

Title: But We See Jesus!

Text: Hebrews 2: 5-9

Will you take your Bibles and turn to the book of Hebrews. We will pick it up where we left off last week. Chapter 2 and verse 5. There are notes in your bulletin and I encourage you to follow along with me as we study God's word together on the subject: BUT WE SEE JESUS!

Hebrews chapter 2 beginning with Vs 5....Now, please remember that the message of Hebrews is first directed to Jewish believers who lived during the time of great Roman persecution against Christians. But, not against the Jews at that time. That these Jewish believers were therefore tempted to return to the safe haven of Judaism. So that they would escape the persecution that was coming to the followers of the way, or Christians. So, this instruction is important to all of us in the sense of total commitment to Jesus Christ. His sovereignty, his greatness, his authority is being presented. And we are examining His authority in the first 7 chapters.

And the first section in which we see His wonderful authority is over angels. And he continues that discussion in chapter 2 verse 5.

(Read Vs 5-9)

LET'S PRAY)

(1B) As we have examined Christ's authority over the angels, we have examined first of all, the motives of the Heavenly Father. So, beautifully expressed in chapter 1 in which 7 quotations from the O.T. are expanded upon by the writer who we believe is Paul.

Secondly, we examined this in the message of salvation in chapter 2 verses 1 to 4. Where we learned that if the word that was spoken by angels through Moses at the time of the law, if that was confirmed, confirmed largely by punishment, that is that they saw that it was God's Word because the results and consequences they experienced when they violated it, and every transgression, he reminded them, received a just recompense of reward.

Then he said, how much more, then, that the new covenant, God's New Testament, which was first preached by Christ, who is the authority, and then by the Apostles, God bearing His own witness and confirmation to that by miracelous signs, wonders and miracles. And also by the ministry or the distrbution of the Holy Spirit in every life. How could we question that this is THE AUTHORITY...JESUS, HIMSELF.

3 ^{Fourth} But, Paul is not finished with his argument, yet. He now moves to the ~~third~~ area of examining His authority over angels. And this involves the (4C) manner in which all things .. no matter what they are...are subjected to Jesus Christ. Everything. He is sovereign over every single matter. (1D) Now, we are going to examine this, first of all, as we look at the plan of God in the future. Vs 5..And we will see, again, how Jesus is greater than the angels. Because it says under the angels he has not put in subjection "the world to come."

Now, there is some sense in which angels have some authority, right now. As a matter of fact, we learn from the Bible, that angels can effect the governments of the world. Angels can manifest themselves in ways that man cannot. And they have power that man does not have.

But, the issue here is of the world to come. The same expression, by the way, if found back in chaper 1 verse 6: And I would ask you to remembear our teaching on that verse which says: "And when He again brings the first-born into the world, He says 'AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM.'"

And I remaind you that it is not "again" meaning "an additional idea." But, in the Greek it means "when He brings in again the first born."

Jesus came the first time in the incarnation . He will come again, in His second coming. And again it mentions "the world." The world here is the inhabited world. The world of human beings.

And he is speaking in Vs 5 of chapter 2 of that same world of human beings that is yet coming. And he is really connecting the two thoughts from chapter 1 verse 6 with chapter 2 verse 5. And that is: that one day soon Jesus Christ will come back into the world of human beings just as surely as he did the first time as a babe in Bethlehem

And when He comes, it is not to the angels, that all things will be subjected. But they will be brought into subjection to Jesus Christ.

By the way, at that occasion, the Bible teaches that believers will reign with Jesus Christ. (Rev 20:6)

The Bible teaches that we will judge angels. Even believers will be put in an exalted position above angels. I Cor 6:1-3 tells us that we will judge them.

And in Ephesians 1:10 the Bible says, concerning this great occasion, "that in the administration suitable to the fulness of the times", God will bring together under one person, Jesus Christ, all things in the heavens and upon the earth." All will come under the authority of Jesus Christ.

When will that happen? It says "in the administration" which is the word for economy, ...a management of things...when the time comes when God is managing, it will be the fulness of times...times= meaning chronology...when time has now come to the point. It is full..it is complete. And God is now summarizing all of human history. In that great economy and management of the world, Jesus Christ will be ruling over the entire world.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT? Hay! it is coming. He is going to come back to this earth. And I believe it. And He is going to reign. And he is going to rule. And angels are not going to be in command.

Again, Paul is emphasizing to us the authority of Jesus Christ. And it is based upon the fact that one day He is coming back. And everything will be subjected to Him. KING OF KINGS...AND LORD OF LORDS.

