

Pastor Dan's Answers to the DBS Questions for the Week of January 20, 2025

Monday

Jesus: 1. Is God's Son. 2. Is the heir of all things God has made.
3. Made the universe! (Did you know that Jesus did this?) 4. Is the radiance of God's glory
5. Is the exact representation of God's being.
6. Sustains all things in the universe by his powerful word.
7. Provided purification for our sins. This is the activity that we usually associate with Jesus.
But think about 1 thru 6 and everything else Jesus is, has done and is now doing!

Tuesday

Some Christians believe that the Old Testament has nothing to do with Jesus. Maybe even Christians who were living in the day that Hebrews was written thought that too. But all seven quotes in Hebrews 1:5-14 come from the Old Testament, to show us that **Jesus is the fulfillment of OT prophecy**. Don't ever let anyone try to convince you that the Old Testament has nothing to do with Jesus.

Wednesday

A major theme from the author of Hebrews is the warning not to let the influence of people and events in this world cause his readers to **"drift away"** from the Christian faith (See 2:1). This is a theme because the truth is that God will let us **"drift away"** from him, and from our salvation if we do not continue to grow as disciples (students) of Jesus. Some put it, "You can't pickle a Christian," meaning that Christians are either growing and becoming more and more like Jesus or they are drifting away from the faith. Which are you? God has given us the means of grace (Bible study, prayer, worship with other believers, fasting, communion and fellowship with other believers) so that we will **"hold on" (3:6)** and **"hold firmly" (3:14; 4:14)** to Jesus, grow in our trust in him and become more and more like him.

Thursday

I think Hebrews 2:8b means that the Devil is being allowed right now to have his way in this world. But one day, at the Second Coming, we will see every thing and everyone become subject to Jesus.

Friday

It's very natural to be afraid to die. But we can become **"held in slavery"** to it when we allow our fear to "master" our every move and thought – from how many risks we allow ourselves to take, to how much money we give back to God, or to others. Are you afraid to die? Do you believe yet that Jesus conquered death by sharing in our humanity (v. 14) becoming a human like us and then dying in our place on the cross, (making **"atonement for the sins of the people"**, v. 17), thereby conquering the devil on Easter? And do you believe that Jesus will take us to himself when we die? This faith will help any Christian who is **"being tempted" (v. 18)** to drift away from the faith, including you and me!

Saturday

To fix our thoughts on Jesus we could begin our day with reading gospel passage each day, wear a cross, let our watch beep on the hour to remind us to say a prayer of thanks to Jesus, organize a lunch time Bible study at work, etc.. We are the **"house" (v. 6)** of Jesus because Jesus lives in us!

Sunday

Encouragement from other Christians helps us see that we're not alone in our struggles and doubts and reminds us to use the means of grace more to receive God's power (grace) to stay close to Jesus. (Did you see our theme of 'drifting away' again in 4:14 – **"if we hold firmly till the end"**?)