

“Don’t Make Such a Foolish Trade”

Hebrews 1:4-14

Nov. 19, 2023

I. Hebrews 1:4-14 Features that Need Addressing

A. The phrase “today I have become your father” (from Psalm 2):

1. This is not saying Christ had a beginning.
2. Rather, it refers the moment when Jesus, in His human nature, was exalted and made ruler of all things at His resurrection.

Acts 13:32–33 - ³² “And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, ³³ that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘You are My Son; today I have begotten You.’”

B. The title “firstborn”:

1. In this context, the word doesn’t mean that the divine Christ has an *origin*.
2. It’s referring to preeminent *status* given to the Messiah when exalted according to His human nature.

Psalm 89:27 - “I also shall make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.”

C. The Greek Septuagint (LXX) vs the Hebrew Old Testament (OT):

1. The author of Hebrews quotes from the Greek LXX (like most NT writers). Yet our English OT is based off the Hebrew version from that time.
2. In certain passages, however, they differ (like some quoted in Heb. 1).
3. We can trust that the Holy Spirit made sure the most correct version was always quoted.

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II. Hebrews 1:4-14

A. This section argues for Christ’s superiority over the angels by referencing both His human and divine natures.

1. Section 1 (4-6) and Section 3 (13-14) refer to Christ’s exalted human status.
2. Section 2 (7-12) addresses Christ’s eternal divine nature.

B. Section 1 (vs. 4-6)

1. Unlike the angels, the man Jesus has been exalted to be God’s son and firstborn (see above), being made ruler over everything.
2. Even the *angels* are commanded by God to worship Him (in the GK LXX version of Deut. 32:43, God is speaking – see above).

C. Section 2 (vs. 13-14)

1. As Psalm 110 foretold, the man Jesus sits at God's right hand.
 2. The angels are His servants *and* the servants of His people.
- D. Section 3 (vs. 7-12)
1. The angels are created and finite beings.
 2. The Son, who *God* calls God (Ps. 45:6-7), is eternal.
 3. The Son is the creator of all things and will outlast all things. (in the GK LXX version of Ps. 102:25-27, God is again speaking to the divine Son).
- E. To trade a faith mediated by the divine and exalted God-man for one mediated by created, finite, servants like the angels would be a foolish trade.