

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 12/26-27/2022 Hebrews 2

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

In Chapter 1, we were given God's Supreme Revelation concerning Jesus Christ, including His being exalted above Angels.

Chapter 2 - Warning Against Neglecting Salvation - (Heb 2:1-4) Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 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, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Heb 2:1 *Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things* (genuinely, actively apply your mind) *we have heard, lest we drift away.*

- **Therefore we must give** - If they gave attention to the Word of God that came through the prophets, then surely the Word that came directly from Jesus, should have precedence over the words of the prophets, yet never contradicting them. (**Joh 3:7**) *Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'*
- **Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things heard!** The things spoken by Jesus, especially words concerning salvation! (**Joh 14:6**) *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (Joh 3:16) For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* These are the words to which we should give the more earnest heed! **Lest we drift away, from the truth, resulting in a great loss**, unnoticeable as it occurs, quietly and slowly.
- **The Book of Hebrews was written to the Jews who had become believers** in Jesus as their Messiah. Tradition has an extremely strong hold on people. It appears that many of the Jews who had embraced Jesus as their Messiah, were still bound by traditions to the Jewish faith. Some of them were drifting away from Jesus back into Judaism, going back under the law.
- **Lest we drift away! Give earnest heed! Do not drift away!** Both phrases have nautical connotations. The first refers to mooring a ship, tying it up at the dock. The second was often used of a ship that had been allowed to drift past the harbor. The warning is to secure oneself to the truth of the gospel, being careful not to pass by the only harbor of salvation. The closest attention must be paid to these very serious matters of the Christian faith. The readers in their tendency to apathy are in danger of making a shipwreck of their lives. (**Heb 6:19**) *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.*

Heb 2:2 *For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast* (and it was), *and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,*

- **Angels, literally, messengers.** We usually think of them as divine messengers, but it is not necessarily so. Anybody who was a messenger was called an *aggelos*, an angel. He is a messenger.
- **The word spoken through angels. Now the angels did bring, at times, God's message.** An angel appeared to Lot and to Gideon. An angel of the Lord wrestled with Jacob. There were times when God used angels as messengers to communicate to man His truth. But also the prophets who were messengers of God, though they were not divine, yet they were inspired by God, and were messengers and were called angels.
- **Jesus, in writing to the churches, the seven churches of Asia in the Book of Revelation**, chapters two and three, addresses the ministers, as angels. To the angel of the church of Ephesus, write. And the angel being the messenger to the church, not divine, human messengers, bringing God's message to God's people.
- **The word spoken by angels**, would be a reference to the Old Testament Scriptures, given to us by the prophets. God who at different times and in different ways, spoke to our fathers by the prophets, who are here called the angels. And it's the word that was spoken by the angels, was *steadfast*. It is certain. It is sure. (**Gal 3:19**) *What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.*
- **Every transgression and disobedience received a just reward.** Concept of sowing and reaping. (**Gal 6:7**) *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.* God laid out the rules. God laid out the punishment for the infraction of the rules. Don't be deceived, even if the law was handed down by angels!

Heb 2:3 *how shall we escape if we neglect* (*ameleo* – neglect not reject; be careless of) *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* (already the second generation),

- **How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?** That prophetic word was certain if it came to pass. Surely it did come to pass! Read the prophets! Read Isaiah! Jeremiah! Ezekiel! Read the warnings that they gave to the people. How that they warned them, that if they would continue in their sins, worshipping other gods, that God would judge them, and He would lead them into captivity.

Indeed, it came to pass! Their transgressions and disobedience brought the judgment of the Babylonian and the Assyrian captivity, defeating them before their enemies. If that was certain, the word spoken by the prophets, how much more then, the Word spoken by Jesus!

