

Just Checking #135 APRIL 2013

SEEING JESUS Hebrews 2

Psalm 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord... for I am a 'pilgrim' with You..."
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Hebrews 2:9

**But we see Jesus,
who was made a little lower than the angels,
now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death,
so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.**

The author of Hebrews exalts Jesus Christ in His person, many offices and relationships, and surpassing greatness. Christ surpasses prophets and angels, Moses and the law, Aaron and the priesthood, the temple and the old covenant with its sacrifices and feasts.

The book begins with eight offices of Christ.

Hebrews 1:2-3

**...God has *spoken* to us by His *Son*,
whom he appointed *heir* of all things,
and through whom he *made* the universe.
The Son is the *radiance* of God's glory
and the *exact representation* of his being,
sustaining all things by his powerful word.
After he had provided *purification* for sins,
he *sat down at the right hand* of the Majesty in heaven.**

He is Christ the **Revealer**, **Son** of God, **Heir** of all things, **Creator** of all things, God's **Radiant Glory and Exact Image**, **Sustainer** of the universe, **Purifier** of sins, and **King** seated at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

In chapter 2 we are warned against drifting from the centrality and exclusivity of Christ as Savior and Lord. Having quoted Psalm 2 regarding God's gracious assignment to man (not angels) as overlord of creation, he admits that at this present time we certainly do not see a submissive creation. Due to the curse, the earth exercises dominion over man, swallowing man up at the end of life. But in Christ's resurrection, we will have the final victory and will be over a glorified and subdued creation, reigning with Christ at last. So, even though "at present (under the curse) we do not see everything subject to man, but ***we see Jesus*** made a little lower than the angels (truly human)...***crowned***" with dominion over all creation. King Jesus reigns!

With this in mind, we now see another listing of the surpassing glories of Christ Jesus. The first list in chapter 1 flows from His surpassing greatness over angels. This list flows from His surpassing greatness over sin in rescuing sinners.

Hebrews 2:9

we see Jesus,

**who was made a little lower than the angels,
now crowned with glory and honor
because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.**

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

So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

**He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."
And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."**

**Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity
so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil--
and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.
For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.
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,
and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.
Because he himself suffered when he was tempted,
he is able to help those who are being tempted.**

We see here 11 relationships that Christ shares with us as the all sufficient Savior.

Stop.

Slow down.

Take time to meditate on the sweet sufficiencies of Christ herein revealed.

He is all this for you!

He is **Second Adam**, truly human... "made a little lower than the angels"

He is **King** exalted and glorified... "crowned with glory and honor"

He is **Lamb** of sacrifice... "he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone"

He is **Guide** of sons... "bringing many sons to glory"

He is **Author** of salvation... "author of their salvation"

He is **Elder Brother**... "not ashamed to call them brothers"

He is **Satan's Destroyer**... "destroy him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil--"

He is the **Slave's Deliverer**... "free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death"

He is the **Sinner's Helper**... "it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants"

He is **High Priest**... "he might become a merciful and faithful high priest"

He is **Sufferer's Sustainer**... "Because he himself suffered.. he is able to help those who are being tempted."

Oh the glories of Christ! Worthy is the Lamb!

Think of all your needs. List them. Consider how vast our needs really are.

Then see how much the surpassing greatness of Christ fills your every deep valley of need, levels your every high mountain of adversity, meets every consequence of the curse in your life and mine.

Think, beloved. Think on all His glorious sufficiencies.

This is comfort beyond description.

See it. Smell it. Take it. Drink it. Share it.

SELF CHECK:

- 1) Are you resting in Christ to bring you to glory?
- 2) Are you free from enslaving fears?
- 3) Are you convinced of His mercy and sympathy as a Fellow Sufferer?
- 4) Are you confident of His sustaining grace now and through life's entire journey ahead?

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

There are several chapters that find lists of Christ's multiple offices and relationships to us. Here are a few for your consideration. John 1:1-18 Colossians 1:12-22 Revelation chapters 1-3

"O **Second Adam**, you have come and fully obeyed the Father's will. O **King** of kings, You reign victorious over all.

O **Lamb** of sacrifice, you satisfied heaven's justice for us. O **Guide** of sons, lead us home to glory. **Author** of salvation, there is no salvation apart from you. **Elder Brother**, we shall never cease to wonder that you would own us unashamed.

Satan's Destroyer, our confidence rests in you alone. **Slave's Deliverer**, our freedom is found in none but you.

Sinner's Helper, you give to us what you deny to angels. We shall never cease to wonder at your love! O **High Priest**, in you is atonement finished, full, and final. O **Sufferer's Sustainer**, none has suffered like you have suffered. In you is grace sufficient in all my suffering. There is no lack in you for any sinner in any circumstance. We bless you for being you, now and forever. In your name above all names we pray, Amen."

Remember, you are very special to us and we pray for you.

Living with leaving in view.... Jn 9:4 Ron & Val

Seeing The Invisible, embracing The Unapproachable, declaring The Unexplainable,
changed by The Immutable, running after The Irresistible
with inexhaustible joy in our inexpressible sorrows,
spending our time on eternity,
owning nothing yet possessing everything
that matters and lasts.
We are Pilgrims in Paradox.
Welcome to THE JOURNEY