visibly ascended into heaven after His saving work was accomplished; and so, Jesus Christ – the God/man, God's Son, our Savior – sits at the right hand of God the Father ruling over all things.

God's Son has yet another great task which He will perform. I mentioned earlier that Jesus will visibly return to judge the quick and the dead. Jesus Christ, God's Son, is our everlasting Lord, and when He returns in judgment this old world will perish, as our sermon text tells us. A massive climate change is coming upon the heavens and the earth on the great last day, while Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the same forever and ever.

2 Peter 3:10 & 13 informs us: "the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

The apostle John, by inspiration of God, gives us a

glimpse of what is to come by Jesus' power, for he writes in Revelation 21:1-4, "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Yes, thanks be to God's Son, Jesus Christ, we believers have a wonderful and blessed future to look forward to.

Let us therefore daily and sincerely repent of our sins. Let us cling to Jesus Christ in heart-deep faith as our personal Savior and Lord. And, let us on Christmas and every other day continue to appreciate the wonderful gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, for 1 John 5:20-21 states, "we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." Yes, let us cling to God's Son our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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