

**Hebrews 1: 10-12 and 14; “Jesus - King of Angels”, Sermon # 5 in
the series – “Holding Fast our Confession”, Delivered
by Pastor Paul Rendall on January 8th, 2012,
in the Morning Worship Service.**

I think that it needs to be understood by all Christians, whether you have known the Lord for years, or whether you are a babe in spiritual things; that your understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ; your comprehension of His goodness and love; as well as your understanding of His having been given the right by His Father to judge all things; this understanding is something that will grow over time. It will be a growing understanding, leading to growing convictions which you will act upon, and live by if you are wise. And it will also involve, then, your exercising faith in relation to your true knowledge of Him. Many people in our day have a view of the Lord Jesus Christ as someone who is just a man. To them He is the meek and mild Jesus. He would never lift His hand against any person in judgment. After all; didn't He say, “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved?” (John 17: 17) I think that because of the fact that people know this one piece of knowledge; that when He walked this earth, He was often demonstrating His power to gently teach, to heal, and to help people; they then come to think that this is all that there is to His ministry. They fail to reckon with the verses that we are studying this morning. And since He who is the Son of God and the Son of Man was raised from the dead, and has ascended on High, and is seated at the right hand of God; there is actually much more going on; great and mighty things which He is doing in relation to His Church, that we cannot see with our physical eyes. Great and glorious things are taking place, and will take place for the Elect people of God; those chosen by the Father in the Son; those who are following the Lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world, and their sins in particular. This is truth that each believer should be glorying in every day.

But practically speaking, this also involves a sacred duty. It means that if you are a Christian, that He, your Lord and King, who has done these great things for you; has things which He would have you to do for Him. He would have you to say things on His behalf which faithfully represent His written Word which He has given to you. And He would have you to do things for His cause of truth and righteousness which will impact the way that others around you think about Him and His glorious kingdom. His kingdom is advancing this day; even though it may seem very small and very slow in its advance in our day. It will, if I am reading prophecy rightly, advance in a much greater sense in the years to come. The prophecy in verse 13 is evidence of what I speaking of. “But to which of the angels has He ever said: ‘Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool?’ “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?” I will make a separate sermon of this verse, and present it to you next

Sunday. But this morning I want to declare to you our Lord's majesty and power. I want to declare to you the majesty and the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord so that each of us will see Him more clearly and then practically respond to the implications of the truth that I will present to you. 1st of all – The Majesty and the Glory of Christ Jesus our Lord are seen in the fact of His having laid the foundation of the earth, and creating also the heavens above. 2^{ndly} – The Majesty and the Glory of Christ Jesus our Lord are seen in the fact that He will someday fold up the heavens and the earth like a cloak. And then 3^{rdly}; next week, we will look at – The Majesty and Glory of Christ Jesus our Lord are seen in His Patient Rule at the right hand of the Father in heaven. I will bring applications to each of these points which will point to your duty as believers, and in the process I will hope to win the unbelieving among us to have faith in our Christ, this morning as well.

1st of all – The Majesty and the Glory of Christ Jesus our Lord are seen in the fact of His having laid the foundation of the earth, and creating also the heavens above. (Verse 10 and 14)

“And: You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.” I would draw your attention to the little word, “And:” That one little word connects what is written in verses 10-14 with what has been said in verses 8 and 9. “But to the Son He says: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.” “You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.” The word, “And”, connects the Father's addressing His Son here as the One; who as a man, loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; with His also being the One who in the beginning laid the foundations of the earth. The greatness and the majesty of our Lord Jesus deserve to be seen in this. You should be able to set the Lord Jesus Christ before you, in your mind's eye, as the One who laid the foundations and created the heavens and earth. Do you see Him in this majestic way? Then declare that it is so to others. He is not merely a man; He is also God. As I have said to you in past sermons; God the Son was, before time began. He was Begotten of the Father, and this was in eternity past. He was the “Firstborn” before He ever came into this world as the Child of Mary. He was brought forth as the Son of the Father, and He was “in the bosom of the Father” until His incarnation. He had no body before His Incarnation. John 1: 18 – “No one has seen God at any time.” “The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.” When the eternal Son became a man, He began to “declare” the Father's holiness, righteousness, and justice to those who sat in darkness. He was also declaring His love for undeserving, unworthy sinners, such as you and I. He was, and He is, “in the bosom of the Father”; in the heart of His Father before His incarnation, and when He was sent in the World to demonstrate His love to sinful men, that they might believe and be saved from their sins.