- **How shall we escape?** Think this through! First of all, there is no *escape!* Jesus said to the scribes and the Pharisees, you serpents, you generation of vipers, how shall you escape the damnation of hell? There is no *escape*. The judgment of God is certain. The Word of God is sure, as in **Hebrews 10:27**, that certain, fearful, looking for, the fiery indignation and the wrath of God which will devour His adversaries. The certain looking for—there is no escape. (**Heb 10:29**) *Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?*
- **So great a salvation – the one and only way of escape!** God has provided only one way of *escape*. That is through Jesus Christ and the *great salvation* that we have through Him. (**Joh 14:6**) *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. There is only one way to God! The cross declares this very clearly! The fact that Jesus went to the cross, tells us that there is no other way to be saved. In the Garden, facing the cross, He prayed, Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me, nevertheless, not what I will, but Your will be done. If it is possible, if what is possible? If the redemption of man, if salvation is possible by man being good, by man keeping rules, by man being religious, let this cup pass from Me. The fact that He went to the cross and drank the cup, declares loudly and clearly, it's not possible for man to be saved except by the cross of Jesus Christ!*
- **And if you neglect** (giving pre-eminence to things other than that from Jesus Christ) **so great a salvation**, there is no *escape!* The salvation is great because it is open to everybody. (**Rev 22:17**) *And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.* Notice, not a single person is excluded! (**Joh 6:37**) *All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.* Anyone, no matter how guilty, how laden with sin they are, they can come to Jesus Christ and will find forgiveness! It's a *great salvation* because it's open to anybody who will come. Great salvation because it reaches the lowest sinner.
- **Which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord.** It was Jesus, who began to talk about this salvation. (**Joh 11:25-26**) *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. [26] And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"* (**Luk 19:10**) *for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."* So great a salvation! This salvation is great because it isn't just deliverance or forgiveness of sins, but it is the hope and the promise of the eternal glory of God's kingdom, promised to us by Jesus Christ!
- **By those who heard Him.** This phrase reveals the succession of evangelism from the Apostles. Here we are already at the second generation! (**1Jn 1:3**) *that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.* So first spoken of by Jesus, and then confirmed by the apostles, who had heard the words of Jesus, wrote then down for our benefit, and thus they confirmed what Jesus had said, concerning this great salvation.
- **What tremendous truths we have here in this first danger warning!** It is a warning sign, not about speeding up but about drifting—just drifting *by* these great truths which we may have been taking for granted.

Heb 2:4 *God also bearing witness both with signs* (something placed to direct to proper destination) *and wonders* (something so extraordinary it captures attention), *with various miracles* (all designed and directed by God), *and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

- **God also bearing witness. They bore witness of Jesus.** God bore witness of the truth of what they were saying.
- **Both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?** How did He bear witness? Read the Book of Acts. The miracles that you read in the Book of Acts, were given, as God's divine affirmation, that the message that the disciples were giving was true. The supernatural powers demonstrated by Jesus and by His apostles were the Father's divine confirmation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, His Son. This authentication of the message was the purpose of such miraculous deeds.

- **(Act 2:22) "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—** They were saying that Jesus was still alive, that He rose from the dead, and He was still at work in the world, working now through His apostles. The same works that Jesus did, were now being done by the apostles. Jesus said, **(Joh 14:12) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.** So, the works of Jesus were now being wrought by the apostles. Thus, God was confirming their message that Jesus still, can heal! Jesus still, can save! Jesus still, can reach out to the needy heart! He lives! **(Joh 10:38) but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him."** **(2Co 12:12) Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.**
- **These signs shall follow them that believe. (Mar 16:20) And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.** They went out confirming the words of Jesus, testifying of the great salvation that Jesus had brought to man.
- **Gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?** In the twelfth chapter of the Book of First Corinthians, where Paul is writing about the proper use of the gifts of the Spirit, **(1Co 12:11) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.** We see the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit in the dispensing of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. At the end of chapter twelve, he tells us to covet earnestly the best gift, but yet the gifts of the Spirit are imparted by His will. I may covet a gift, but never receive it. It is imparted by His will.

The Son Made Lower than Angels - (Heb 2:5-9) For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. 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? 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. 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. 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.

Heb 2:5 For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.

- **No subjection to angels in the world to come. That is the Kingdom Age, the Millennial Reign,** when the Lord is going to come, establishing His kingdom on the earth—the Kingdom of which we speak. He hasn't put it in subjection to the angels. They are not the ones that will be ruling over the world in the Kingdom Age. Jesus Christ, not the angels, will reign over the Messianic Kingdom. **(Zec 14:9) And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be "The LORD is one," And His name one.** Why should we ever consider taking our eyes off Jesus, putting them on angels? He is so much better!

Heb 2:6 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?"

(Psa 8:4-6) What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? [5] For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. [6] You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands.

- **In a certain place. This is not an indication that the writer was ignorant** of the source of the quotation that follows. The location of the quotation is not as significant as its divine authorship. Perhaps it is significant that the author of Hebrews is not identified either. The writer may have desired that his readers understand that the Holy Spirit is the real author of all Scripture. **(2Pe 1:21) for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**
- **As we read Psalm 8, it would appear that God is speaking of man.** There is no hint of the Messiah in the eighth Psalm. But here, the writer is interpreting, by the Holy Spirit that Psalm. It is a fuller

reference to Jesus, who became a man. Jesus was made a little lower than the angels, that He might suffer death in order that He might, through death, deliver us from the power of Satan and from the penalty of our sins!

