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HEBREWS

## Hebrews 02

### JESUS – SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- A. In the first Chapter of Hebrews, the writer established that Jesus is superior to the prophets and dealt a little bit with the angels.
1. He closed the first Chapter by telling us that the angels are just God's servants, and they were sent for the purpose of ministering to us - those who are saved.
    - a) **Hebr 1:14 (NKJV) Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**
    - b) As he mentions the subject of salvation, the writer wants us to know how important the Lord considers salvation!
    - c) He wants us to know we are valuable to the Lord.

#### II. **HEBR 2:1 (NKJV) THEREFORE WE MUST GIVE THE MORE EARNEST HEED TO THE THINGS WE HAVE HEARD, LEST WE DRIFT AWAY.**

- A. This verse has the same connotation as **Ephe 5:15 (NKJV) See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,**
1. If we do not "pay attention" to what we have heard, we will "**drift away.**"
    - a) When someone or something "drifts", they very slowly and very casually move from one point to another. Often this is done without the person being aware that they have even drifted.
    - b) It is also usually because there has been a "current" pulling them away from their point of origin. (The more subtle = the more effective.)
      - (1) For example – ships drop anchor to keep from "drifting".
    - c) Getting back to the original location is usually very difficult, because it requires going "against the flow!"
      - (1) So, in essence, the writer is saying, "*Pay attention, and stay on target.*" "*It is so much harder to get back, once you have drifted away.*"
  2. He will now explain the importance of listening or paying attention to what we have learned.

#### III. **HEBR 2:2-4 (NKJV) FOR IF THE WORD SPOKEN THROUGH ANGELS PROVED STEADFAST, AND EVERY TRANSGRESSION AND DISOBEDIENCE RECEIVED A JUST REWARD, 3 HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE IF WE NEGLECT SO GREAT A SALVATION, WHICH AT THE FIRST BEGAN TO BE SPOKEN BY THE LORD, AND WAS CONFIRMED TO US BY THOSE WHO HEARD [HIM], 4 GOD ALSO BEARING WITNESS BOTH WITH SIGNS AND WONDERS, WITH VARIOUS MIRACLES, AND GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, ACCORDING TO HIS OWN WILL?**

A. **Verse 2** is a reference to the Law of Moses given at Mount Sinai.

1. **Acts 7:38** and **53**, and also **Galatians 3:19**, and even the historian Josephus confirms that the Law of Moses was given to him on the mountain by an angel of the Lord!
2. The people of the Old Testament were held accountable by this law and were rewarded or punished accordingly.
  - a) So, the logic is this. People were held accountable for the Law of Moses, which came from angels. Where will mankind's excuse be, if he rejects the plan of salvation that came directly from the Lord and confirmed by personal testimony and signs and wonders, miracles, and the Holy Spirit?
  - b) The answer is simple. There will be no excuse! There is no "plan b"!
    - (1) Now the writer goes on to explain how the Lord feels about man.

**IV. HEBR 2:5-8 (NKJV) FOR HE HAS NOT PUT THE WORLD TO COME, OF WHICH WE SPEAK, IN SUBJECTION TO ANGELS. 6 BUT ONE TESTIFIED IN A CERTAIN PLACE, SAYING: "WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM, OR THE SON OF MAN THAT YOU TAKE CARE OF HIM? 7 YOU HAVE MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND SET HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS. 8 YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET." FOR IN THAT HE PUT ALL IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIM, HE LEFT NOTHING [THAT] [IS] NOT PUT UNDER HIM. BUT NOW WE DO NOT YET SEE ALL THINGS PUT UNDER HIM.**

A. The "world" of which the writer speaks (in **verse 5**) is the same one John saw in **Reve 21:1-3 (NKJV) Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them [and] [be] their God.**

1. It is the Millennial Kingdom and it is the dwelling place of men, not angels.
2. He goes on to quote **Job 7:17**, **Psalm 8:4-6**, **Matthew 28:18**, and **1Corinthians 15:25, 27** to prove that it is man, and his salvation, the Lord is ultimately concerned about.
  - a) In **verse 8** we see man given dominion of the creation, dominion lost at the Garden, and dominion regained at the millennium.

