

Hebrews 2:1-9: Ever Wish Everything in Your Life Went Right?

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I. Introduction

Do you ever wish your life wasn't so difficult? Ever wish things would go right instead of wrong all the time? Jesus is not a character in the Bible. He came to help you overcome all your struggles. In fact, He promised that if you would believe, He would give you the power to overcome anything great or small. He came to reign over this world and give you the power to reign over it too.

II. Hebrews 2:1-9: Jesus Came to Set (You and) Everything in This World Right

2:1-4, based on what the author has said about Jesus—He is the heir of all things, creator and sustainer of the entire universe, God in the flesh who set aside His glory to cleanse us from our sins, worshipped by angels, the eternal anointed Messianic God-King of the world who will outlast this universe and reign over His enemies forever—he urges us to pay very careful attention to what Jesus has to say. Why? It's self-explanatory: Jesus is God Almighty! but if the Mosaic Law which was spoken through angels (Acts 7:53; Galatians 3:19) proved to be binding and had such force that every act of disobedience was punished (e.g., Numbers 25:1-9), how in the world will we escape if we disregard the great salvation that was spoken to us by Jesus Christ, God in the flesh?!

Further, the Gospel of salvation given to us by the Son of God was repeatedly confirmed by His apostles and disciples who heard it directly from Him. Finally, it was ratified by God personally over and over with signs, wonders, various miracles, and the gifts of His Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4-11), including the Holy Spirit Himself (Galatians 4:6)! All this to say, "God Almighty is speaking to you, are you going to ignore Him?"

2:5-9, next the author quotes Psalm 8:4-6 which shows Jesus' superiority to angels even in His humanity. God didn't put the world to come, the Messianic Kingdom, under the authority of any angel. In fact, in Psalm 8 God clearly states that He gave rulership over the world to mankind, which is astounding considering that man is not top dog in God's created universe, angels are. When king David wrote the psalm as he observed God's handiwork, all the glorious heavenly bodies, he was amazed that God would give mankind a second thought, much less grace him with His presence. Angels are superior to mankind; they are more glorious and powerful. They are spiritual beings (Hebrews 1:14) who cannot suffer physically or die. Yet, despite man's lower position to the angles, God crowned him with glory and honor, i.e., God gave them dominion over His handiwork. God put all things under man's feet to rule over thoroughly and completely (Genesis 1:26-28).

But there's a giant problem which is why the author says, "But now we do not yet see all things put under him." That is, even though there is nothing of God's creation that is not under our dominion, in reality all things are not under our control. There are hurricanes and tsunamis; there is death and disease; there is brutality and wars; there's addiction and heartache; there's fear and anxiety.

How will mankind escape this turmoil that surrounds him at work, at home, in every area of his life? Things do not work; it seems man does not have dominion AT ALL. Into this fray stepped one Man. He was God almighty, forever crowned with glory and honor, but one day He "was made a little lower than the angels," i.e., He became human so that He could rescue mankind from their lack of dominion, which was taken from them by Satan and his angels (Genesis 3; Ephesians 6:10-18). By God's grace Jesus suffered and died in place of every human being so that He might swallow up death for everyone and once again give us control over our lives and this world (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-49). One day Jesus Christ, the last Adam, the ideal man, will rule over this world as man was always intended to do, thus, He was crowned with glory and honor as King of kings and Lord of lords (Philippians 2:9-11), which is why even in His humanity He is superior to the angels; He will rule the world, they will not. Thus psalm 8 is not just about mankind but the ideal Man who fulfilled what man lost in the Garden. But he's not the only one crowned with glory and honor; he tasted death for us, freed us from it so that we too could reign over our lives and this world.

How can you make everything in your life go right? Do you know that you were made to rule over every aspect of your life? Everything in your life is supposed to go right and when things go wrong, you're supposed to bring your power to bear upon whatever it is and subdue it. Is that your experience? Not by a mile, right? One day every last thing will be put right, one day the Lord Jesus Christ will reign over this world and everything in it. Nothing will be out of place; there will be no more suffering or tears (Revelation 21:1-4). But Jesus' dominion is not just future, it began the moment He arrived on this earth (Luke 2:41-52). He came to take dominion over all of creation, over disease, over fear, over death, and over Satan's power over us (Mark 1:25-26; 2:1-12; 4:39; 5:35-42; John 20:19; Acts 2-5).

And He gave us the power to do what He did (Mark 6:7-12). In fact Jesus promised that we would do greater works than those He did and this promise came true (John 14:12-14; Acts 5:15-16; 19:11-12). Jesus promised that if we have the faith of a mustard seed nothing would be impossible for us (Matthew 17:20). Do you believe? In order to live the abundant life Jesus promised you (John 10:10), you have to put your faith into practice and tap into the power He gave you (Acts 1:8). If you do this, your life will be free from fear and anxiety (Philippians 4:6-7). You'll be able to live by the power of Christ (Romans 6:1-11; 8:6) and experience life to the fullest (Galatians 2:20; 4:6; 5:22-23).

III. Conclusion

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.