- **WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM?** Worldly speaking, we like to think of man at the top of the column of importance. How important are we? In the context of Psalm, we see the reality that man is quite small, just a speck of dust. (*Psa 8:1-3*) *O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! [2] Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger. [3] When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained.*
- **As man, we are standing here on the earth, which is quite small,** having a radius of about 4,000 miles, rotating about our sun, which is 1.2 million times the size in volume of our earth. But the sun, whose radius is about 432,000 miles, is only a small to medium star in our solar system, when compared to a giant star, Arcturus, which has a radius of about 11 million miles! Considering the volume of a sphere is a function of its radius cubed, the volume of Arcturus is about 21 billion times the volume of earth! Just think how small we really are!
- **WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM, OR THE SON OF MAN** (Adam and sons of Adam, both referring to mankind, not to Christ) **THAT YOU TAKE CARE OF HIM?** Notice it man that God is taking care of! The passage asks why God would ever bother with man. As the following verses demonstrate (*Heb 2:9-10*), the incarnation of Christ is the greatest proof of God's love and regard for mankind. Christ was not sent in the form of an angel. He was sent in the form of a man!

Heb 2:7 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. (Psa 8:5-6)

- **YOU HAVE MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS.** You have it here. He was made a little lower than the angels, but yet He crowned Him with glory and honor and did set Him over the work of Your hands. So Jesus, is Lord! One day every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that truth! *Angels* were given supernatural powers by the Creator. They have continual access to the throne of God and are not subject to death.
- **You will bow your knee to Him! Sooner or later, your knee will bow to Him, and you will confess that Jesus is Lord!** (*Php 2:9-11*) *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name, which is above every name, [10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, [11] and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* Sooner is better! If you wait until it's a forced confession, it will not have any redemptive power! By confessing it now, by submitting now to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, it's salvation! (*Rom 10:9*) *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved! Later, it will not be to salvation, but it will be a forced confession. You will have to acknowledge it, but it will not be a saving confession at that time.*
- **So God has crowned Him with glory and honor.** Jesus said (*John 17:5*) *And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.*
- **And set Him over the works of Your hands.** Over angels, principalities, and powers; over the kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of it, and all things in it, and has made Him higher than the heavens, and has given Him a name above every name!

Heb 2:8 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. (Psa 8:6)

- **The time has not yet come when Jesus is reigning.** There are those that say we are in the millennium now. I hope not! I was hoping for better things in the Kingdom of God! I think it's a rather tragic and sad to think that this is the Kingdom, you know, we're in the millennium now. No, Jesus is going to come! He will establish the Kingdom of God. It will not be established until He

does come! We are in the pre-tribulation days. Surely we are moving rapidly toward the time of God's judgment to come upon the earth.

- **The Bible speaks of the cup of the wrath of His indignation overflowing.** As God looks at the earth today, even as He looked at Sodom and Gomorrah, that He must be saying, it is time to judge! It seems that the cup is full and just about ready to overflow, which of course, will take place in the Great Tribulation period, where the cup of the wrath of God's indignation does overflow upon those that are still upon the earth at that time.
- **So we do not yet see all things in subjection to Him.** Satan is still ruling over the world. It is still under his control and under his power. When the antichrist comes on the scene, Satan will give to the antichrist, his power, his authority, his throne. The antichrist will rule over the world, empowered by Satan. That has not yet taken place, but it thought that will take place soon. Jesus came to redeem the world back to God. He paid the price of redemption, but He has not yet claimed that which He has purchased.
- **God has put all things in subjection under Him, but we do not yet see all things in subjection.** We remember when Satan took Jesus into a high mountain. He showed Him the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them, saying, all of these, I will give to You if You will bow down and worship Me, for they are Mine and I can give them to whomever I will. Satan is bragging. The world belongs to me! It's mine and I can give it to whomever I will. I'll give it to You on one condition. You bow down and worship me. It's Yours. Jesus had come for the purpose of redeeming the earth back to God. Satan is volunteering to give it up without a fight, just bow down and worship me, and it can be Yours.
- **God has given man free choice. And man exercising his free choice can elect** to have evil to rule over him, evil and immoral men to rule over him. If man wants that, God has given to man that choice. He has allowed him that freedom of choice. Satan rules, right now! Of course, it's becoming more obvious every day, as we see the corruption that is in the world.
- **But we Christians have the glorious hope that the day is coming, not very far off, when Jesus will rule!** He will establish the Kingdom of God. At that point, all things will be put in subjection to Him. Satan will be bound and cast into the *abusso*. Jesus will reign over the earth, the glorious Kingdom of God, ruling and reigning! But right now, it's not yet so.

