

SERMON OUTLINE

In Hebrews 2:5-9, we read a tightly knit, 2-stage argument proving the “already-not-yet” presence of Jesus’ reign which prepares the way for the lengthy discussion of His incarnation ministry.

I. Proposition: God did not subject the world to come to angels (v. 5).

Implication: He subjected it to Jesus.

II. Proof:

Exhibit 1: First Adam—God subjected the world to mankind in the garden, but presently we don’t see that dominion because of their sin (vs. 6-8).

Exhibit 2: Second Adam—We do see Jesus, Who at His incarnation was made lower than the angels for a while, so he could suffer death on behalf of His people, and then be exalted.

Implication: We don’t see everything subjected to Him in this world, but He is now exalted even though we will not see total subjection until the world to come.

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 23, 2020

Passage: Hebrews 2:5-9

Memory Passage: Hebrews 2:9

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Ps. 8:1-9.** What does David say about God in this Psalm?
- (b) What does God's creation cause David to wonder (vs. 3-4)?
- (c) The Hebrew behind the ESV's "heavenly beings" is *עֲלֵיָּהּ* (*elohim*), which can also be translated "God" (NASB) or "gods" and refer to angels or heavenly beings. The Septuagint (LXX), which the author of Hebrews most likely used, translates *elohim* as *ἄγγελος* (*angelos*—"angel"). Since both of these are true (i.e. man is created as lower than both angels and God), in what ways did God "crown (mankind) with glory and honor?"
- (d) Over what was man to "have dominion," and in what ways did God "put all things under his feet" (cf. Gen. 1:26-28)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 2:5-9.** Does v. 5 continue the thought of 2:4 or 1:13? Explain your answer using the text.
- (b) To what does "the world to come, of which we are speaking" refer?
- (c) Why do you think the author introduces the quotation as "It has been testified somewhere" rather than "David says?"
- (d) As the author uses them, do the verses in 6b-8 refer to Christ, mankind, or both? Explain your answer.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 2:5-9.** Explain how vs. 6b-8 refers to mankind (note that "man" in parallel to "son of man")?
- (b) Explain how vs. 6b-8 refers to Jesus (note that Jesus is the Son, and referred to Himself as "the Son of Man")?
- (c) Our author clearly uses Psalm 8 to show that mankind failed in their creation mandate while Christ, the 2nd Adam, succeeds in fulfilling it. When does this subjection of everything to Christ take place according to Psalm 110 (cf. 1:13)? When does this subjection take place according to Psalm 8? How do you reconcile these 2 answers?
- (d) In what ways do we "not see everything in subjection to" mankind? To Christ?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb 2:5-9.** What is contrasted by the use of "but" (v. 9)?
- (b) In what way was Jesus "for a little while made lower than the angels" (remember, our author's point in chapter 1 was that Jesus was greater than the angels!)?
- (c) In what way was he "crowned with glory and honor," and why was this crowning predicated on his "suffering of death?"
- (d) In what way did Jesus taste death "for everyone?" Does "everyone" mean every person who ever lived? Something else? Explain your answer with Scripture, beginning with the book of Hebrews itself.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 2:5-9.** Explain the "already-and-not-yet" aspects of everything being in subjection to Jesus.
- (b) In what ways do you struggle to be in complete subjection to Jesus, who "tasted death" for you?
- (c) How does this passage answer questions about suffering in this age and the problem of evil, questions such as: "If Jesus is ruling and everything is in subjection to him then why did my wife/husband/child/relative/friend die of cancer, why do children suffer, and why do people die at the hands of evil men?"
- (d) How does knowing that Christ's being crowned with glory and honor was "because of" his suffering death help you to endure suffering in this life? How does it help you to disciple others who are suffering?

DATE: February 23, 2020

PASSAGE: Hebrews 2:5-9

Already and Not Yet