

Hebrews 1:3

- "He is the radiance of His glory" – That is to say that *Jesus is the radiance of God the Father's glory*. What is the "radiance of His glory?" This is the majesty of God's supernatural essence and power on display. Jesus possesses the radiance of the Father's glory, as He does all other attributes of what it means to be God. The angels see the radiance of His glory. Adam experienced it before the fall. But, it must be veiled to fallen men, who cannot bear its unfiltered brilliance. Thus, in Jesus it is veiled by His flesh. It is revealed as the stunning visual manifestation of God's glory as first experienced by Moses as the cloud by day and fire by night at the Exodus (Exodus 13:20-22), then by him alone on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 33:21-23), and later by Moses and the priests as the Shekinah glory (not a biblical term, but a word coined by the ancient rabbis to refer to God's "dwelling" or "presence" *Emanuel* (Matthew 1:23) is a name for Jesus) in the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34-35), and later in the temple (2 Chronicles 7:1-3), Isaiah saw it (Isaiah 6) and finally in the incarnation (when the second Person of the trinity took the flesh of man upon himself and condescended to the earth as Jesus) as He briefly revealed His glory at the transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-13).
- Though we can see His glory as fallen human beings if it is veiled, there is nothing about Jesus in His earthly flesh that we would find physically attractive or beautiful in the visual sense. He was not what we would call handsome in our modern culture. Isaiah 53:2
- One day, when we receive our glorified bodies, we will see Him without the veil of flesh, from the cleft of a rock, or in any other deluded fashion. We will see Him as He actually is, the essence of His existence (ontology). 1John 3:2, 1Corinthians 13:8-12
- "the exact representation of His nature" - Jesus, though incarnate - He is not of this world, is God. He is not like God, but rather is God. He possesses all the attributes of deity - eternity, omniscience, omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence, love, aseity (uncaused, independent, and self-existent), holiness (distinct from the creation, not created, but separate from it), goodness, immutability (unchangeableness), infinity (boundlessness, limitlessness), transcendence (higher than all things, above all things, outside of the universe and active through the ages) and truth. John 8:23, Colossians 2:9, John 14:9,
- "upholds all things by the word of His power." - This refers to the attribute of immanence - His active involvement in the universe - not only actions He takes within it, including those in which He transcends or interrupts the laws of physics (to perform miracles, respond to prayer, or change the course of events) but His active participation in causing, and ensuring the continued existence of, the universe. Colossians 1:17, Acts 17:28, 1Corinthians 8:6, 2Peter 3:7
- Since God is immanent in creation, He can be seen in it. Just as one can recognize a person's handwriting, a Picasso painting, or a Rodin sculpture (The Thinker), God can be recognized as the Creator of the universe. Romans 1:18-20
- "the strong force" - It is known as the strongest fundamental force in nature. Science first theorized about the strong force in 1973. Its existence has since been proven by experimentation - the scientific method. It is believed that there is a "force" that holds the molecules of atoms (electrons, protons, neutrons) together, even though they are like-charged and, outside of an atom, repel each other as like-charged poles of two magnets, or the gravitational pull of two celestial objects (planets or stars). Psalm 104:1-35

- "When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high," - This is speaking of the crucifixion, ascension, and arrival at the throne of God in heaven. Jesus is at the right hand of the Father right now. He is doing several things. He is interceding for us before the Father, presenting His blood as Satan accuses us. He is waiting for the consummation of all things when God the Father places all His enemies under Jesus's feet. He is manifesting Himself to certain people at certain times. He is pouring out His Holy Spirit. Acts 1:6-11, Romans 8:34, Revelation 12:9-11, Matthew 22:44, 1Peter 3:22, Acts 7:55-56, 2:33-35