

# Small Group Material

## Higher, Greater, Holier - Supreme, our sibling Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:1-11

**Welcome** Is there something that you have found particularly life-giving over this time of lock down - or something which you've been able to do as a result of lock-down that's been good?

**Worship** Mighty to Save - (Hillsong)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UtxJLlFa8s>

### Word

Read Hebrews 1:1-4

#### A.

- How has God revealed himself in the past (see also Romans 1:20)?
- What different emphasis does the writer to the Hebrews bring in now? What are the implications? (ultimate revelation - no earlier source of truth about God could be greater, no subsequent revelation could contradict)

#### B - Distractions:

*Jewish tradition tended to elevate the status and significance of angels (whereas we are probably guilty of downplaying their role and significance - 1:14). Because reverence towards angels proved a distraction to their understanding of God and put an unhelpful distance between them, the writer to the Hebrews contrasts Jesus with the angels.*

- What is he stressing? (Jesus is not just another angel / messenger\*, he is fully God and so his message commands greater attention)
- What are we distracted by today - either within the church, or beyond it, if not by angels?

[\*n.b. depending on context, the word 'angel' can mean either simply 'messenger' or 'supernatural angelic being']

**Read 2:1-11**

#### C - Warning:

- Having stressed Jesus' divinity, what is 'therefore' (2:1) the warning for us all? (2:1-3)

#### D - Means of our salvation:

- What did Jesus have to do to win our salvation? (identify fully with our humanity and suffering by becoming fully human and suffering himself, v9-10)
- What does it mean to you personally that you can be made holy and become 'of the same family' as Jesus himself?
- What comfort / hope does that bring?

### Witness

There are so many obvious needs to be praying for at the moment - both in our own circles, this country and around the world.

Praying on Zoom can be difficult! If your group is finding it so, here are some suggestions which you could try...

1. Ask one person to pray over all the things which have been discussed.
2. Mute everyone so that they can pray by themselves for a couple of minutes. You could ask everyone beforehand what they will particularly pray for or, each person holds up a piece of paper with the area they will pray for.
3. The leader asks individuals to pray. eg 'Mary can you lead us in prayer?'