

**Sermon Quotes**  
**March 5 , 2006**  
**Study of Hebrews- Jesus, Superior To The Angels**

“There were other religious leaders these Christians were tempted to follow. And these other leaders were very impressive. Maybe it would be less morally demanding to follow them...maybe it would be less socially awkward and make for less persecution. Either way, these leaders were hardly false teachers...The writer tells us plainly they were ‘servants of God’: **prophets** of the Old Testament, **Angels** that came as messengers of God, even **Moses**... These were the people the original readers of Hebrews were tempted to turn toward and follow. Who was this Jesus, after all? Why not just serve these grand religious leaders? They were not as exclusive. Their claims were not as embarrassing.”

Mark Dever

“Taken by itself, the story of Jesus is a mournful story of a victim overpowered by his enemies. Taken alone, the narrative of Jesus from birth to the cross is a moving but finally despairing story of one who courageously took on the powers that be but, in the end, was no match for them. We easily forget that the central narrative of the Christian faith is, on the face of it, **a deep embarrassment**. Often we have turned the passion story into harmless sentiment and the cross into a piece of jewelry, losing touch with what early Christians painfully knew, that Jesus died in shame, and the cross is, to reasonable eyes, an inexplicable foolishness and a stumbling block to faith.”

—Thomas G. Long