

Calvary Chapel of El Paso Morning Ladies' Bible Study – The Book of Hebrews
October 13, 2020 – Lesson 3 – Hebrews 2:5-18 – But We See Jesus

*When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished:
and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. – John 19:30*

The Book of Hebrews was written to Jewish believers, and is laid out somewhat as a court case. Of course all the Word of God is for all believers, and as we read it we can follow Paul's logical points. AND His whole case is that Jesus Christ is superior to all else, and now God speaks to us through Him. The book contains five major warnings, and the first one is in Hebrews 2:1-4, which we studied last week. Paul warned the Jewish believers of the danger of drifting away. As we saw in chapter 1 Paul gave his introductory summary and then began with the point that Jesus Christ is superior to the angels. Yet the warning in chapter 2 is put right in the middle of Paul's detailed explanation of Jesus as superior to angels. It's an emphasis to keep our eyes on Jesus!

The subject of the angels was very important for explaining the superiority of Christ because the Jews put so much over importance on the angels.

Chapter 2 begins with "therefore." Paul was saying, "take this seriously" – spectacular things were done by the angels in times past, but NOW God Himself – Jesus Christ – speaks to us and is confirmed in a greater way (2:4).

Then Paul returned to itemizing and explaining why Jesus Christ is superior to the angels – this will be the rest of the chapter, which is our lesson for today.

READ Hebrews 2:5-10

Superior because - all things are under Christ, not the angels:

Verse 5: All things are under Christ, including the worlds to come. Actually, the things explained here concern eternity, as well as how Christ is over all. What follows is the explanation of how these things are so.

Superior because - Christ was (1) made a little lower than the angels and then (2) crowned with glory and honour:

Verses 6-8: This is one of many quotes of the Old Testament in the Book of Hebrews: Psalm 8:4 *What is man, that thou [God the Father] art mindful of him? and the son of man [Christ], that thou visitest him? 5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.*

This refers to Jesus Christ as the Son of Man.

Verse 8: All is under Christ: Philippians 2:5-11.

We do not see it all yet. 1 Corinthians 15:25 *For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.*

YET Christ has completed the work and victory is available to us all: John 19:30 *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

Think on this – Jesus Christ finished His work – all of it – so if you have a need in your life, He has supplied it through His shed blood on the cross. *It is finished.*

Verse 9: Made a little lower than the angels so that He could die – angels do not die. He thereby could suffer death:

For every man – for each individual, not just for *the sin of the whole world* (John 1:29).

Taste death for every man – Jesus asked the Father if *this cup pass from me* (Matthew 26:39). In those times often a prisoner would be made to drink a cup of poison and thereby be cursed and die. Jesus became a curse for us and died for us.

Crowned with glory and honour – we see that as so often, the resurrection is spoken of with the death of our Lord. He was then seated at the Father’s right hand. (Acts 2:33)

Verse 10: (continuing the thought) To bring many *sons to glory* (to save many), He is the *Captain of their salvation*. *Captain* is in the Bible four times. He is our:

Captain of their salvation – Hebrews 2:10

Prince of life – Acts 3:15

Prince and Saviour – Acts 5:31

Author and finisher of our faith – Hebrews 12:2

Perfect through suffering – this was as a man, not as God. “Perfect” means “complete,” so here we see that the finished work on the cross and the suffering that came before caused Jesus Christ to be a completed sacrifice for our sin. The Book of Hebrews has much more to say about this.

Superior because – He is brother to those whom He has saved.

READ Verses 11-18

Verse 11: Jesus the sanctified sacrifice brings sanctification (separation unto Him) to those He saves. And He calls them brethren! (brothers and sisters)

Verse 13: The Father gave us to Jesus.

Verse 14: HOW He conquered death – He and we are flesh and blood, so He could die for us as one of us. The price was paid. No need for sacrificial animals any more. Revelation 1:18 *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*

Destroy = put out of business (Chuck Smith)

Verse 15: We are delivered from the fear of death, which is a bondage. 1 Corinthians 15:54 *...Death is swallowed up in victory.* 55 *O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?* 56 *The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.* 57 *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.* – This has set us free to live for Him, to serve Him.

Verse 16: Christ did not come to save angels (their fate is sealed), but to save mankind. So He came in the line of Abraham, the righteous line through which Messiah/Christ was to come. He did not come as an angel.

Verse 17: SO because He is like us in every way, as flesh and blood, He can be our *merciful and faithful high priest*. This is the first mention in the Book of Hebrews of Jesus as high priest, and it will be a theme as we press on in the book.

Verse 18: Since Jesus suffered temptation as we do, He can succor us. Succor = help, aid, relieve.

So we see that Jesus Christ became a man (not an angel) so that He could (1) relate to man, (2) die for our sins, and (3) conquer Satan by His death and resurrection.

Next week we will learn how Jesus Christ is superior to Moses.

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

*20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross,
by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say,
whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.*

– *Colossians 1:19-20*

