**Hebrews 1:4-13**

***“Jesus….Bigger than the Angels!”***

**Scripture:** Hebrews 1:4-13

**Memory Verse:** *“…having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”* Hebrews 1:4

**Lesson Focus:** Christ is bigger than the Angels!

**Activities and Crafts:** Coloring Page, Word Search Sheet
Craft: Angel Paper Chain

**Introduction:** “Angel Knowledge Test”

 Ask the Kids what do they know about Angels? (let a few kids respond)

 Ask the kids the following Questions:

1. Do angels have wings?
2. Do angels have halo’s?
3. What do angels do?
4. Are angels beautiful?
5. Do angels sit on clouds?
6. Where did the angels come from?
7. How does the Bible describe angels?
8. What do the angels think about Jesus?
9. Are angels scary?
10. Do angels ever talk to people?

**Bible Lesson:**

Hebrews: 1:4 “Jesus is Better than the Angels”

 √ What do we learn from verse 4 about Jesus compared to angels?

1. Jesus is Soooooo… much better
2. Jesus has an inheritance
3. Jesus has a more excellent name

√ How do we know that Jesus is better than the angels?

* Jesus has an inheritance

 √ What is Jesus’ inheritance?

 Jesus’ inheritance is His relationship with the Father:

Why does it matter that Jesus is bigger than the angels? The Hebrew believers were starting to compromise and say that Jesus was just another of God’s angels. The writer of the book of Hebrews is going to tell that that Jesus is not an angel; He is the Son of God and so much more.

 **Hebrews 1:5-13 – Jesus’ Relationship with the Father:**

1. **Jesus is the Son of God**

Hebrews 4:5a “For to which of the angels did He ever say:

“You are My Son, Today I have begotten You”?

* God never called an angel Son, He only called Jesus his son.
* Hebrews 4:5b “And again: ‘I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son’?”
* Angels don’t call God Father nor He call them son.

Jesus had a very special relationship with the Father. He was the Son of God and God sent Him to earth to be born as a human and then to eventually die on the cross for our sins. Jesus was “begotten” in the human flesh. But Jesus was not a “created” being. Jesus always existed with the Father.

This is something that the Jewish believer should have known. A very well-known Messianic Psalm is Psalm 2:7.

**Illustration:** Take an egg, hard boiled. Separate the egg into three dishes, containing the shell in one, the yoke in another and the white in another. Lift a bowl and ask the kids what it is? (Yoke, White, and Shell). Then lift up each bowl individually and ask the kids “is this an egg?” (Yes). Each bowl on its own is an egg, and when the three are combined together, it is still an egg. Individually or together it is an egg. Same idea as the trilogy, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, individually they are God and together they are God. Even though we say that Jesus is God’s Son – He is equally God and they all have a part to play. God is three persons in One!

1. **Jesus is to be Worshiped as God;** Hebrews 1:6

We will see later as we study angels, that they worship Jesus as God. Angels are worshipers! They know who Jesus is and they worship Him throughout eternity.

1. **Jesus is Creator & Eternal;**  Hebrews 1:8-12
* Hebrews 4:8-9 “But to the Son *He says:* “Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions”
* Jesus is our King. He has an eternal throne. Jesus lived a “righteous” life. That means that He never sinned and lived a perfect life before God. Jesus showed us how to live in holiness.

√ What is righteousness? (to live “rightly” before God….to live like Jesus.)

* God calls Jesus God and says His throne is forever (4:8)

√ What did Jesus do in the beginning of the world?

1. Laid the foundation of the world
2. Made the Heavens

 √ What perishes? (His creation)

√ Does Jesus perish? (No, He lives eternally…Jesus is eternal – He has always been with God and He will live eternally.

1. **Jesus Sits at the right hand of God:** Hebrews 1:13

√ Is it important that Jesus sits at the right hand of God?

√ Is it important that the enemies of God are defeated and “like a footstool” for Jesus?

In the Old Testament it was custom for a defeated King would often come and prostrate himself and kiss the conqueror’s feet and the victor to put his feet on the captive’s neck (so that the captive became his footstool.) Joshua 10:24

The Bible tells us that one day, every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord. (Philippians 2:10,11 and 1 Corinthians 15:24, 25)

Jesus is the son of God, but He is still God. Just like this egg, this is the yoke, but it is still an egg. God created the angels, and the angels worship God, if Jesus is God, the angels also worship Him (and they did and still do)

We understand that Jesus is higher and more powerful than the angels because He is God; but, what are angels? (let the kids answer).

