

And This Will We Do, If God Permits
An Expository Journey through the Epistle to the Hebrews
Chapter 3: The Preeminence of Jesus Christ
Hebrews 1:1-4
20: The Preeminence of Jesus Christ: Part 5

WAOY Monday 01/26/09

Welcome again, my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing our verse-by-verse-journey through the **Epistle of Hebrews**, and today I want to continue to look at what the writer of **Hebrews** taught about the Preeminence of Jesus Christ. So let's open our Bibles and read **Hebrews 1:1-4** again together.

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
² in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.
³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
⁴ having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

Now on the last broadcast, we were looking at the seven "excellences" that the writer of **Hebrews** shows us in the second half of verse two and all of verse three, so let's read those verses again together.

^{2...} in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.
³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...

Now in these two verses, we can see seven very powerful excellences about Jesus that we need to examine very closely. Those seven excellences are:

1. His Heir-ship
2. His Creator-ship
3. His Radiance
4. His Being
5. His Administration
6. His Sacrifice
7. His Exaltation

And on the last broadcast, we were looking at the first “excellency” that the writer of **Hebrews** gives to us, and that is the *Heirship* of Jesus Christ. And we saw last time that even the **Psalms** predicted that Jesus would one day be heir to all that God possess. So let’s look again at **Psalms 2:6-9**.

**⁶“But as for Me, I have installed My King
Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”**

**⁷“I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to Me, ‘You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.**

**⁸‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
And the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession.**

**⁹‘You shall break them with a rod of iron,
You shall shatter them like earthenware.’”**

And in **Psalm 89:27** God says:

**²⁷“I also shall make him *My* firstborn,
The highest of the kings of the earth.**

Now the term “firstborn” that the Psalmist used here does *not* mean that Christ did not exist before He was born as Jesus in Bethlehem. The Bible says in **John 1** that the Word was *always* with God, and that the Word was God, and was made flesh and dealt among us. So no, this is not a chronological term at all, but has to do with *legal rights*, especially as it pertains to inheritance and authority. And the point here is this: God’s Kingdom will, in the last days, be given finally and eternally to Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul said in **Colossians 1:16 & 17** that all things were not only created *by* Jesus Christ, but they were created *for* Jesus Christ. Let's read that passage together.

Colossians 1:16&17

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

You see, the Bible says that everything that exists, exists *for* Jesus Christ. What a glorious concept! Everything that was created was created *by* Jesus Christ and it was created *for* Jesus Christ. How different that sounds from what many in the modern Church are preaching today. These people are preaching a strange-sounding “gospel” that revolves around Man, and that has Man at the center, and that only deals with the perceived needs of Man. It builds up and exalts Man, but the true Gospel that we find in the Bible is all about Jesus Christ. It has Christ at the center. And this Book says that everything that God made, He made *by* Jesus Christ and He made it *for* Jesus Christ. Now this verse gives us some sense of the great Love that exists between God and Jesus. This verse gives us a sense of the position that Christ has with the Father. This verse gives us some sense of what goes on between Father and Son. And this makes Jesus more than just Lord. This makes Jesus to be the Heir of everything that God has.

So much that you hear today in Church has to do with Man, the glory of Man, the so-called authority of Man, the power of Man, and the rights of Man. We hear all day about what God owes us, what God needs to do for us, how God needs to move at our requests, and how God needs to change things for us. But here inside God's revealed Truth, the Holy Bible, we see a different story. We see that everything is about Jesus Christ. If you never hear anything else that I say to you, please hear this. You are not the most important thing in God's Creation. Jesus is. You are not the prize. Jesus is. You are not the source of God's Joy, for Jesus is. You are not the one who has perfectly loved God, perfectly followed God, perfectly obeyed God, and perfectly served God. Jesus is. The world was not created for you; no, you're not that

important. The world and all that it contains was created for Jesus Christ. It was created by Jesus and for Jesus.

And we are called to share in this glorious Creation with Jesus Christ. We are called to share in God's marvelous Love with Jesus Christ; we are called to share in God's spectacular Glory; we are called to share in God's incredible Salvation; we are called to share in the magnificence and the indescribable glory of Heaven, all with and through Jesus Christ.