**V. HEBR 2:9 (NKJV) BUT WE SEE JESUS, WHO WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS, FOR THE SUFFERING OF DEATH CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR, THAT HE, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, MIGHT TASTE DEATH FOR EVERYONE.**

A. If Jesus had remained in His exalted position as God, He could not have died for the sins of man.

1. As a man, He willingly took a lower position than the angels.

2. It was the only way that He **might taste death for everyone.**

**VI. [HEBR 2:10 \(NKJV\)](#) FOR IT WAS FITTING FOR HIM, FOR WHOM [ARE] ALL THINGS AND BY WHOM [ARE] ALL THINGS, IN BRINGING MANY SONS TO GLORY, TO MAKE THE CAPTAIN OF THEIR SALVATION PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERINGS.**

- A. [John 1:3 \(NKJV\)](#) All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

1. It was "appropriate" (**fitting**) for the Creator of all things to be the Captain of mankind's salvation!
2. And it was "**perfect**" for the Lord to do it through the weakness of suffering as a human!
  - a) How else would man know that there was hope for him, if Jesus had not obtained victory **as a man!**

**VII. [HEBR 2:11-13 \(NKJV\)](#) FOR BOTH HE WHO SANCTIFIES AND THOSE WHO ARE BEING SANCTIFIED [ARE] ALL OF ONE, FOR WHICH REASON HE IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL THEM BRETHREN, [12](#) SAYING: "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN; IN THE MIDST OF THE ASSEMBLY I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOU." [13](#) AND AGAIN: "I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM." AND AGAIN: "HERE AM I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."**

- A. In one holy act of the Perfect Lamb, dying as a man, we became one with Him in His resurrection!

1. The writer of Hebrews quotes [Psalm 22:22](#), [2 Samuel 22:3](#), and [Isaiah 8: 17, 18](#) to prove that the Lord is not ashamed to call us His brothers, and His children.

**VIII. [HEBR 2:14-15 \(NKJV\)](#) INASMUCH THEN AS THE CHILDREN HAVE PARTAKEN OF FLESH AND BLOOD, HE HIMSELF LIKEWISE SHARED IN THE SAME, THAT THROUGH DEATH HE MIGHT DESTROY HIM WHO HAD THE POWER OF DEATH, THAT IS, THE DEVIL, [15](#) AND RELEASE THOSE WHO THROUGH FEAR OF DEATH WERE ALL THEIR LIFETIME SUBJECT TO BONDAGE.**

- A. Jesus is the only One who has ever beaten death!

1. Fear is bondage in and of itself! Fear of death is very common for those who feel there is nothing after death.
2. Christianity is the proof that there is more!
3. Jesus is proof that there is life after death. The fear that satan used to keep men in bondage has been erased by the Savior.
  - a) [John 14:1-3 \(NKJV\)](#) "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. [2](#) "In My Father's house are many mansions; if [it] [were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3](#) "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, [there] you may be also.

- b) **2Cor 5:8 (NKJV)** We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

**IX. **HEBR 2:16 (NKJV)** FOR INDEED HE DOES NOT GIVE AID TO ANGELS, BUT HE DOES GIVE AID TO THE SEED OF ABRAHAM.**

A. Salvation is not an issue with the angels, but it is with mankind.

- 1. Angels do not need His "aid" to get to heaven, but we do!

**X. **HEBR 2:17-18 (NKJV)** THEREFORE, IN ALL THINGS HE HAD TO BE MADE LIKE [HIS] BRETHREN, THAT HE MIGHT BE A MERCIFUL AND FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST IN THINGS [PERTAINING] TO GOD, TO MAKE PROPITIATION FOR THE SINS OF THE PEOPLE. **18** FOR IN THAT HE HIMSELF HAS SUFFERED, BEING TEMPTED, HE IS ABLE TO AID THOSE WHO ARE TEMPTED.**

A. It is hard to identify with that to which we cannot relate.

- 1. Since the Lord created us, He knew we are "relational" people.
  - a) We like the "warm and fuzzies". We like to "reach out and touch someone."
  - b) God gave us His Son to "reach out and touch."
  - c) He was very much human and suffered greatly to prove His love for mankind.
- 2. He made propitiation for the sins of the people = meaning He satisfied the requirements of the Law and paid for our sin, and settled His Father's wrath against mankind for their sins against Him!
  - a) That is why He could say at the cross, "It is finished." (**John 19:30**)

**XI. CONCLUSION**

A. What a beautiful reassurance of God's love for His people!

- 1. Look to what great lengths He went to - to make sure that you and I could be forgiven.
- 2. He has done everything He can to prove to us that death has no power over His children and if we have no fear in death – then we can really live!