

Hebrews chapter 2

In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Hebrews 2:10

We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard,
so that we do not drift away.

Boat image

Danger: nobody decides on spur of moment to give up on Jesus

Slowly drift (unaware of change)

Cf. cold blooded animals

Not starters but finishers get the prize

Restoration still possible at this point

Careful Attention - Keep watch over your life!

For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,

He is speaking of OT ministry & giving of law

It was binding (not optional)

There are consequences for breaking the rules

Just - no room for argument. The punishment fits the crime

how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?

If that was true of the old covenant, then it is much more serious for the new.

A question that God cannot answer.

This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed **to us by those** who heard him.

(a hint that Paul wasn't the author of Hebrews)

The Message came first from our Lord

Mark 1:14-15 ... Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Confirmed by apostles

Mark 16:20 Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

God's witness:

Signs

John 2:11 What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Wonders – wow

Matthew 8:27 The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

The Spirit's witness

Acts 5:32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come,
about which we are speaking.

The subject of angels continued:
(message: Jesus is better!)

They are not going to be rulers in the new world

We – fellow believer (conversational plural)

But there is a place where someone has testified..

Scripture reference ! (He can quote the passage)

Chapters and numbers are a later addition

"What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honour and put everything under his feet."

David and God's view of mankind (son of man)

Look at sky cf. Abraham

Man's place in creation – below angels for a time (a little) ...
glorious but ...

In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him.

Man's role in this world was meant to be –
the caretaker under God

Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him.

We are not there now / yet

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death,

Jesus fulfils man's destiny and by means of his death raised man to glory

Philippians 2:5-8 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore ...

so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

He entered human experience
And became our substitute

In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Many sons – adopted!

Destination – glory

God's way (fitting/right/appropriate)

The author and owner of it all!

The pathway to glory goes through suffering

“Perfect” – fully qualified for salvation's work

Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family.

Are we meant to be happy and/or holy?

The place of 'family' in God's plan

So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers

Amazing condescension ! (even though he is a king)

His Special relationship to each of us

I must not be ashamed to acknowledge him as my Lord
and Saviour

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes:

He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

Full of joy -> songs of praise (music together)

And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

Isaiah's children Prophetic of Messiah and his people

Isaiah 8:18 Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me. We are signs and symbols in Israel from the LORD Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.

Presented before the Father!

Matthew 10:32 "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven."

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity

Real human people need a real human Saviour

He became man (not a temporary state)

Matthew 1:20-21 .. an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--
that is, the devil--

Satan's destruction by Jesus' death

Satan's power – he aims to destroy

John 8:44 ...the devil... He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.

and free those who all their lives were held in slavery
by their fear of death.

Jesus gives us freedom from fear

1 Thessalonians 4:13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

1 Corinthians 15:54-55 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."
"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham`s descendants.

God`s focus is on people

Who are Abraham`s descendants?

Jews -

And believers in Jesus the Messiah

Galatians 3:28-29 *In Christ ... there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God,

In order to save and help us it was necessary to become man and suffer

Equipped for his role as the high priest (intercessory role)

Merciful - deals with our failings

Faithful – completes his work for us

and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

Sin is covered – hallelujah!

At-one-ment includes propitiation

To turn away God's wrath against sin

Psalm 7:11 God is a righteous judge, a God who displays his wrath every day.

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

What a great thing Jesus did!

Because he himself suffered when he was tempted,
he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Jesus faced it all (yet without sin)

Hebrews 4:15 in every respect he has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

So he knows how to help

By means of:-

His word

His Spirit's strength

His providential working

Questions:

Are we finished when we fail?

cf. Peter disowned him and Jesus' look

What kind of fear does the devil use on his victims?

Do you think it's a sin or a sign of weakness to be tempted?

What role will we have in the new world?

1 Corinthians 6:3, Revelation 22:3-5