

The Superiority of Jesus: Of Men and Angels – Hebrews 2:5-9

Someone has said that the task of the pastor is to “comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”. This must surely be true of the writer of Hebrews. After the stern warning passage contained in Hebrews 2:1-5, the author comforts his readers by declaring the work of Christ through His incarnation.

Our passage this morning abounds with _____ and _____ themes. The author recognizes the tension between the reality of an ascended and reigning Christ and the continuing presence of sin in the world. Many theologians refer to this as the “already-not yet” aspect of the kingdom of God.

Note: Without Genesis 3, the world would still be heaven on earth!

- **Let us first consider the _____ story.** The author quotes Psalm 8. (Notice again, the writer of Hebrews never mentions a single human author in any of his references.)
- **God gave rule over the earth to _____.** Gen 1:26-28 - Charles Spurgeon, *“The Treasury of David”*, *“Man in the garden of Eden had the full command of all creatures and they came before him to receive their names as an act of homage to him as the vicegerent of God to them.”*

Man lost his dominion over creation in a cosmic act of treason! Adam would be driven from the garden and all creation would feel the effects of the fall.

- **In light of all God’s creative wonder, what is _____? (2:6-8)** That God would consider man, who so sinned against Him and marred God’s grand design, is an unthinkable reality!

Angels also rebelled and sinned, yet God does not redeem fallen angels. (2:16) Oh, the grace of God to lowly man!

- **Now, let us consider the _____ story.** The writer of Hebrews now draws our attention to Jesus and His redemptive work accomplished through suffering and death.
- **Jesus, in the _____, is the fulfillment of Psalm 8.** In declaring the superiority of Jesus over angels, (the first time the name “Jesus” is used is in Hebrews 2:9) the writer now addresses the apparent weakness of Jesus as a man.

The greatest distance ever traveled is the distance Jesus traversed in becoming man. The greatest humiliation and condescension in all eternity, “being made in the form of man.”

- **Jesus, as the suffering God-Man, restores all that was _____ in the garden. (2:8 &9)** Jesus, as the second Adam has restored all that was lost by the first Adam. We may not see it yet, but it is!

The kingdom of God has come, and yet there is more! We live in the tension of “already and not yet”! The fullest and final exaltation of Jesus is coming! Every knee will bow before Him, for He alone is Lord of Lords and King of Kings!

What is man that God would seek to redeem him? The crown of creation was placed on man’s brow. Sin wrecked it, but the Son of man regained it!

- ✓ **Never look with disdain upon anyone made in the likeness of God! Life is sacred; value every life.**
- ✓ **Never forget the awful reality of sin’s consequences; the fall wrecked and marred God’s creation.**
- ✓ **Forever give praise to Jesus Christ; He is restoring all that sin has destroyed! Trust Him today!**