

# The Crowning Declaration:

## The Resurrection

Hebrews 2:6-15 - Dr. Craig P. Scott

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth and all the things in it. And it says in the book of Genesis that

“... God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.” - Genesis 1:31

In the book of Hebrews 2:7-8a it also says that when God made man He made him ...

“A little lower than the angels and crowned man with glory and honor. God set Adam over the works of His hands. He put all things in subjection under his feet.”

Yet today when we look around us we do not see all things as good, nor do we see man crowned with glory and honor.

***What was once good is now broken.***

In fact the book of Hebrews agrees with this when it says ...

“But now we see not yet all things put under him (mankind)” - Hebrews 2:8b

Why is this?

Sin. Adam was unable to retain the honor and glory bestowed upon him because of sin.

Through Adam's sin, sin entered into the world and death by sin. In fact, we all possess Adam's nature. We all demonstrate the inability to be righteous, holy and good.

At times we can see glimmers of the earth's former beauty, like in the Fjords of New Zealand's south island where the majesty of the mountains rise out of the sea.

Or we can see the near perfect beauty creation in an unmarred flower. But we don't have to look to far to see the affects of the fall of man on the beauty of the earth: polluted streams, dry and parched lands, and a groaning creation.

Think of Adam's original beauty before the fall. He was made in the image of God. He possessed an undefiled mind, picture perfect health and had the unveiled presence of God walking before him to guide him.

Today we only see glimmers of our being made in the image of God. We see snapshots of love, compassion, mercy, wisdom and truth, yet this is not the norm. When we see those good things we rejoice but more often than not we see the fallen side of humanity, such as, cruelty, selfishness, greed and violence.

Even the very best of us manifest these fallen traits demonstrating sins powerful effect on all of humanity. Last of all we all know that we all face the certainty of death. Furthermore, what one of us has not lied, deceived, thought or said unkind or even done cruel things.

God tell us what He sees what he looks upon us (fallen man),

“There is none righteous, no not one.

There is none that understandeth

There is none that seeketh after God.

We are all gone out of the way

We are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

**Our throat** is an open sepulcher; with

**Our tongues** we have used deceit; the poison of asps are under our lips.

**Our mouth** is full of cursing and bitterness.

**Our feet** are swift to shed blood: destruction and misery are in our ways: and the way of peace we have not known”

There is no fear of God before our eyes.”

This is a sad picture.

From the time of Adam's fall, natural man apart from God's grace has been separated from God.

This separation came because holiness and unrighteousness cannot mix. How could God be called Just, Righteous, or even Moral and never deal with injustice, unrighteousness and immorality. God could not include us in His Kingdom unless something is done about our sinful state.

“Can two walk together, except they **be agreed?**” Amos 3:3

In Psalm 24 the writer asks

“Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? - Psalm 24:3

His answer is

<sup>4</sup> “He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.”

But what one of us has never sinned.

Unless something is done to remedy the problem of our sin, a holy God and sinful man cannot be one.

The good new is found in Hebrew 2:9

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

What Adam lost and what we could never regain because of our fallen and lost state God did by sending His Son.

It says that, “Jesus was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death.

1. The king of glory. Our Maker and our Creator made Himself of no reputation.
2. He took upon Himself the form of a servant.
3. He was made in the likeness of men and being found in the fashion as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

His purpose for coming to this earth and identifying with mankind is stated in many places.

In Luke 19:10 it says, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Or in our Hebrews 2:10 "to bring many sons unto glory"

For "God commendeth His love towards us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." - Romans 5:8

I think if we are honest with ourselves we know that this world is broken.

We are quick to point out business greed, racial injustices, cruelty in the home, violence in the world and the countless other injustices.

However, we are slower to point to our brokenness and sinfulness as a contributing factor in this fallen depraved world.

To some degree we all can understand goodness, kindness, love, mercy, justice, and purity.

How do we know if this is all true?

The most important event in the history of man then is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1. Romans 1:4 says, "Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, the Father. . . "declared *Jesus* to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead"
2. The resurrection is the public testimony that all the Jesus said and did is true. He is the Son of God. He is reclaiming that which was lost.
3. The resurrection answers questions like, "how do I know my sins are forgiven?"

How can I believe that God accepted Jesus for my sins?

4. The resurrection is not without eyewitnesses.
  - a. Mary in the Garden -- John 20:11-ff
  - b. The women by the wayside -- Matthew 28:9,10
  - c. Appeared to Peter — Luke 24:34 & 1 Cor. 15:5a
  - d. The disciples on the Emmaus road Luke 24:13ff

- e. Appeared to the company of apostles and disciples on the day of the resurrection — Luke 24:33; John 20:19ff.
  - f. Appeared to Thomas one week later — John 20:26-28
  - g. Seven disciples on the seashore — John 21:1ff
  - h. Jesus' followers gathered on the mountain -- Matthew 28:16
  - i. Appeared to 500 — 1 Corinthians 15:6
  - j. Appeared to James — 1 Corinthians 15:7
  - k. The disciple saw Jesus ascend into heaven from the Mt. of Olives — Luke 24:50,51; Acts 1:9.
  - l. Appeared to the apostle Paul on the Damascus road. — 1 Corinthians 15:8
5. Philippians 2:9-11 “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: <sup>10</sup> That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; <sup>11</sup> And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
  6. He reigns today as our Intercessor and King. Because of Him we are kept saved.
  7. Romans 5:10 “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”
  8. As Lord to of glory of the Father, “Rev. 5:1-11 “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? <sup>3</sup> And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. <sup>4</sup> And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. <sup>5</sup> And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. <sup>6</sup> And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne

and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. <sup>8</sup> And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. <sup>9</sup> And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; <sup>10</sup> And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.