



**Growth Group Questions**  
**February 18, 2024**  
**“Jesus – The Final Word”**

**Context:**

Jesus Christ is the culmination of a long line of prophets, priests, and kings that we read about in the Old Testament. In the Old Testament days an individual would only hold or be anointed into, one of the offices, but Jesus is the perfect and complete prophet, priest and king. He fulfills all three roles.

The first thing we learn about God in the book of Hebrews is that God speaks. God has proven himself to be active and present, not only in our lives, but in the lives of our ancestors. Humanity is privileged to be the conversation partner of a holy God.

God’s word is not found by us. Instead, it is a gift given to us by God. The word of God is given at precise moments to a specific people. In the same way that God’s speech was often mediated through an object or person (burning bush, angel, Moses etc...), the word of God met its ultimate mediator in the person of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is introduced into this text in verse 2 when the writer says, “but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.” The use of “but” in this context informs the listener that God is doing a new thing through his Son. The way that God used to speak is shifting and is now finding new meaning in Jesus. This shift sets the foundation for a theme found in the book of Hebrews: how God “used” to speak vs. how God now speaks “now.”

The perfection of Jesus Christ and the culmination of his Word is detailed in verses 2-6. In these verses we find multiple praiseworthy characteristics of Jesus. All of the characteristics hearken back to Old Testament themes and bring the Old Testament into a new light. The book of Hebrews reminds us of not only where we have come from as believers, but it illuminates where we are going.

Hebrews 1 tells us that Jesus is the one who sustains all things by his powerful word in his prophetic role (v.3). He provides purification for our sins in his priestly role (v.3b). Finally, he reigns forever in his kingly role (v.9).



## Scripture and Quotes:

“He is the Prophet through whom God has spoken his final word; he is the Priest who has accomplished a perfect work of cleansing for his people’s sins; he is the King who sits enthroned in the place of chief honor alongside the Majesty on high.” F.F. Bruce, *The Epistle to the Hebrews*

### Hebrews 1:1-9

<sup>1</sup> In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son; today I have become your Father”<sup>[a]</sup>?

Or again,

“I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”<sup>[b]</sup>?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>7</sup> In speaking of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire.”<sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> But about the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;

a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> 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.”<sup>[e]</sup>

### Luke 23:34

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”<sup>[a]</sup> And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

### John 19:25-27

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman,<sup>[a]</sup> here is your son,” <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

### John 19:30

<sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### Hebrews 2:1

<sup>2</sup> We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.



### **Numbers 9:17-22**

<sup>17</sup> Whenever the cloud lifted from above the tent, the Israelites set out; wherever the cloud settled, the Israelites encamped. <sup>18</sup> At the LORD's command the Israelites set out, and at his command they encamped. As long as the cloud stayed over the tabernacle, they remained in camp. <sup>19</sup> When the cloud remained over the tabernacle a long time, the Israelites obeyed the LORD's order and did not set out. <sup>20</sup> Sometimes the cloud was over the tabernacle only a few days; at the LORD's command they would encamp, and then at his command they would set out. <sup>21</sup> Sometimes the cloud stayed only from evening till morning, and when it lifted in the morning, they set out. Whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud lifted, they set out. <sup>22</sup> Whether the cloud stayed over the tabernacle for two days or a month or a year, the Israelites would remain in camp and not set out; but when it lifted, they would set out.



**Questions:**

1. The title of this week's sermon is "Jesus – The Final Word." What does it mean that Jesus is God's final word?
2. In Hebrews 1:2 we are told that God has "...spoken to us by his Son." What does it mean to you that God has "spoken to us by his Son"?
3. In Hebrews 1:3, we read: "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by his powerful word." What does it mean that Jesus "sustains all things by His powerful word"?
4. Pastor Paul shared three different Scripture passages that reflect the final words of Jesus. What do these three passages tell you about the nature of God?
5. During this Lenten sermon series, we will be exploring the ways in which Jesus fulfilled the roles of prophet, priest, and king. What other roles does the Bible show us that Jesus fulfilled during his time on earth?
6. Hebrews 2:1 contains a warning that "We must pay careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away." What are some signs that we may be "drifting away" from God?
7. Why do Christians drift and what can we do to remain watchful to avoid drifting?
8. Citing Numbers 9:17-22, Pastor Paul said that, like the Israelites, our journey with God is not a linear one. What does this mean to you?
9. In Numbers 9:17-22 we also see how God communicated with the Israelites about how they were to proceed on their journey with Him. How does God communicate with us today about how we are to proceed on our journey with Him?

**Extra Credit:**

In the February 17<sup>th</sup> entry in Pastor Chad's Lenten Devotional, he asks the questions:

- What makes up your identity?
- How does that change when you become a member of the family of God?
- What does it mean to find your identity in Christ?

Spend time in your Growth Group discussing your answers to these thoughtful questions.