Heb 2:9 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 (partake to the full) death for everyone.

- **Jesus had to become a man in order to die.** As God, He could not die. The God Man as God, death could not hold Him. But as man, He died. He died for our sins! So He was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death.
- **But He was crowned with glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should taste death for everyone.** Therein is the grace of God manifested in such a marvelous way! Jesus, tasted of death for you! He bore your sins and the penalty of your sins. He was wounded for your transgressions. He was bruised for your iniquities. You, like sheep, had gone astray. You turned to your own ways, but God laid on Him the iniquities of us all! And I shouldn't say, you. Rather, I should us, you, me! He bore my sins! He died in my place! He tasted of death for me that I don't have to taste of death!
- **Do you really think you are going to live forever? (Joh 11:25-26a) Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. [26a] And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" Yes, I do, because of what Jesus has done for me! Not in this body, God forbid! You see, in the Bible, death, true death, is separation from God, a conscious separation from God.**
- **Thus, I will never be separated from God!** One day, my spirit will be separated from this body. I'm hoping by the rapture route, but if not, by whatever route God pleases. My spirit will be separated from the body. But to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord! So, I'll never be separated from God! I've been made alive in Christ Jesus. He tasted of death for me, that I don't have to taste of death! I don't have to be separated from God because He bore my sins. He died for my sins. He paid the penalty for my sin, which was death. The wages of sin is death. But He, paid the price! Therefore He became a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, that He might taste death for every man, by the grace of God!

Bringing Many Sons to Glory -(Heb 2:10-18) 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. 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, saying: "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN; IN THE MIDST OF THE ASSEMBLY I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOU." And again: "I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM." And again: "HERE AM I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME." 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, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. 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. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Heb 2:10 For it was fitting (necessary, perfectly consistent) **for Him** (the Sovereign God), **for whom are all things and by whom are all things** (this cannot be said of an angel, any man or anything), **in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain** (pioneer, leader, originator, inaugurator) **of their salvation perfect** (complete, perfectly consistent) through sufferings.

- **For it was fitting, necessary, perfectly consistent for Him**, for whom are all things and by whom are all things. Regarding His baptism, He said, (*Mat 3:15*) *But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."* Then He allowed Him.
- **For Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things**. This cannot be said of an angel, any man or anything! Paul wrote in (*Col 1:16*) *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.* He is not only the Creator, but He is the object of creation. They were for Him. So it became Him, for whom are all things and by whom. They are for Him. They are by Him. What God did through the humiliation of Jesus Christ was perfectly consistent with His sovereign righteousness and holiness. Without Christ's humiliation and suffering, there could be no redemption. Without redemption, there could be no glorification!
- **Jesus, the Captain of our salvation! In bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect** (complete) through sufferings. Jesus is called the *Captain of our salvation*, the leader, the originator, the inaugurator, the one who originates or completes, our salvation. The first, the originator, and the rest followed. He is the One that started it. We are following after the Captain of our salvation! So it was to bring many sons, it was to bring us into the family of God. He paid the price, by the grace of God! The whole purpose was to make you a part of God's glorious family! To make us heirs together with Him, in the Kingdom of God! Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, became complete through sufferings, who for the suffering of death, enduring the cross, though He despised the shame.
- **Made perfect through sufferings!** In His divine nature, Christ was already perfect. However, His human nature was perfected (completed) through obedience, including suffering, in order that He might be an understanding High Priest, an example for believers (*Heb 5:8-9*) *though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. [9] And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, and establish the perfect righteousness to be imputed to believers!*

Heb 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one (of human flesh), **for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren**,

- **He who sanctifies**. Sanctification sets a person apart for service through purification from sin and conformity to the holiness of God. (*Heb 10:10*) *By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.* The use of the term, *He who sanctifies*, demonstrates His full identification with mankind in order to provide complete redemption. (*Rom 3:26*) *to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

Through the grace of God, we've been made one! Jesus said, in that day, you will know that I am in the Father, that You are in Me, and I am in You! Partakers of Jesus Christ! How glorious that is!

