

2017 FOCUS ON JESUS

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Introduction –

Hebrews was written to the Jewish believers that had come to believe in Messiah. They were trying to balance their Jewish traditions and beliefs of the past with fresh revelation of Jesus. The author tells them to stop it and “*go on to perfection*” (maturity) 6:1. Christ is superior to the Judaic system. He is better than angels, for they worship Him. He is better than Moses, for He created him. He is better than the Aaronic priesthood, for His sacrifice was once for all time. He is better than the Law, for He mediates a better covenant. Pressing-on in Christ produces tested faith, self-discipline, and visible love. A love that is; with, by, for and through the Father God.

Today we are looking at seven things Father God spoke about Jesus that will make 2017 enjoyable if we make proper application and live by this revelation. (Hebrews 1:1-2a)

1. Jesus is the “*appointed heir*” v.2
 - a. In the culture of Jesus time the family was lead by the patriarch. The father declared that the eldest son received title to all wealth including land and authority.
 - i. Matt. 28:18 “*All authority is given unto me...*” John 17, Romans 8:14-17
2. Jesus “*made the worlds*” v.2
 - a. He is in charge of all history, both time and space. The word for “*worlds*” is “*ages*”.
 - i. Col. 1:16
3. Jesus is the “*brightness of His glory*” v.3
 - a. There is no word to describe this radiance and dazzling brilliance and shining brightness. The Hebrew word is **Kabod**. Weightiness, splendor, glorious, majestic. Shekinah glory. The Greek word is **doxa**. It references a “*flashing forth*”. The Latin word is **dignatos**. In English it is dignity, honor, praise, worship. Jesus is the perfect expression of the dignity of God. A perfect doxology.

“It is the action of God, whereby He takes of His glory which is eternally existent in the heavens, pushes through the veil that separates the natural and supernatural realities, and reveals within the parameters of time and space the splendor of His magnificent beauty and splendor.” Bob Sorge

4. Jesus is the “*express image of His person*” v.3
 - a. He is the exact representation, a duplicate in character, nature and person.
 - i. John 14:9 “*If you have seen me you have seen the Father.*”
5. Jesus “*upholds all things by the word of His power*” v.3
 - a. Jesus holds everything together. He sustains all things by His word.
 - i. Col. 1:16-17 “*...in Him all things consist.*”
6. Jesus “*purged our sins.*” v.3
 - a. Jesus cleansed us of all that was and is inconsistent with his nature and character.
 - i. II Peter 1:19; I John 1:7, 9
7. Jesus “*sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...*” v.3-4
 - i. Hebrews 2