This being called the “Firstborn” in relation to His having this title in eternity past, relates to His eternal dignity, and His greatness, and His glory. Colossians 1, verse 15: “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.” “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers.” “All things were created through Him and for Him.” I hope that you see from these verses that He existed before time began as God. And He had already been designated and chosen by God the Father to be the One who would inherit all things in relation to the creation because the Son was His Firstborn; His only-begotten One; Deity begetting Deity from all eternity, before time began. In this primary sense of the Essence of His Deity, He was, and He is, the Firstborn of God. He was not created, as the angels were; but He was brought forth, as it says in Micah 5, verse 2 – “But you Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from old, from everlasting.” (Literally, “the days of eternity) In fact, He would Himself be the One through whom all things were made, and for whom all things were made; including the angels. He made them, and they worshiped Him before the world was made. And when He came into the world all the angels of God worshiped Him because they knew of the great mission which the Father had sent Him on; but they still marveled that the Son of God; the king of the angels; their King, and the One who created them, should take on human flesh and live among men. These are things which they longed to look into. They no doubt marveled at many points as they watched Him grow up as a young man needing to learn wisdom and obedience. They had been given charge over Him, from the Father, “to keep Him in all His ways.” “In their hands they were to bear Him up, lest He dash His foot against a stone.” (Psalm 91, verses 11 and 12).

And so how amazed they must have been when he went out into the wilderness, being led by the Holy Spirit, to fast for 40 days and 40 nights; to see him being confronted by Satan, the highest of the fallen angels; to hear Satan quote this very passage to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down.” “For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you, and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” This related to their holy work of caring and watching over their King, the Son of the Highest. And they saw him pass the test that Adam did not in the garden of Eden. He saw Him hold fast to the written word of God. He answered Satan three times with “It is written”. “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’” “It is written, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’” It is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.” And after that; in the text in Matthew 4: 11, it says that “after the devil left Him, angels came and ministered to Him.” Let us not despise the ministry of angels. They are ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation. They are not to be worshiped, but they are to be greatly

respected. They are servants of the Almighty God. They are ministering spirits to do the bidding of our great King Jesus. He who is so much greater; infinitely greater than they are; does not despise to use their service. The Lord Jesus laid the foundations of the earth and they were there; singing for joy, as the morning stars at the dawn of creation. And they were there, too, at the time of His sufferings toward the end of His earthly ministry. At the very time when the Lord Jesus was agonizing in the garden; praying, "Father if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done;" an angel appeared to Him from heaven, it says in Luke 22: 43, "strengthening Him."

Let us understand this morning that the holy angels are given, according to the will and purpose of God, "to strengthen" men and women who would serve their King Jesus. You have much help in the spiritual realm if you are setting your mind and heart to serve the King of Kings. You who believe in Jesus are receiving help, and you will receive the help of angels at many critical points of your face. See to it that you do not despise or forget their ministry. They may have to hide their holy eyes from your sins and help in God's discipline of you if you do not walk in His ways; but they are there to help you and to deliver you from all outward evils. Who was it who escorted Lot and his family out of Sodom. Who was it who surrounded Elisha and his servant with protection, in 2 Kings Chapter 7, when the king of Syria was making war against Israel; so much danger all around that Elisha's servant says to him, 'Alas, my master!' "What shall we do?" "So Elisha answered, 'Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.'" Elisha prays, and says, "Lord open his eyes that he may see." "And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw." "And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around." You and I, even though we cannot see the angels ministering should believe that they are here today, and they are near and with God's dear people always, at the most critical points of their life and experience. We do not pray to them, but we believe that they will indeed help us according to the will of God, and our prayers to God for help. In the final analysis we believe that it is the Lord Jesus Christ, the King of angels who is the Angel of the Lord. Psalm 34, verse 4 – "I sought the Lord and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." "They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed." "This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." The Angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them."

Jesus, King of angels, heaven's light, Shine Your face upon this house tonight. Let no evil come into my dreams; Light of heaven, keep me in Your peace. Remind me how You made dark spirits flee, And spoke Your power to the raging sea. And spoke Your mercy to a sinful man; Remind me, Jesus, this is what I am.

Chorus - *The universe is vast beyond the stars, But You are mindful when the sparrow falls, And mindful of the anxious thoughts That find me, surround me, and bind me*

With all my heart I love You, Sovereign Lord. Tomorrow, let me love You even more. And rise to speak the goodness of Your name Until I close my eyes and sleep again. Jesus, King of angels, heaven's light, Hold my hand and keep me through this night.

Fernando Ortega – Contemporary Christian artist.

Let us see how much greater and more majestic is our Christ, than the angels. But let us not forget how the angels serve Him; the King of glory, so implicitly and lovingly that they perform service to Him and to us who will inherit salvation.

2ndly – We want to see that the Majesty and the Glory of Christ Jesus our Lord are seen in the fact that He will someday fold up the heavens and the earth like a cloak.

