The Culmination of Revelation

Text: Hebrews 1:1-2b Date: 9-3-23 10:30 AM

The author of Hebrews sets out from bookend to bookend to unashamedly declare the superiority of Jesus Christ. He is the Culmination of all Revelation!

"Hebrews opens with a glorious crescendo of praise and adoration to our Lord Jesus Christ, the One vastly more deserving of honor than any one who ever walked our earth in physical form" (Sumner 15).

Within this great book of Hebrews comes the proof that New Covenant, the new way is better than the Old Covenant and the old way.

The new is better than the old because of the work of Christ. His character demonstrated that in all of His efforts He was superior because He was and is God. No other human, no other status, and no other office can compare to Christ. He is the perfect Prophet, Priest, and King.

I. In the past the prophets paved the way for the coming of Jesus Christ (Heb. 1:1).

The whole OT, whether it be through the revelation of the prophets, the law, the writings, the kings, the covenants, the different institutions, dreams, visions, events, or direct communication, God revealed His plan piece by piece. No one author was given the whole vision of what was to come. Individually all knew and wrote of a special Person to come.

MacArthur says this: "By definition, natural man cannot escape into the supernatural. We cannot go into a religious phone booth and change into a superman. We cannot in ourselves or by ourselves transcend our natural existence. If we are to know anything about God, it will not be by escaping, or climbing, or thinking, or working our way to Him; it will only be by His coming to us, His speaking to us". ¹

And so, God became human flesh.

This sets Christianity apart from all other religions for our God became one of us. While all other religions attempt to discover and reach God, Christianity has God coming into this world and telling us what our issue is so we can have peace with God. Luke 19:10 says, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

The bottom line is this: God spoke to His people!

The word of God in the OT is incomplete. There is more, much more, and it is revealed in and through the Person of Jesus Christ!

II. The coming of Christ was realized in the present days of Hebrews (Heb. 1:2a).

If the OT was the anticipation and preparation for Christ's coming, the NT was the revelation of His coming.

We now have the perfect full revelation of the Word. Jesus Christ is the self-revelation of God. That which was incomplete in the OT has become complete in the NT through the Word becoming flesh.

¹ MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1983). *Hebrews* (p. 2). Moody Press.

Explanation/last days: The Septuagint's translation means *in the end of these days* and was used of "messianic times in some way" (Kent 35). This would have been a familiar idea to the Jewish audience and indicated *that the last days had been inaugurated by the revelation or coming of the Messiah*. The *messianic times* represented the time from the first to second coming and would indicate Jesus is not just the last great prophet but "He has inaugurated a new age altogether" (Gaebelein 13).

III. The One who came is the Son of God (Heb. 1:2b).

The absence of the Greek article before Son indicates that while God had spoken through *the prophets,* now in this time He has spoken through One who is a Son, the very Son of God. This makes this One much greater than the prophets for His very nature is God and He has a special relationship to God.

Application: We can say then that the prophets were both instrumental and important in the process of revelation. But the culmination of revelation has come through Jesus Christ God's Son. In Him we have everything that we need to live, all we need to know, and all of His actions are the very character and Person of God Himself.