And again, I ask you, as I have ask you often, HOW IS IT POSSIBLE THAT WE CAN QUESTION ONE LIKE THAT?

What right do we have to question He who is king of kings and Lord of Lords, to whom everything ..in heaven and earth..will one day be under his subjection? God wants us to live in loving subjection to Jesus Christ. Recognizing that He is the supreme authority in our lives.

(2) Now, secondly, we want to deal with verses 6,7, and 8. A very difficult text.

And these verses are a quote from Psalms 8. You might want to turn there. Because we are going to look at it. Psalms chapter 8. And what we are dealing with here is the prominence of man in that future plan of God. Which is in the world to come to subject all things to Christ. The Bible teaches that man is going to be lifted up, or exalted to a position even greater than the angels. And so the prominence of man in God's plan is being pictured here.

But, there is a dual meaning. (1) One, it effects all men..all people..the human race. It definitely effects them. (2) But, secondly, it also effects Jesus Christ. And I think if you know that ahead of time, you will understand the dual , or the two-fold meaning of these words as they are quoted from Psalms chapter 8.

Now, let's read Psalms 8 so that we might know what is being quoted, here, in Hebrews 2.....(read Psalms 8)

Isn't that a great Psalm? The greatness of God..the smallness of man.. What is man, that thou dost take thought of him.

Now, I would like to share five things from Hebrews chapter 2, which will also unfold Psalms 8 because it is quoted here, 5 things which demonstrate and show the prominence of man in that plan of God...namely the time in which Jesus is going to set up his kingdom. That time when Jesus will rule for a thousand years, according to Revelation 20. And believers will reign with Him for that thousand years. And this passage gives us 5 facts dealing with how God is going to take man, who he had to redeem and save, who didn't deserve anything God has done for him, and how God is going to take us and exalt us.

Now, when you stop and think about this..boy, this is a miracle of grace. We don't need to be exalted. As a matter of fact, it is a miracle that any of us are going to be in heaven ..let alone being exalted in anyway. WOW!

But, I would like you to see what the love and grace of God is going to do for believers in the future.

(1) Number one, I know that man is prominent in God's plan because, first of all, God's special concern for man. God has a concern for man that he does not have for any other part of creation.

Good Title

Now, least you go home and one of your kids says "Is my dog or my cat going to be in heaven?" First of all remember God's principles about heaven. God is going to bring the new Jerusalem out of heaven says Rev 21. And it appears that it is going to set upon the earth. And that new beautiful city that comes out of heaven is 15 hundred miles on its base, square. There is a new heaven and a new earth. Actually heaven is going to be on earth.

The Bible says concerning the reign and rule of Christ in the book of Isaiah that the wolf is going to lay down with the lamb. Now, when that happens, you will know that things have changed, right? A little child will lead fearless animals. "Hay, lion, let's go for a walk. Things are going to change. A wonderful environment.

Yes, there are going to be animals in heaven. So, you have that one solved. But, listen, there is one thing you had not better make any mistake on: God has placed man here uniquely above all of his creation. Man is the unique creation of God. And He has a special concern for man that He does not have for anything else in His universe. Isn't that great to know? God has a wonderful special concern for you. He loves you. And you are unique.

He did not create the animals in His own image. He created man in his own image. Something of what God is like is in you and in me. I think because God thinks. I feel because God feels. I have a will because God has a will. I have been created in the image of God. And God has a special concern for man. And in Vs 6 I see that in two ways,

(1 F) First of all, I know that God has a special concern for man when I see it in comparison to the universe. Vs 6 says...."But one has testified somewhere, saying"..And this is Psalms 8..."What is man, that thou rememberest Him?"

(16) Literally, the word "rememberest" is in the present tense. Meaning: God continues to remember him. Isn't that great to know. God never forgets you. I mean He knows every thing that is going on in your life. He never forgets you. He continually remembers you.

And don't you ever let the enemy cause doubt and discouragement in your mind that God doesn't care. Listen, God never forgets you. And according to Psalms 8 it is when "I consider the heavens". "The sun,..the moon..the stars...the work of his fingers. What is man, that thou continues to remember him."

In other words, how big is God..,how vast is His universe..AND HOW SMALL I AM. Why in the world is God continuing to remember me in the light of this vast universe?

Because He has set His concern on you. It was off his own choice. And He deisgned man for His own pleasure. God loves you and He created you in His own image.

And I see that God is concerned about us when I see ourselves in comparison to a universe How vast...how majestic..how unbelievable it is. Who of us, with our little finite minds how can any of us believe that man isn't important when God says He is more important to me than the entire universe. Isn't that wonderful?

