

Lesson, Hebrews 1: 1-9. Read Luke 2: 1-20. Commit vs. 1, 2.

1. God, who at sundry times, and in divers manners, spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds,

3. Who, being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4. Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

5. For unto which of the angels said he at any time,

Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

6. And again, when he bringeth in the first-begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

7. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

8. But to the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

9. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."—Luke 2: 11.

LESSON PLAN.

1. How Divine Revelation has been given.
2. The greatness of Jesus who completed Divine Revelation

DAILY READINGS.

M. A Christmas Lesson, Heb. 1: 1-9.

T. A Saviour given, Isaiah 9: 1-7.

W. Sent of God, 1 John 4: 9-15.

T. Head over all, Col. 1: 9-19.

F. The Guiding Star, Matt. 2: 1-11.

S. The Angel's message; Luke 2: 1-14.

S. Seeing and rejoicing, Luke 2: 15-20.

REVIEW.**LESSON HYMNS.**

Nos. 301, 556, 548, 474, 477.

This epistle was written to prevent Jewish believers from turning away from Christianity. They felt that the religion in which they had been brought up was divinely appointed; but they saw that the new religion they had embraced was very different in many respects. There was no temple, no altar, no priest in rich dress, no imposing ceremonies. This wide difference might perplex them. This epistle is written to point out to them the true greatness of Christianity.

1. Different times—divers manners;—The Old Testament was not written by one man, or in one age. The composition of it extended over many centuries, and a great number of writers contributed to it; perhaps as many as forty. But they were all under one guiding hand. They are called prophets, and God spake by them.

2. These last days—By His Son.—This tells us how the New Testament was prepared. Jesus did not write anything himself. But his followers, the Apostles, wrote down many of his sayings; and, guided by his Spirit, according to the promise in John xiv: 26, they wrote all the book we now call the New Testament.

3. Brightness of his glory.—Jesus is described here; and he is described as equal to God. No mere man could be said to have "the brightness of God's glory and the express image of his person."

4. Better than the angels.—The angels are very great and powerful and holy beings. But Jesus is better than the angels. He has a more excellent name. He is the Son.

5. No angel is called the Son of God in the high sense in which Jesus is called the Son.

6. The angels are ordered to worship him. He must therefore be very great.

8. He is seated upon a throne, and he wields a sceptre. These are symbols of majesty and authority. He is addressed as divine. "Thy throne, O God, is forever." Such an account as this of their Saviour Jesus is well fitted to give believers confidence and assurance.

9. His character is set forth here. As he has a Divine position and Divine titles, so he has the Divine character. He loves righteousness and hates iniquity. These two qualities or characteristics are most God-like and they are ascribed to Jesus.