 **Angels – what are they?** Hebrews 1:4-13

Angels are mentioned over 100 times in the Old Testament and 160 times in the New Testament. The Hebrew and the Greek word for angel both mean “messenger.”

1. Angels Worship Jesus the Son of God: Hebrews 1:6b

(Job 38:7; Psalm 103:20, Isaiah 6:1-3; Revelations 4:8; 5:9-12)

√ When Jesus was born who announced His birth and were the first to worship Him?

Luke 2:8-14 (Angels worship and gave glory to God for what He was doing through the birth of Jesus.)

Revelation 4:8-9, *“The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do no rest day or night, saying, ‘holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come.”*

1. Angels witness those that preach the Gospel. 1 Peter 1:12

“*…those who have preached the gospel to you by the H9oly Spirit sent from heaven – things which angels desire to look.”*

The Seraphim are worshippers of God. Isaiah 6:2-3 “Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy *is* the Lord of hosts; the whole earth *is* full of His glory!”

Jesus said in Luke 15:10, that the angels rejoice over one sinner who comes to God. *“Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

1. Angels are Ministers for God:
2. Guards:

Angels are ministers of God. Two of the angels are the Cherubim and the Seraphim.

(Cherubim) Ezekiel 10:12,14,20-22

12And their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, *were* full of eyes all around … 14Each one had four faces: the first face *was* the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle …This *is* the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they *were* cherubim. 21Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the hands of a man *was* under their wings. 22And the likeness of their faces *was* the same *as* the faces which I had seen by the River Chebar, their appearance and their persons. They each went straight forward.

The Cherubim stand on both sides of the throne of God (Exodus 25:20), After Adam and Eve sinned God sent a Cherubim to guard the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24)

1. Protectors: In Hebrews he tells us that Angels are “ministering spirits that minister to those who accept Jesus as the Savior. (Hebrews 1:14) The Greek language here is very forceful, indicating that they are constantly being sent out one after another.

There are many recorded stories from missionaries throughout the world of angels protecting them. One is told, about 100 years ago of a scotish missionary couple who found themselves surrounded by cannibals intent on killing them. The couple fell to their knees and prayed that God would protect them. As the night turned into today, the missionary couple realized that they had not been attached. The couple gave their praise to God. About a year later the chief to the tribe became a Christian. As the missionary spoke with him, he remembered the horror of that night. He asked the chief why he had not killed them. The chief said, who were all those men who were with you?” The missionary answered that there were no men with them at that time. The Chief answered and said, “There were hundreds of tall men in shining garments with drawn swords circling about your house, so we could not attach you.

We do not make doctrine (what we believe) from stories we get our doctrine from the Bible. But there are many documented stories such as this one where people report that the protection of Angels. I believe that we are protected all the time and we don’t see or know about it.

“*The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him and he delivers them.”* Psalm 34:7

Psalm 91:11-13; *“For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways…”*

1. Messengers:

Archangels, are believed to be leader/chief angels. There are two mentioned in the Bible, Michael and Gabriel. Daniel 12:1 “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people” Michael watches over Israel. Gabriel is a messenger and an interpreter, and he was the angel who told Mary (Jesus’ mom) that she was going to bear Jesus! (Luke1:26, Daniel 8:16).

1. God’s Agents of Judgment: The Bible tells us that the angels will be a part of the days of judgment. They will call the elect with a loud trumpet (Matthew 24:31) They will separate the wheat from the chaff (Matthew 13:39-42) The book of Revelation tells us that they will open the seals. They will also execute judgment upon Satan (Revelation 19:17-20:3,10)

**Angel Description:**

When we started out this lesson we talked about what you think that angels look like. We all had ideas that we have gotten from pictures, movies or books. But the Bible gives us a very different picture. In the Bible when anyone saw an angel they were afraid. The first thing that many of the angels said when they were talking to humans was “do not be afraid.”

1. Angels looked fierce.
2. Angels looked like men (Genesis 18:2, 19:1,2; Mark 16:6)
3. Angels had glorious light (Matthew 28:3, Luke 2:9
4. Angels had wings (Exodus 25:20, Isaiah 6;2)
5. Angels are invisible (Numbers 22:31, 2 Kings 6:17)

**Conclusion:** What can we learn from Hebrews 1:4-14

1. **Jesus Rules Angels serve!**
2. **Jesus is Bigger than the Angels**
3. **We worship Jesus not angels**
4. **Angels are a part of our life by protecting us and rejoicing with us as we share Jesus.**