Verse 10 says, “You, Lord in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.” “They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed.” “But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.” Since we have now seen that God the Son was the author of the first creation with God His Father in the beginning, I also want to set forth to you the truth that He will also be the One who brings this first creation to an end in a day which is coming. The heavens and the earth will perish, but the Lord Jesus Christ and all those believers who are with Him will remain. This physical earth and heavens will all grow old like a garment and like a cloak He will fold them up. But He is the same. Jesus Christ is same Yesterday, Today, and Forever.” In regard to these present heavens and earth, the Lord Jesus Christ is pictured as wearing them as a cloak or a garment. When He returns again, He will “take them off like a garment”, and “fold them up like a cloak”. In a number of places in Scripture we see this truth of the creation being a garment stated. Let’s turn to one of them. Psalm 104, verse 1. “Bless the Lord, O my soul!” “O Lord my God, You are very great; You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.” “He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, who make the clouds His chariot, who walks on the wings of the wind, Who make His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.” “You who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever, You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.” “At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.” “They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them.” “You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to the earth.” It is the Lord Jesus Christ who did this in the

creation. His Father's voice and His voice were together in the first words, "Let there be light." The words "Lord God" are plural in this Psalm. Bless you Yahweh (or Jehovah)! My Yahweh Elohim; you are exceedingly great. This Yahweh Elohim is the Lord Jesus Christ we are told in Hebrews 1: 10-12. We are told here in this Psalm that He is clothed with honor and majesty, just as His Father, the first Person of the Divine Trinity. The light of creation which He spoke; He clothes Himself with it as a garment, and He stretched out the heavens in the creation at the beginning as a curtain. This curtain and the light of the Sun, Moon, and Stars are the garment with which He clothes Himself. He walks upon the wings of the wind and by all that He does; He is admired by the Holy Angels who are a "flame of fire for His Cause. He it is who laid the foundations of the earth so that they should not be moved forever. He covered the earth with the "seas" (the deep) as a garment.

All of these things, our text in Hebrews says, are something that He will change in the future. When, you ask me? On the Day that He returns. Turn with me over to Proverbs Chapter 30, verse 4. "Who has ascended into heaven or descended?" "Who has gathered the wind in His fists?" "Who has bound the waters in a garment?" "Who has established all the ends of the earth?" "What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?" We should know by now. His name is Jesus. But turn over to 2 Peter Chapter 3. Peter is here addressing the issue of scoffers who do not believe in the promise of Christ's 2nd Coming? "Where is the promise of His coming?," they say. Verse 4 says, "For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." "For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water." "But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." "But beloved do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering towards us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up." "Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?" "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

This is how the Lord Jesus Christ will change the creation as a garment. He will take it off by His walking on the wings of the wind in His Second Coming. He will come with the clouds and every eye shall see Him. All the dead will be raised

when He returns. When He returns personally and visibly in that Glorious and Majestic coming Day, He will come with all His Holy Angels. He will make His ministers the angels a flame of fire. The Apostle Paul says in 2 Thessalonians 1: 6 that it is “a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” “These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.” You see, when King Jesus returns it will be the last Day of the World as we know it now. It will be glorious for all of Christ’s saints to finally see Him as He is. Then after the general judgment Christ will say, “Depart from Me”, to the wicked, and His angels will cast the wicked into hell. Then He will say to the righteous, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” And then Jesus, our Great God and King, shall refine the earth, which He had made in the creation, the earth that He created so “that it should not be moved”, as it says in Psalm 104. This present heavens and earth, as Peter says, will be dissolved by fire. “The heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” The cloak of the light of the Sun shall be folded up; the garment of the waters and the seas shall all be dried up; the works of all men on the face of the earth shall be burned up; and the Lord having taken off this cloak of the first creation, which He has upheld for these thousands of years; He shall reveal the greatness of His glory in making a New Heavens and Earth in which dwells righteousness.

This is what the present creation is longing for now. Our blessed Lord Jesus Christ shall orchestrate all events, and all these good and glorious changes. All the Old creation will pass away; the stars in the heavens shall fall from the sky. But those who have trusted in the Promise of salvation in Jesus, shall find the Promise of His Coming also to be true. And we too, shall be changed when He comes. In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye; at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound and dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” “For the Lord Himself will descend with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God.” “And the dead in Christ will rise first.” “Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.” “And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” If we are to always be with the Lord, it will be a joy and delight to be surrounded with His favor as with a shield when He causes all that is Old to burn. We shall not be touched by that awful fire, nor have to endure it forever like the wicked. No we shall be able to walk in the midst of the fire as the 3 Hebrew children did when

they were cast into Nebuchadnezzar's fiery furnace, for the Son of God shall be with us.

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