One, together in Him! For in Christ Jesus, there is neither Jew nor Greek, Barbarian, Scythian, bond or free, for Christ is all and in all! We've been made one, together in Him!

- **For He who sanctifies us and we who have been sanctified, are all of one, for which reason, He is not ashamed to call them brethren.** Not only bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, but spirit of His spirit. *Brethren* by the whole blood, in what is heavenly, as well as in what is earthly. Christ is not ashamed to own this relationship. *He is not ashamed to call them brethren*, which is such a wonderful goodness and condescension in Him, considering man's meanness by nature and vileness by sin. But He will never be ashamed of any who are not ashamed of Him. Those who are careful not to be a shame and reproach to Him and to themselves! Are you or am I ever ashamed of Him?

Heb 2:12 saying: "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN (becoming a blood relative - our Kinsman Redeemer!); **IN THE MIDST OF THE ASSEMBLY I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOU."** (Psa 22:22)

- **He's not ashamed to call us, My brethren! How about you?** Are you ever ashamed to be His? He illustrates this from three texts of scripture. This first quotation is from (Psa 22:22) *I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.* Often we seek to express love in a song. Somehow it seems like if you sing it, it is more meaningful than just saying it.
- **Here it speaks of Jesus, singing to us in the church in the congregation.** Now, we gather, we sing to Him! We sing, of our love to Him. It's meaningful. It's very worshipful as we lift our voices in song together in praise and love, expressions of our love. But to me, it's always just sort of a wonderful and exciting thing just to think that He is singing to me! (Zep 3:17) *The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.*"
- **My brethren. Jesus never directly referred to His disciples by the title of brethren** until after His resurrection (Mat 28:10) *Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."* (Joh 20:17) *Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.* Not until He had paid the price for their salvation did they truly become His spiritual brothers and sisters.

Heb 2:13 And again: "I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM." And again: "HERE AM I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME." (2Sa 22:3; Isa 8:17-18)

- **Notice how the author just goes from one passage to another passage** and again and again, as he is bringing the various passages from the Old Testament, which were no doubt, hidden in his heart. *I will put my trust in Him.* And again, *Here am I and the children whom God has given me.*
- **Quoting (2Sa 22:3; Isa 8:17-18) emphasizes the point made in verses 9-11**, that Christ had fully identified Himself with mankind by taking a human nature, demonstrating the reality of His human nature by His reliance upon God during His earthly journey. (Joh 8:29) *And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."*

Heb 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken (*koinonia* - fellowship, communion) **of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy** (*katargeō* - render ineffective) **him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,**

- **Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood.** That is, our bodies are made of flesh and blood. We're the children, flesh and blood. The Son of God was not by nature "*flesh and blood*," but took upon Himself that nature for the sake of providing redemption for mankind!
- **He Himself likewise shared in the same.** He came in a body of flesh. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
- **There was an early heresy in the church, known as Gnosticism.** Basically, the Gnostics taught that everything that was material was evil. There was a great liberalism as far as you can do anything, because your flesh is evil and everything of the flesh is evil, so it doesn't matter. But here again, is the affirmation, not only did John say, and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. But because the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also, likewise, took part of the same. That is, He took upon Himself a body of flesh.

- **In (Col 2:13-15) And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, [14] having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. [15] Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it!** Paul speaks of how He spoiled the principalities and powers that are against us, triumphing over them at the cross, making an open display of His victory through it! The cross is a place of victory for the child of God! For there, through death, He destroyed the power of Satan, the power of death, because of sin. That was destroyed through the death of Jesus.
- ***That through death He might destroy, render ineffective, him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.*** This is the ultimate purpose of the incarnation! Jesus came to earth to die! By dying, He was able to conquer death in His resurrection. **(Joh 14:19) "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. By conquering death, He rendered Satan powerless against all who are saved!**

Heb 2:15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

- **The bondage that man experiences because of the fear of death.** But for the child of God, no longer a fear of death because Jesus has removed the sting!
- **Fear of death.** For the believer, as Paul said, **(1Co 15:54-55) So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY." [55] "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING? O HADES, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?"** Therefore, *the fear of death* and its spiritual bondage have been brought to an end through the work of Christ, having conquered death for us! Because of His victory over death, and His willingness to share that victory with us, we have been released from that bondage of the fear of death!
- **Do you fear death?** Are you aware that in this life, death is the next thing! For the believer that is not a thing to fear, but is necessary to have life! To have life eternally – forever and ever, without end! How much are you looking forward to that last breath - and to the first breath in His presence?