(2) And I see His special concern in a second way. And that is in His continual personal care for every one of us. The last phrase of Vs 6 is not the same as the first phrase. It says, "or the son of man, that thou are concerned about him?"

It is not talking about Jesus coming into the world. Although by application it certinely can. The word "concerned" means "to look after ". Isn't that great? God continues to look after your life and mine. The Bible says that He knows the sparrow that falls from the tree. He knows every hair on your head. And he has them all numbered. And like I have said, he can substrat in case you lose a few. There isn't a detail of your life and mine that Goid doesn't know about. ISN'T THAT GREAT?

Some of you have walked in here today with so many problems. I means burdens...and you just don't know how you are going to get out of them. Isn't it great to know that God loves you so much. He loves you. and He is continuing to look after you. There isn't anything that is happening to you that God doesn't know about.

A lot of us are just blind. We are walking around with blinders. We don't see that God is personally, directly involved in the affairs of men. ^{We are} ~~Man~~ is His special concern.

(2) Now, the second fact in which I see the prominence of man is man's comparison to angels

Vs 7 " Thou hast made Him for a little while lower than the angels."

Now, did you read that carefully. This verse is talking about time and space and position. It is not saying that God created man a little lower than the angels. It is saying, as correctly translated here in the NAS..God created him for a little while lower than the angels.

And you see, that matches with Vs 7 where it says "that Jsus was made for a litle while lower than the angels."

And the word "make" means "and act..a moment in time." And I ask myself the question: "When was man made for a little time lowewr than the angels?"

ANSWERR: At the time he fell in the garden of Eden. Because previous to his fall man had a greater position than the angels. As a matter of fact, the first man, Adam,..you talk about a guy who had everything going for him...He had everything under his absolute control. God said.."have dominion over everything. Everything there is." And Adam had it.

But, for a little time God made him a little lower than the angels. But, guess what? God comes in and solves the problem of man's sin, which we have had since the fall, But, once redemption happens, God exalts us to a position higher than the angels. And one day he will prove it because we will judge angels. Isn't that great.

Do you understand? This verse teaches very clearly the prominence of man. Man is compared with the angels. And it is saying "for a little while, He made man lower because of man's sin."

~~and I believe that there is an intention in showing this. Man is lower than the angels for a little while. Please turn there. The Gospel of Luke chapter 20 verse 36~~

~~But, you see, one of the great truths about salvation is that when we are saved God restores us to the position that Adam had before the fall. Namely, all things being subjected to him.~~

So, at the present time we may be a little lower than the angels. But, that is a temporary thing. Because now that we are saved, we have been restored to our former position of prominence over all things.

(3 E) Now, let's come to the third fact in showing the prominence of man in the plan of God.

Vs 7 ..Not only has man been made for a little while lower than the angels, but there is a solution. Vs 7 then goes on to say, "thou hast crowned him with glory and honor."

The Prominence of man is seen in
Now, ~~this is referring to~~ a point in time. There was a point of time in which man was crowned with glory and honor. In spite of the fact, that now, for a little while He is lower than the angels. There are two things here that I want you to see.

(1 F) First of all, at creation man was crowned with glory and honor. One moment of time: at creation. But, as we move on through this text we realize in Vs 9 that it effects Jesus Christ, we learn that it was also in the case of Christ at His resurrection that God crown Him with glory and honor.

For a while, while Jesus was on earth, He was a little lower than the angels. But at the resurrection He was crowned by God with glory and honor.

And the Bible speaks of the fact that it was by the power of the resurrection that God then exalted him. So, Christ was crowned with glory and honor at the resurrection. But man was crowned with glory and honor at creation. Through the fall he lost that crown. And he is for now a little lower than the angels. But, through the victory of Christ at the resurrection, this one whom God designed to be prominent in His plan, who is a reflection of his own image, this one has now been exalted again by God's own power through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

(4) Fourth, in Vs 7, I notice the prominence of man in God's choice of man to rule.

It says, "and hast appointed him over the works of thy hands."

Now, notice God's choice. God could have chosen angels. But he didn't. He could have chosen one of the animals. But he didn't. The Bible says that He chose man. And He appointed him over the works of His hands."

What a tremendous statement. Do you realize all the works of God's hands? The whole universe. And the Bible says that God has appointed man over it. What a statement.

(5) And the fifth way in which I see man's prominence is man's control over all things.

Vs 8.. "Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet." "For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him.

