Hebrews

Hebrews 1:1-4 Jesus is superior to the prophets

Let the superiority of the Son of God and the revelation God gave through Jesus motivate you to continued faithfulness to Christianity God's developing revelations made through the prophets

- God has spoken
 - He is not silent
 - He is omnipotent
 - He is the organizer of things as they are
 - He is omniscient
 - He has revealed Himself to us through His WORD

God's developing revelations made through the prophets

- "...after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets"
 - All the ages before the coming of Jesus Christ
 - God spoke face to face with the patriarchs and through prophets like Enoch (Jude 14)
 - God spoke through prophets like Moses and Samuel in the Mosaic age
 - "long ago" maybe God's older revelation was no longer sufficient – a newer one was needed...

God's developing revelations made through the prophets

- "...in many portions and in many ways"
 - God revealed Himself a bit at a time in previous ages.
 - His will was revealed progressively as time went on
 - No one person or prophet revealed His will entirely
 - From Adam to Malachi, God reveled Himself a piece at a time
 - "many ways" would show us God used different means to reveal Himself – dreams, visions, direct communication, object lessons, and many many others

God culminated His revelation in His son

- "in these last days"
 - The Christian age is the last age and culminates in His word He would have us know completely revealed
- "...has spoken to us in His Son"
 - No form or person God spoke to in previous times compares to His revelation through Jesus His son.
 - The Old Testament was precursory, awaiting fulfilment in the Messiah "has spoken"

- "...whom He appointed heir of all things"
 - 1) Heir of all things
 - Proves Jesus exalted position
 - A title of dignity
 - Jesus is supreme.
 - The appointment was made in eternity before creation – God's plan is like God, always was/is/will be

- "...through whom He also made the world"
 - 2) Before the son took on a mortal body he was active helping the Father <u>create the world</u> and all in and around it.
 - Gr *aionas* world or age
 - As a co-creator of the world and everything in and around it Jesus is divine in nature and far above any prophet
 - Equally if the word is translated age, Jesus was the agent who determined when the ages began and ended, again far above the purview of any prophet

- "And He is the radiance of His glory..."
 - 3) The third evidence of Jesus superiority to any prophet He exudes the glory of God
 - This is the well known description of the dazzling sphere of light that is seen of God on His throne (Rev 4:2-6
 - Jesus shines with this dazzling light (Acts 9:3-5, Mat 17:2) just like the Father does no prophet can claim that, not even Moses whose face reflected a glow which lasted only a while when he descended from Mt. Sinai (2 Cor 3:13)

- "...the exact representation of His nature..."
 - 4) Jesus is an exact likeness to all that one finds in the Father
 - *Nature* in the NASV is a better translation than the KJV *person.* It implies the constituent elements of which something is made. The elements one finds in the Father are found in the Son they match exactly.
 - If the Father is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, infinitely holy, wise, just, and good, then so is the Son

- "...and upholds all things by the word of His power..."
 - 5) The Son is superior to prophets because He is responsible for sustaining this universe, in its existence and operation, and for maintaining it until it arrives at the consummation God has planned.
 - Jesus does this by merely speaking, for His word is just that powerful (Col 1:16-17)