
Words of Truth

Hebrews 1:2

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“...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...” (Hebrews 1:2). The last days were foretold through the pen of the prophets (Isaiah 2:1-3 and Micah 4:1-2). The last days began as the Apostles received the Holy Ghost and began preaching the Gospel of Christ to the world starting at Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-21). Peter referred to these days as the “last times” (I Peter 1:13-25). There should be no need to spend time defining these terms as the terms themselves are easy enough to understand.

As we take the first two verses of this epistle together, we understand that the point is one of a change of authority. Before these last days we are in, God spoke through prophets. Now, in these last days, Jesus is the messenger. As we consider this point, we should understand that this is fully the will of our Father in Heaven. Consider this: *“And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid. And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves. And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead”* (Mark 9:2-9).

Jesus had no problem with His role in teaching the words of His Father. He made very clear statements that indicate such (John 8:28, John 8:38, John 12:44-50, and John 14:1-10). Jesus ordained salvation to those whom do the will of His Father (Matthew 7:21-23 and Matthew 12:46-50). Jesus didn't suffer from a need to have His own way. He came with a mindset of obedience to His Father's will. Consider these words: *“I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me... For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me”* (John 5:30 and John 6:38). His life in the flesh let Him learn obedience (Hebrews 4:14-5:10) that put Him where He is now (I Corinthians 15:20-24).

Jesus is the appointed heir of all things (Isaiah 9:6-7, Matthew 28:18, John 13:3, Ephesians 1:19-23, and Hebrews 2:8-9). All of this never created in Jesus a mindset of carnal superiority. Consider this: *“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”* (Philippians 2:3-11).

When you think of the humility of Christ, this text makes the lessons stand out. How can a person create something and then turn around to be the servant of His own creation? That is exactly what Jesus did. He came to serve (Matthew 20:28). All things were made by Jesus and without Jesus was not any thing made that was made (John 1:1-5). Paul wrote concerning Jesus saying: *“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist”* (Colossians 1:16-17). So, when the Hebrew writer puts the things we are studying forward, the order of thought needs to stand out. The Father spoke through Him whom He has appointed heir of all things. At last, this reminder that nothing was made without Jesus’ part being accomplished.

Jesus is worthy of their obedience and of our obedience because of who He was, is, and will be. Don’t miss that. That principle is stated in various ways throughout the Scriptures (Isaiah 41:4, Isaiah 48:12-13, and Revelation 1:1-20). Jesus has the knowledge and understanding as our Creator to be our Lord. He also has the knowledge and understanding of living in the flesh, in this world, to be our Lord, Savior, and mediator. This second verse of this letter sets up the teaching that will proceed forward on these points (i.e. Hebrews 2:9; 2:17-18). Keep these things in mind as we proceed in our study.

Jewish Christians in the first century needed to be reminded of who Jesus was, is, and will be. They needed reminded of His authority and where it came from. We, like them, must never lose sight of who our Lord is and who put Him in His position of authority. We, like Jesus, have to prove ourselves in the flesh. If we remain faithful, as was Jesus, we too shall have an inheritance to look forward to in the end (Romans 8:17, Titus 3:7, I Peter 1:3-9, Revelation 2:10, and Revelation 3:21). So, throughout this difficult life let us always keep our Lord in front of us so that we can be faithful like He was (Hebrews 12:1-3).