



Lesson 13

Title: Christ is Superior to the Angels (Part 6)

Scripture: Hebrews 2:14-16

Not for Lazy Disciples (See Hebrews 6:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:15)

Jesus the Christ Is Superior Over the Angels

His Accomplishments in Being Made Lower than Angels (vv. 9-18)

- ① Our SUBSTITUTE. (v. 9)
- ② Our AUTHOR of OUR Salvation (v. 10)
- ③ Our SANCTIFIER (vv. 11-13)
- ④ Our CONQUERER (vv. 14-15)
- ⑤ Our merciful and faithful HIGH PRIEST (vv. 16-18)

Seeing Jesus (v. 9)

- “made lower than angels”
 - How much lower? (Job 25:6; Isaiah 41:14; Psalm 22:6; Isaiah 40:15, 17)
 - **DO YOU SEE THIS JESUS?**
- **WHY?**
 - In order to “taste death” for His people? He came to be their **SUBSTITUTE!**
 - He came to be the **CAPTAIN** or **AUTHOR** of their salvation. (v. 10)
 - He came to be their **SANCTIFIER** and in so doing became **ONE** with them.
 - He is NOT ashamed to be called their **BROTHER**. Are we ashamed of Him and His Words? (See Mark 8:38)

④ Our CONQUEROR (vv. 14-15)

The AWESOME yet IGNORED Incarnation (v. 14)

- The doctrine of the Incarnation is the doctrine that opens up to us the grand mystery of **GOD** taking upon Himself “flesh and blood.” (John 1:14; Romans 8:3; Galatians 4:4; Philippians 2:6-8; Hebrews 10:5; 1 John 4:2-3)
- **GOD HIMSELF** becoming man **for a specific purpose!** This is truly a great mystery – 1 Timothy 3:16!!
- God did not send another prophet or an angel but came Himself to **deal with our sin problem!**
 - This is amazing since **every** sin is **against** God. (Psalm 51:4; Genesis 39:9; 2 Samuel 12:13) – **THIS SHOWS GOD’S GREAT MERCY!**
 - This also shows us the **greatness of any sin** – if it take the **ALL POWERFUL GOD** to deal with sin – how great is sin! **And we take sin so lightly today!!!!**
- (v. 14) “the children have partaken (κοινωνέω {koy-no-neh'-o} “fellowship”) of flesh and blood” – the children did not have choice but were born as partakers of “flesh and blood.”
- **BUT** “He Himself shared (μετέχω metecho {met-ekh'-o} “to take something that is not naturally one’s own”) – **CHRIST chose** to take on “flesh and blood”.
 - ★ The **ALMIGHTY** taking on the weakness of human flesh and blood.
 - ★ The **INFINITE** taking on finite!
 - ★ The **CREATOR** taking on the form of a creature. **MEDITATE!**
 - ★ The **ETERNAL** taking on “flesh and blood” to **DIE!**
- **BIBLICAL TRUTH:** Only **GOD** has the power of life and death! (Deuteronomy 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6; 2 Kings 5:7; Psalm 68:20; John 19:10-11; Job 1:11-12; 2:5-6) **Life and death** are **GOD’S** and **GOD’S** alone! (Job 12:10; Acts 17:25)
- **IT IS BLASPHEMY TO GIVE CREDIT TO SATAN WHAT IS GOD’S!!!**
 - See Job 1.
- What did Jesus Christ accomplish through His death? – He robbed the Devil (accuser, slanderer) for his power in the courts of God. (Zechariah 3:1-5)
 - There is **JUSTICE** in the devil’s accusation – for the “wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23a) and “the soul that sins shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4)!

- **BUT** now, God's people have an **ADVOCATE** (1 John 2:1) the One who took their place on the Cross and paid the penalty for our sins. Satan has **no power over** God's people!
 - Christ destroyed (καταργέω katargeo {kat-arg-eh'-o} "to render idle; inactive; to have no more influence; etc.)

- They walk according to "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience."
(Ephesians 2:3)

- Unless they are SET FREE they will be in this "bondage" for a lifetime!
- Christ came to SET His people FREE. (Isaiah 61:1; 42:7; John 8:32-36; Luke 4:18; Psalm 102:19-21)

He Took on Flesh and Blood (v. 14)

- We were PASSIVE in becoming flesh and blood.
- Christ was ACTIVE in that He took hold of flesh and blood.
- We had NO CHOICE; Christ CHOSE to become man for our sakes!

