

The background of the image is a dramatic, dark scene of a stormy sea. The sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, and several bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down towards the water. The sea itself is dark and turbulent, with white-capped waves visible in the foreground. The overall mood is one of power, intensity, and perhaps a sense of divine presence.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

SUMMER

- Full bloom, some summer crops
- Often a harsh, hot period
- Need to survive drought
- Time for pruning



SPIRITUAL SUMMER

- God uses circumstances to test our faith
- Strong spiritual battles: trials from people around us or attacks to get us to sin
- God cuts things or people out of our lives



8 steps of the “Path”

1. Faith
2. Excellence
3. Knowledge
4. Self-control
5. **Perseverance**
6. **Godliness**
7. Brotherly affection
8. Unselfish love

Perseverance is when we choose to trust God in every test, temptation, and trial

Godliness is when we work to align our character, ethics, worldview, and thought patterns with Christ



*Jesus is better than
anything and anyone else*

Hebrews 1:1–2a

Jesus is better than any other revelation given to that point; he is God's final "word" to us

- God spoke in different **portions**; he did not give us everything at once, and the newer revelation did not change or replace the older
- God spoke in different **ways**; visions, dreams, prophets, angels, personal appearances

Hebrews 1:1–2a

“in these last days” God spoke through **a son**

- “a son” – not “the Son,” not “His Son”
- He is a different type and quality than anyone who came before him
- Many people are still trying to hear from God via his old methods
- Jesus personally authorized the OT and NT writings

7 reasons Jesus is better as a Son (1:2b–3)

1) Heir (Rom 8:17)

5) Sustainer (Col 1:17)

2) Creator (John 1:1–3)

6) Purifier (1 John 2:2; Rom 3:25)

3) Radiance of God's
glory (John 1:18)

7) Finisher (Ps 110:1)

4) Representative
(1 Pet 1:16; Rom 8:29)

Hebrews 1:4

- Jesus is **better than angels**
- God gave Moses the law via angels (Heb 2:2; Acts 7:53; Gal 3:19; see Deut 33:2)
- Highly respected in Jewish tradition but not to be worshiped (Col 2:18)
- In the OT, angels are corporately “sons of God”; Jesus is “the” Son of God

7 ways Jesus is better than angels (1:5–13)

- 1) Promised King (Ps 2:7)
- 2) Son (2 Sam 7:14)
- 3) Worshiped by angels (Ps 97:7)
- 4) Angels are messengers (Ps 104:4)
- 5) He is God (Ps 45:6–7)
- 6) Creator, unchangeable, eternal (Ps 102:25–27)
- 7) Sat down (Ps 110:1)

Challenge

There is nothing you can think of, no religion, no ritual, nothing we can do or have, that is better than Jesus.

"Appreciation of Jesus is foundational to faithful perseverance." (Constable)

The background of the image is a dramatic, dark scene of a stormy sea under a heavy, dark sky. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. The water in the foreground is dark and turbulent, with white-capped waves. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

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