Beloved, you and I have been chosen to come to a table that we didn't build, that has on that table the most glorious feast that has ever been prepared, that *we* didn't cook. And that feast and that table resides in a palace that we didn't build; and that palace is located inside a city whose Builder and Maker is God; and that city is in a kingdom that God made; and we are sitting in that kingdom, and in that city, and in that palace, and at that table, and we are eating that food with Jesus. And all those who have come before us - precisely because before the foundation of the world, God chose us to be there, and in order for us to be able to participate in all of this - Jesus had to take our sins and die with them. He had to bear our sins. He had to rise again the third day, and He had to ascend into Heaven, and He had to sit at the right Hand of God Almighty. He had to make intercession for us. And God's Spirit had to draw us, because we were lost in our sins, and God had to reach down to get us... because we couldn't reach up to Him. God had to take the Blood of Jesus Christ and bathe us in it. And God had to seal our hearts with His Spirit. God had to impute or credit the very Righteousness of Jesus Christ to us. God the Holy Ghost had to come down to dwell inside of us, and walk inside of us, and led us into all Truth.

And we ought to praise Him for what He has done, and we ought to shout aloud to God for what He has done, and we ought to respond to what He has done by walking with Him, serving Him, loving Him, obeying Him, and following Him!

I tell you that we need to look at our crosses today. We need to see the *ruggedness* of that cross, and we need to see the harshness of that cross, and we need to see the importance of that cross. We need to see the beauty of that cross. We need to see the glory of that cross, and the joy that lays before that cross. We need to quit complaining about that cross, and belly-aching, and murmuring, and we need to quit debating.

We need to obey God and simply pick up our cross; we need to pick that cross up daily and we need to follow Him wherever he leads. And I tell you that God is raising up a people who will serve Him with gladness of heart. God is raising up a people who will walk with God no matter what the cost, and God is raising up a people who will love Jesus more than life itself; and I tell you that it is good to know Jesus! It is good to be on the straight and narrow path. It is good to be rejected by the world, and it is good to be persecuted by the lukewarm religious people; and it is good to strive to enter in the straight gate. It is good to be content with what God has provided.

I tell you that Jesus Christ is the Heir of all that God has done and all that God has made, and we have this glorious Heir living in our hearts. We have this King walking up and down within us, and we have this Christ that loved us and gave His life for us so that we might love Him enough to serve Him. I tell you that this Heir became sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the very righteousness of God in Him. But when this same Jesus comes back to this earth again, everything will be different. He is not coming back as the mild Nazarene. He is not coming back as the humble carpenter. He is not coming back as the gentle friend of sinners. He is not coming back as the butt of all their jokes.

No, this time, Jesus is coming back as Lord and as the Heir of the earth. Jesus is going to burst the eastern sky riding on a white horse as the Champion of Heaven, the conquering Hero of Glory, the Master of the Universe. He is the High Priest of God, the Son of the Highest and the Darling of the Trinity. He is coming back to this earth as the Owner of this Earth, the Rightful Heir of all that God has made. He is coming back as God, as Sovereign, as Master and as Lord. No one will laugh at Him then. No one will ever hit Him again. No one will spit in His face ever again. No one will ever mock His name again. No one will ever dispute His Authority again. No one will ever argue or debate with Him again.

He is coming back as the King of every ruler on this earth. He will be King over all the kingdoms of this earth. He will be King over every President and over every judge, over every business owner, over every millionaire, over every dictator, over every lawyer, over every doctor, and over every person who has any authority in all the earth. We will all bow to Jesus on that day.

When Jesus comes back He will be the Lord of all Creation. He will be the Lord of every Heart and every home and every nation and every kingdom. On that day every army will lay down their arms and every navy will sit still in the water. Every air force will stop flying. No one will be able to exist outside of His lordship. And on that day, the governments of the world will be given to Him. The structure of every society and civilization will be handed to Him because He alone is Lord. When Jesus comes back on that day, no one will dispute His claim of Who He is. The devil will be taken by *one* angel! Just one angel will take Satan and bind him and set a seal upon him, and cast him into the bottomless pit where he will stay for a thousand years.

On that day, every knee will bow.

Every man will bow; every woman will bow; every child will bow; every atheist will bow; every agnostic will bow; every hater of God will bow; every Muslim will bow; every Jew will bow; every Buddhist will bow; every Hindu will bow; the ACLU will bow; the Supreme Court will bow; you will bow and I will bow. And God will loosen the collective tongues of the billions and billions of all of humanity in one chorus of praise and celebration, like the world has never seen, as every single tongue on earth and every tongue in heaven and every tongue in hell and every tongue of every angel will cry out loud that Jesus Christ is Lord!

Well, I have to stop right here, but please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our journey through the Epistle of **Hebrews**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. *Soli Deo Gloria*. For the Glory of God alone.