

Acts Lesson #13

BSF Scripture Reading:

FIRST DAY:

1. Read the lesson notes and References

SECOND DAY:

Read Hebrews 1

The Son Superior to Angels

[Heb 1:1] In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. [3] The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. [4] So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

[5] For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father" ? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son" ?

[6] And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

[7] In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire."

[8] But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.

[9] You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."

[10] He also says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

[11] They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.

[12] You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."

[13] To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet" ?

[14] Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

THIRD DAY

Read Hebrews 2

Warning to Pay Attention

[2:1] We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. [2] For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, [3] how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. [4] God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Jesus Made Like His Brothers

[5] It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. [6] But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?"

[7] You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor

[8] and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. [9] But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

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[10] In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. [11] Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. [12] He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

[13] And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

[14] Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil — [15] and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. [16] For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.

[17] For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

[18] Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

FOURTH DAY

Read Hebrews 3

Jesus Greater Than Moses

[3:1] Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. [2] He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. [3] Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. [4] For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. [5] Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, testifying to what would be said in the future. [6] But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

Warning Against Unbelief

[7] So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice,

[8] do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert,

[9] where your fathers tested and tried me and for forty years saw what I did.

[10] That is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.'

[11] So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'"

[12] See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. [13] But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. [14] We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

[15] As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."

[16] Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? [17] And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the desert? [18] And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? [19] So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

FIFTH DAY:

Read Hebrews 4:1-13

A Sabbath-Rest for the People of God

[4:1] Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. [2] For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them,

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because those who heard did not combine it with faith. [3] Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said,

“So I declared on oath in my anger,
‘They shall never enter my rest.’”

And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. [4] For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: “And on the seventh day God rested from all his work.” [5] And again in the passage above he says, “They shall never enter my rest.”

[6] It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience.

[7] Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before:

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts.”

[8] For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. [9] There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; [10] for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. [11] Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.

[12] For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

[13] Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

SIXTH DAY:

Read Hebrews 1:1-4:13

See above verses: