



Sunday, April 25, 2021

Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Hebrews 1:1-4

Can we actually know anything about God? This is a question many people wrestle with—sometimes even Christians. For people who are antagonistic toward Christianity, this kind of question usually veils a hard heart. If we can convince ourselves that we can't know anything about God, then we can go on living however we want. For people who are true agnostics, it can come with some honest wrestling. There is much mystery about God and because so much of the Bible doesn't match our day-to-day experience, it is easy for Satan to sow seeds of doubt. What's more, there are so many voices in the culture that appear to be "louder" than God's, that they can be easily distracted. Then even for Christians, the deeper we go into the mysteries of Scripture, and the more we acknowledge the true theology that we cannot know God exhaustively, the more potential there is of thinking we cannot know anything about God for certain.

But then we come to the book of Hebrews. Hebrews reminds us from the outset that we can know God with certainty. We can know Him because He has spoken to us. He has disclosed the truth about Himself that is necessary for our salvation and growth in grace. He has done this through the prophetic writings of the Old Testament, but most fully He has disclosed Himself through the person and work of His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the fullest revelation of God because He Himself is God in the flesh. So, as we see Jesus, we see the Father.

Context

Hebrews' majestic opening sets the tone for the rest of the book. That Jesus is "more excellent" than anything else becomes a dominant theme. He is more excellent than angels, than Moses, than Melchizedek, than the priesthood, that the entire Old Covenant. He is better, and worthy of all our worship!

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 1:1-4

“God Has Spoken”

What we know about God

- Spoke through the prophets in times past
- Spoken to us through His Son in these last days

What we know about the Son

- Heir of all things
- Agent of creation
- Radiance of God’s glory
- Exact representation of His being
- Sustains everything
- Provided purification for sin
- Sat down at the right hand of God

A glance of faith may save, but it’s the gaze of faith that sanctifies.

- Robert Murray M’Cheyne

Discuss

- 1) According to this passage, how does God communicate to us?
- 2) Why do you think, as Christians, we are prone to seek direct words from God apart from what He has fully and finally communicated in His word?
- 3) Which of the descriptions of Jesus in this passage is most compelling to you at the moment? Why?
- 4) Where is Jesus now? What does that mean for us?
- 5) What are you most looking forward to in this study of the book of Hebrews?