

better - κρείττων, comparative: "superior". From κρατος, "strong". Characteristic of the epistle (13x). Idea is that of superiority in dignity or worth or advantage, the fundamental idea being power and not goodness.

Better than the Angels

Hebrews 1:4-14

inherited - κληρονομεω, to be an heir. From the term "lot" and referred to their use to divide property or select a winner; the one who drew the lot was the heir. Came to be used for dividing the property that a father left to his children when he died. When there was only one son, there would only be one heir.

begotten - γεννω, to give birth to, to bear. Same word as in John 1:13 ref. to our rebirth in Christ by the Spirit.

firstborn - πρωτότοκος
worship - προσκυνω, to fall on the knees before someone, to worship. (Literally from "toward" + "to kiss")

anointed - χρω, to anoint. Origin of the title "Christ". The idea is the crowning of the sovereign w/ joy as at the royal banquet.

companions - μετοχος, partner, comrade, colleague. From the context it refers to the angels.

footstool - υποπόδιον. The figure arose from the oriental custom of the victor putting his foot on the neck of the defeated enemy.

Because of

His title as
the Son of God
Excellent Name

His worship
as delty
Exalted Honor



His authority as
anointed ruler
Regal Position

His existence
from past to
future eternity
Eternal Immutability

His destiny
to be the
Lord of Lords
First Priority

having become as **much better**
than the angels,
as He has inherited
a more excellent name than they.

BEGOTTEN

Psalms 2:7

IDENTITY

For to which of the angels did He ever say,
"Thou art My Son, Today I have begotten Thee"?
And again,
"I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me"?

2 Samuel 7:14

5

And when He again brings the first-born
into the world, He says,
"And let all the angels of God worship Him."

WORSHIP

PRIORITY

Psalms 97:7

6

And of the angels He says,
"Who makes His angels winds, And His ministers a flame of fire."

ANOINTED

Psalms 104:4

But of the Son *He says*,
"Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.

Psalms 45:6-7

Thou hast (1) loved righteousness and (2) hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee With the oil of gladness above Thy companions."

AUTHORITY

9

And, **"Thou, Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands; They will perish, but Thou remainest; And they all will become old as a garment, and as a mantle Thou wilt roll them up; As a garment they will also be changed.**

YEARS

Psalms 102:25-27

But Thou art the same, And Thy years will not come to an end."

IMMORTALITY

12

But to which of the angels has He ever said,
"Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a footstool for Thy feet"?

FOOTSTOOL

Psalms 110:1

Are they not all ministering spirits, (*"liturgical pneumatics"*) sent out to render service (*"deacon activity"*) for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

VICTORY

14

By the end of chapter one he has still said nothing about the **content** of the message God gave us in the Son. It's all about the true **identity** of this last and greatest messenger.

Seven quotes from the Old Testament. All but one from Psalms.

Why does the topic of angels come up here so extensively? Because the Jews believed that it was angels who had brought God's messages to the world.

The word "angel" means "messenger" in Greek, not "guy in a bathrobe with wings."

Completely
Righteous

Completely
Permanent

Completely
Victorious