

Title: A Name Greater than the Angels – Hebrews 1:1-13

Read:

¹⁻³Going through a long line of prophets, God has been addressing our ancestors in different ways for centuries. Recently he spoke to us directly through his Son. By his Son, God created the world in the beginning, and it will all belong to the Son at the end. This Son perfectly mirrors God, and is stamped with God's nature. He holds everything together by what he says—powerful words! ³⁻⁶After he finished the sacrifice for sins, the Son took his honored place high in the heavens right alongside God, far higher than any angel in rank and rule. Did God ever say to an angel, "You're my Son; today I celebrate you" or "I'm his Father, he's my Son"? When he presents his honored Son to the world, he says, "All angels must worship him." ⁷Regarding angels he says, The messengers are winds, the servants are tongues of fire. ⁸⁻⁹But he says to the Son, You're God, and on the throne for good; your rule makes everything right. You love it when things are right; you hate it when things are wrong. That is why God, your God, poured fragrant oil on your head, Marking you out as king, far above your dear companions. ¹⁰⁻¹²And again to the Son, You, Master, started it all, laid earth's foundations, then crafted the stars in the sky. Earth and sky will wear out, but not you; they become threadbare like an old coat; You'll fold them up like a worn-out cloak, and lay them away on the shelf. But you'll stay the same, year after year; you'll never fade, you'll never wear out. ¹³And did he ever say anything like this to an angel? Sit alongside me here on my throne Until I make your enemies a stool for your feet.

Think:

It seems like belief in angels is very popular today, especially 'guardian angels'. But a great many people seem to get excited about the idea of angels watching over us, whilst at the same time scoffing at the idea of the Son of God dying for our sins. But when you hear the words that have just been read, doesn't that seem crazy? For one thing, the word 'angel' means "messenger". That means if angels are real, then the person who gave them a message to deliver must be real. Angels, by their very existence, point beyond themselves to someone greater. So dreaming and gushing about angels, whilst all the time ignoring Christ, is like taking down posters of a great superstar and replacing them with photographs of that superstar's road crew! Yes, angels are real, and they are sent to watch over us and speak to us. But these citizens of heaven are all delivering the same ultimate message; "Come and meet our king, nothing compares to Him".

Pray:

Lord Jesus, you are as superior to the angels as the name you have inherited is superior to theirs. Help me to tell the world about your glory and power. Amen.

Action:

Today, if you see or hear anything which you think is especially cool or impressive, try redirecting that feeling towards God - who is the source of all goodness - by saying the prayer of the angels (sometimes called the Sanctus) to yourself, even if it's under your breath! "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest".