

Preaching Dates

17-18 February 2018

Charles Sommerville (am + pm) at New Farm Chapel, Alresford, Hampshire

18 February 2018

Elizabeth Shiveley (am) at St. Andrew's Baptist Church, St Andrews, Fife

John Perkins (am) at Maryhill Evangelical Church

Florence MacKenzie (am) at Aberdeen Christian Fellowship

Gordon Dickey (am) at Galashiels Baptist Church

George Sprott (am) at Kelso Baptist Church

Willie Henry (am) at Irvine Baptist Church

Irene Campbell (am) at 'College Sunday' event, Hillhead Baptist Church

Ian Stephen (am) at Borders General Hospital

Florence Mackenzie (pm) at Portlethen Christian Fellowship

Arthur Jones (pm) at South Beach Baptist Church

Aubrey Jamieson (pm) at Fishermen's Mission Nightcap Service, Lerwick Methodist Church

Hugh Tannock (pm) at Drumry House Care Home

Jim McNulty (am + pm) at Islay Baptist Church, Port Ellen

Steve Taylor (am + pm) at Peterhead Baptist Church

John Bingham (am + pm) at Mustard Seed Fellowship, Glenrothes

24 February 2018

Charles Sommerville (pm) at Barnards Court Mission, Greenock.

Fiona Merriweather (am + pm) at Ladies' Conference at City Church St Albans



"A Word Of Exhortation"

By David Rathel

The author of Hebrews wrote his epistle for Christians who were experiencing persecution. He desired for them to live faithfully for Christ despite the hardships they faced. Interestingly, the author did not berate his readers in order to accomplish this goal. Instead, he composed a "word of exhortation," one that sought to demonstrate the supremacy of Christ over all things.

In Hebrews 1:1-4, the author of Hebrews examines the Son's present work in relation to God's earlier actions. He explains that the salvation the Son brings is a continuation of what God began in the Old Testament when God "spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways." Though the Son's work has this continuity with the past, it also features elements of discontinuity. The author of Hebrews writes that while in the past God spoke to his people through human prophets, in these "last days" God communicates through his Son. This Son is unique; He is "heir of all things," the "radiance of God's glory," and the one who is higher than even the angels.

These statements reveal the Son's superiority. The Son is greater than all earlier prophets not because these prophets were untrustworthy but simply because the Son possess a superior nature to them. The prophets of old were humans like us. The Son, however, is God. He possesses the "exact representation" of the divine being.

This fact means that we do not have to wonder today if God communicates with us. The Son is fully God and took human flesh in the incarnation. In Christ, then, God has come close to us by literally entering our world. When we survey the teachings of Jesus and read about His miracles, we see the superior prophet in action.

We might not presently experience persecution like the Christians who originally received the Epistle to the Hebrews, but like them we can rejoice in the Son's work. When we stand to minister, we can have confidence that there is always a word from God that we can share. When we see confusion in the news or experience anxiety in our personal lives, we can know that God has not left us to wander in the darkness but has instead sent His Son to illuminate our word.