**Jesus is Better**

**God Has Spoken, part 2**

Hebrews 1:1-4

David Taylor

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We began a new series last week, Jesus is Better, preaching through the book of Hebrews. We started with an overview. We saw that Hebrews is a long sermon written to convince the readers that Jesus is better,[[1]](#footnote-1) superior, greater in every way (1) and that Jesus is worthy of our trust and devotion (2). When life clouds our thinking, Hebrews reminds us that Jesus is better and worth following.

Today we begin looking at Hebrews 1:1-4 for a few weeks to prepare our hearts for Christmas before we pick up speed. Today’s message is, God has Spoken, as we look at Hebrews 1:1-4. In human experience, communication is the lifeblood of relationships. We express ourselves in words to communicate to others, to know and be known. Communication is necessary for human relationships to exist. Today we consider divine communication. How the Creator of the universe speaks to us, His creatures. In Hebrews 1:1-2, we encounter a pronouncement about the God who communicates to us. That God has spoken is profound and awe-inspiring. In a world filled with noise and competing voices, how do we discern God’s voice? This truth is not just historical, God really has spoken to us, but he gives us knowledge about the source of life, eternal life, between Him as Creator and us as His creatures. My big idea is, God has spoken definitively in His Son.

**The Tapestry of Divine Speech (1)**

The first point that Hebrews makes is that there is a God and he has revealed himself in the OT and NT. All of us must answer the question, is there a God? If so, what is he like? How can I find out what he is like? We can know the answer because God has spoken. God is not silent; he spoke long ago and in these last days, he spoke in the past and in the present. God speaks because he is personal, a relational being. Speech is for communicating and relating to one another. God is not some impersonal force but a person. An impersonal force could not create something that he is not, personhood. God has spoken because he wants to be known, to be understood, and to be enjoyed. The bible, from the beginning to end, Genesis to Revelation, is a record of God speaking to humanity. God cannot be understood rightly or known apart from the bible, the inspired record of his communication to us (2 Tim 3:16).

In the OT, God spoke regularly and in a variety of ways by the prophets. “Long ago at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets (1).” God has not limited himself to one style or method of communication so if you have a hard time hearing God in Leviticus, you can read Genesis or psalms or proverbs! He spoke in the OT by the prophets. God never intended to communicate directly to everyone but limited his communication to spokespersons, the prophets. God spoke outside the prophets but that was not the norm. Have you ever been in a difficult situation and wanted to hear word from God? If you are like me, then you have at some point. In most cases His answer is, I already have! God has spoken, it is wise to listen to what he has said and to follow what he has said.

**The Culmination in Jesus Christ (2)**

Hebrews goes on to tell us that, in these last days God has spoken by His Son. The phrase last days in Scripture describes the time between Jesus’ earthly ministry and when comes again (Acts 2:17; 2 Tim 3:1; Jms 5:3; 2 Pet 3:3). He came the first time to reconcile humanity to God and He will a second time to judge God’s enemies (Jn 3:16-18). So, we are living in the last days waiting for his return on the last day (1 Thes 5:2; Mat 24:36). By stating that God has spoken by His Son, Hebrews tells us that Jesus is the definitive revelation of God. It is helpful to think of the OT as the age of promise and the NT as the age of fulfillment. The OT promised a Messiah King who would come to establish his kingdom and rule over his people. The NT declares that is fulfilled in Jesus Christ (Lk 10:24; Acts 28:23). We call this progressive revelation, the later sections of Scripture give us a fuller, more complete revelation of God than the earlier sections did. God’s communication, his speaking about who he is, what he is like, and how to be reconciled to him is summed up in Jesus’ words and work. As the Son, Jesus is uniquely qualified to communicate about God, he is the Son of God and God the Son. Listen to what God the Father says about the Son, “this is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased, listen to him (Jn 17:15).” Jesus’ words are Spirit and life (Jn 6:63), they are life giving words. He has the words of eternal life (Jn 6:67-68). This includes the whole bible as every path you take in it leads to Jesus and every rock you look under you find Jesus.

**Listening to the Echoes of Grace**

How, then, do we respond to this Truth, this reality? In a world filled with noise, distractions, and competing voices, discerning the voice of God becomes critical. As we navigate life, often like a wilderness that is hard and harsh, we need to attune our hearts to the echoes of grace. Through reading and meditating on Scripture, responding to God in prayer, and the leading of the Spirit, we position ourselves to hear the One Voice that sustains us, guides us, and transforms us. So when other voices tempt you to look to something or someone else for life, for significance, for joy, or for purpose, flee them and run to Jesus. We hear those voices everyday tugging at us. Political voices on the right and the left. Gurus of health and of the soul from every spectrum telling you how to live. Therapists and friends seeking to give advice. Even FB logarithms seeking to sway you. Even the voice of your own sinfulness, hiding in the recesses of your heart waiting for an opportune time to sway you toward sin and unbelief. But in Jesus, you have God’s definitive word that is better than every other voice. So drink daily and deeply from God’s word for life and strength to sustain you, to guide you, and to transform you.

**Life Group Questions:**

Icebreaker: Tell us your name and one voice/person that has been significant in your life and why?

Read Hebrews chapter 1:1-4 together and ask those questions that you want to ask and as time permits.

Head

1. What about Hebrews did you learn in the message, stood out, or spoke to you?
2. What are some voices you hear in your life or culture, calling you to believe or embrace?
3. If God has spoken definitively in the Son, does he speak outside the bible? If so, how?

Heart

1. What have you been reading in God’s word this last week?
2. How has God spoken to you this past week from your reading?
3. How often do you spend time in God’s word in a week?
4. How does spending time in God’s word help you face the difficulties of life?
5. What thing (s) or person (s) are you tempted to believe are better than Jesus?

Hand

1. What specific action are you going to take this week because of this message?
2. What part of this message do you need to share with someone this week?
3. How can we pray for you to be more faithful to Jesus, see him as better?
1. Greek word for ‘better’ occurs 13 times in Hebrews but the idea is more common. Jesus is compared to OT characters and institutions throughout Hebrews. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)