He Took on Flesh and Blood to Die (v. 14)

- He came for the purpose of DYING!
- He came knowing that He was to be a SIN OFFERING.
- He came knowing what laid ahead. (Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:17-18; 26:2)
- It was God's predetermined plan that His Son would die on the Cross. (Acts 2:23)
- He came to TASTE DEATH for the "heirs of salvation." (1:14; 2:9)
- God sent His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and condemned sin in Christ's body. (Romans 8:3)

Why? To Destroy the Power of the Devil (v. 14)

- What **DEATH**? Physical? Spiritual?
 - Only God has the POWER over life and death (Deuteronomy 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6; 2 Kings 5:7; Psalm 68:20; Revelation 1:18)
 - Satan can only do what God permits. (Job 1:12; 2:6)
- Satan introduced SIN (for which the wages are DEATH) into the world.
- Satan is the FATHER of sin. (John 8:44)
- Satan is the PROSECUTOR in the courts of God. (See Zechariah 3:1)
- **BUT**, in dying and rising again, Christ took Satan's (the PROSECUTOR's) "power away".
- Inside God's courtroom, Satan has NO POWER against God's people. God's people have an ADVOCATE (Defense Lawyer). (1 John 2:1)

WHY? To Free Prisoners (Hebrews 2:15)

- Those who are born into this world are born prisoners of Satan.
 - They are under the power of darkness. (Colossians 1:13)

Why Do People Fear Death?

- ① We fear that it might be PAINFUL.
- ② We "celebrate" it with gloomy ceremonies.
- ③ We are not frequently exposed to it. (Where people ARE exposed to it more they become more and more unemotional about it.)
- ④ The uncertainty of what lay beyond the grave.
- ⑤ We are TOO attached to this world. (Consider James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-16)

How Should One Pray When Faced with Death?

- (Esther 5:4, 8; 7:3; 8:5; 9:13) "If it pleases the King . . ."
- (Matthew 26:36-46) God's will - not ours.
- Why do you want to be healed? See God's warning in James 4:3.

How Did Christ Deliver Us from the Fear of Death?

- ① He has shown us that He has made satisfaction for our sins.
- ② He has promised that because HE LIVES, we, too, shall live. (John 14:19)
- ③ He has defeated Satan and Satan has NOTHING against us! (1 John 2:1)

Why Should Christians NOT Fear Death?

- Paul says, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."
- Some reasons why Christians should not fear death:
 - ① It is a natural part of life. All die.
 - ② It is only a "doorway" into the presence of God. (Consider Psalm 73:25-26)
 - ③ It is an end to our labours, worries, cares, tears, pain, etc.

④ It is our “ticket” back HOME! Our citizenship is NOT of this world but in heaven. (Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:19; John 17:14)

He Came to Break the Chains of Death! (v. 15)

- ALL who are born into this world are born **in bondage** – no one is born FREE!
- Christ came (was sent) to set prisoners free! (Isaiah 42:7; 61:1; Psalm 146:7; Luke 4:18-21; John 8:31-36)
- Christ came to rendered “the strongman” (the Devil) inoperative and to take his “spoils” – His people! (Luke 11:20-23)
- **Meditate on this: Whatever Christ sets His mind on (Job 23:13) He DOES and FINISHES IT (John 19:30) and no one can stop Him! (Job 42:2; Ecclesiastes 3:14; Isaiah 14:27; 46:10; Daniel 4:35; Eph 1:11)**

Who Did He Come to Rescue? (v. 16)

- “he does not take hold to angels”
 - He did not become an angel to save the fallen angels (in contrast to the “**elect angels**” (1 Timothy 5:21)!
 - The fallen angels are **RESERVED** to judgment (Jude 6) and have no saviour (2 Peter 2:4) There is **NO HOPE** for a fallen angel.
- **WHY? Is there a difference in sin? MEDITATE!**
- “He does *take hold*. . .” ἐπιλαμβάνομαι {ep-ee-lam-ban'-om-ah-ee} “to lay hold of”; “to seize upon anything with the hand”; “to rescue one from danger”
- He **does not lay hold of angels or the sons of Adam!!!! Meditate on this!**
- He came to rescue (deliberately to take hold of) “the **sons of Abraham**”
 - Abraham is the “father of all who believe” and his “sons” are sons of **promise** who are **given** faith! (Romans 4:12, 16; Galatians 3:7, 16; **John 8:39**; Romans 9:8; Titus 1:1-3)
 - The “seed of Abraham” are the children of **PROMISE**. (Romans 9:6; Titus 1:1-3)

How Great Is Our God?

- He chose to take upon Himself “flesh and blood!” (less than nothing - Isaiah 40:15, 17).
- He came render the power of the devil worthless!
- He came to set His people free! (Matthew 1:21)