When man was originally created God put everything under him. Nothing was left out. Now, why does He say all of this? He is building up to Vs 9. But do you know why He is saying all of this? He is saying it to emphasize to us how great was the fall of man from God's original design and purpose. And how serious in God's eyes was man's disobedience to God's known revealed will. And that it would take a Jesus Christ to redeem man out of this tremendous problem.

man has fallen from the point of creation until now, man has fallen. And every person is born in sin. And if you don't like that, just watch a kid for a while. He will demonstrate it. People are going to prove that they have selfish natures. Wanting to go their own way, caring less about God and His Word.

How, great has been the fall of man.

Concerning the manner in which all things are subjected to Jesus
(3) Now, in the third place I WANT YOU TO SEE THE PROBLEM IN THIS PRESENT AGE. We find this at the end of Vs 8.. What is the problem? After stating this tremendous prominence of man, in God's plan, what is the problem then?

ANSWER: But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him."

You do not see this tremendous exalted position of man. You do not see all things under him. WHY? Because man fell.

In Romans 8:18-23 it tells us that the whole creation fell because of man's sin. It is in suffering. It is in pain. And it is waiting for its redemption. Everything is. The curse is on this world.

You plant a little garden. And you say: "I do not want any weeds here." That doesn't stop the weeds from coming. No matter how much you say, "I do not want them."

But the weeds will come. And you will have to work that garden. WHY? Because of a curse. Why do we have to work, and toil and sweat? Because of the curse. The whole creation is under a great curse. And the whole creation is waiting for relief. And it is coming. So, now, we do not ^{see} man controlling all things. In fact, have you noticed, our environment seems to be closing in on us. It looks like it is controlling us. We are not controlling it. WHY? Because it is a result of the fall.

By the way, this is a simple answer to the ecology problem. It really is. Very simple. Just remove the consequences of the fall. That is all you have to do. You would be amazed how the world would be cleaned up. One moment of time. Just remove the consequences of the fall. And the whole world would be beautiful again. Not polluted in any way. That is all you have to do. And Jesus is going to do it. It is coming.

(4C) Now, beginning with Vs 9 we have this precious verse that is based upon all ^{that is said} of this about how great is God's plan for man. How much He loves us. He is concerned for us. And what God really wants for us. And here is the solution. Vs 9..We don't see things under man right now, He is sinful, going his own way...Vs 9 says, but WE SEE JESUS.

May I say, half our problem is that we are still looking at man in his sinful state and saying, "What are we going to do?" "Look at how bad things are?" "Sin on sin. It is just getting worse." "What are we going to do?"

That is half our problem right there. We are looking at that.

Notice, the contrast...Vs 8 we don't see everything under subjection to man. We don't see the beautiful world that God predicted. We see a terrible situation.

BUT WE SEE JESUS. Hay! That is the only ray of hope that we have. The world may go to pot...BUT HERE IS JESUS.

Let's look at Him. That is the whole message of Hebrews. Why would you want to go back to Judiasm says the writter of Hebrews. Why are you afraid of the coming persecution to the followers of the WAY? LOOK AT JESUS.

He says the same thing in Hebrews cxhapter 12 verse 2 .."looking to Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith." HE WANTS US TO SEE THE LORD.

If you get Jesus in your eyes you are going to see things diferently.

I just love this example. A little girl was bugging her Dad one day while He was trying to read his paper. And she was asking him all these questions. And here he is trying to read his paper. And he didn't want to be mean to her by telling her to stop bothering him. So, what should he do? Well, he found in the newspaper a picture of the world. And he tour the picture out and got his scirrows and cut it up into many pieces. And then he handed it to his little girl and said, "This is a map of the world. It is a pizzle. See if you can put it togetyher."

And he thought, "Man that will take her all day." So, he sat back down and picked up his paper and started reading again. And in about 5 minutes the little girl handed the pizzle back to her Dad, all put together.

He said, "that is impossible. You are only 5 years old. How could you do that?" She said, "Oh, it was easy. You see, on the other side I found a picture of Jesus. And I knew when I had him in the right place, the whole world would be alright."

Hay! that is pretty good, isn't it?

I tell you, that is the way it is dear friends. A little simple illustration. But, you know, that is half our problem.

And that little word "but" that starts verse 9 is telling us that. You can start looking at all the consequences of the fall, that all things are not under subjection to man, and God's kingdom is not here. And things are bad. Listen: "BUT"...word of contrast...WE SEE JESUS. We need to get our eyes on Him.

~~Now, there are several things that we are going to talk about of which only one are we going to deal with today. And that is his purpose in coming into the world. And there are three things that I want you to see in vs 9.~~

(1E) One, I see our Lord and His ministry in our behalf, solving the problem of man's sin and the fall, in his subjection. "We see Jesus who has been made for a litle while lower than the angels."

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They should go to Him

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purpose in coming into the world is to solve