Heb 2:16 For indeed He does not give aid (epilambanomai - take on the nature of) to angels (no salvation for angels), but He does give aid (epilambanomai) to the seed of Abraham.

- **Jesus didn't come as a spirit being.** That is, He was born as one of the descendants of Abraham as God promised to Abraham, that through his seed, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. He understood that to mean that the Messiah would come, which Jesus did through the seed of Abraham.
- **He does give aid.** "He took on" in KJV. The literal meaning of the first "aid" (epilambanomai - take on the nature of) **to angels** is to "take hold of," as in taking hold of someone in order to push or pull him to safety, to rescue him. There was no thought in Judaism that the Messiah's entrance into the world would be to give aid to the angels. The context presents the identification of Christ with mankind in His incarnation. He took upon Himself a human nature. In **(Heb 2:18; 4:16)**, the writer wished to express the concept of giving aid (help) to the seed of Abraham, he chose a different Greek word, *boetheo* – aid, help, relieve.
- **To the seed of Abraham.** Christ is that promised seed. Since the readers are Hebrews, they would certainly identify themselves with this description. The Messiah had been born in the line of Abraham in fulfillment of the OT prophecies. One of the chief purposes for the incarnation was the salvation of Israel. Yet another purpose was the fulfillment of the Abrahamic covenant in regard to the promised seed. For the Messiah was to spring from Abraham, and is promised, as that seed of his, in whom all nations should be blessed; and he was particularly promised to the Jews, the seed of Abraham.

Heb 2:17 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 (the full and satisfying payment) for the sins of the people.

- **To make propitiation for the sins of the people.** Christ's work of *propitiation* is related to His high priestly ministry. By His partaking of a human nature, Christ demonstrated His mercy to mankind and His faithfulness to God by satisfying God's requirement for sin and thus obtaining for His people full

forgiveness! (1Jn 2:2) *And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (1Jn 4:10) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Heb 2:18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid (boetheo - giving help) **those who are tempted.**

- ***For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted.*** He became, as a man. He experienced temptation. He felt the full force of temptation. Though we often yield to temptation before we feel its full force, Jesus resisted temptation even when the greatest enticement for yielding had become evident. (***Heb 4:15***) *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.* The Bible tells us how that Satan tempted Him to use His divine powers for His own personal gain. Turn the stones into bread. Feed your own appetite with Your divine powers. Create a sensation and a spectacle to draw attention to Yourself, that people might know that You are the Messiah. Jump off the pinnacle of the temple. Look, I'll give You all of the kingdoms of the world, just bow down and worship me.
- ***And these temptations, the temptation for glory,*** the temptation to exercise power for our own benefit. He experienced these things! He knows what it's like. **Because of that, He is able to help us to understand it, to make reconciliation for us, who are tempted, having gone through and experienced what we go through.** (***1Co 10:13***) *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*
- ***Yet, He was, of course, apart from sin.*** But yet He becomes then a faithful high priest. He can go to the Father to represent me. He comes to me to represent the Father. That was the duty of the priest. The priest would go before God to represent the people. He would come to the people as God's representative.
- ***And so Jesus is our great High Priest.*** He has gone into heaven for us, there to make reconciliation. But able to do so, because He suffered temptation, like we do. He knows what it's like. He knows what it is to be in the frailties of a body of flesh. He knows what it is to be hungry. He knows what it is to be thirsty. He knows what it is to have these desires of the flesh and how strong they can become. And thus, He can understand us, sympathize with us and represent us properly as our Great High Priest, because He became a man in a body of flesh to experience the things that we go through, in order to better represent us before the Father. (***Heb 4:16***) *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

SUMMARY:

- **Do not neglect salvation! Take heed lest we drift away! - vs. 1-4; The Son Made Lower than Angels -for the suffering of death; crowned with glory and honor – vs. 5-9: Bringing Many Sons to Glory - vs. 10-18!**

CLOSING SONG: -

O HOLY NIGHT – Placide Cappeau/Adolphe Charles Adams/Shea (3:30)

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees. O hear the angels' voices. O night divine, O night when Christ was born. O night divine, oh night, when Christ was born!

Truly He taught us to love one another, His law is love and His gospel is peace. Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother. And in his name, all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise His holy, name. Fall on your knees. O hear the angels' voices. O night divine, O night when Christ was born. O night divine. Oh night, when Christ was born!

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and meditate over Hebrews Chapter 3!