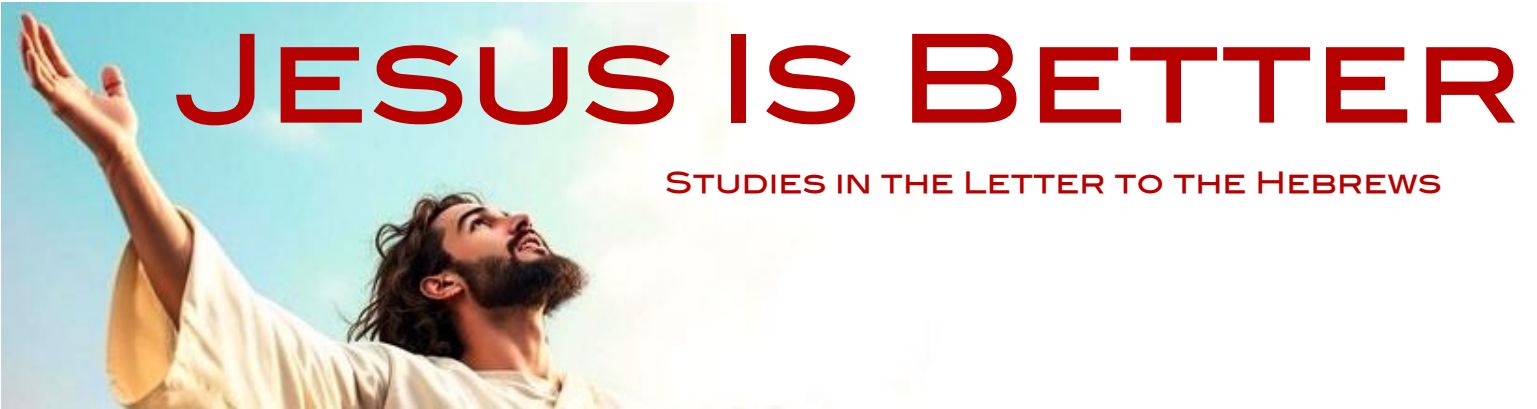




LESSON 2

This is a great salvation—don't ignore it!

Hebrews 2

¹ We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ² For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:

"What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁷ You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under his feet." *Psalms 8:4-6*

In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. ⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹² He says,

"I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises." *Psalms 22:22*

¹³ And again,

"I will put my trust in him." *Isaiah 8:17*

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God has given me." *Isaiah 8:18*

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

This is a great salvation—pay attention!

▲ *Devotion is prescribed*

¹ We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

▲ *Drifting is perilous*

² For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?

- This salvation deserves proper appreciation
- This salvation demands priority attention

▲ *Doubting is perilous*

³ This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

- This salvation was announced by the Savior
- This salvation was affirmed by spectators
 - Note the anonymous authorship of Hebrews
 - Note the allusion to the apostles in Hebrews
- This salvation was attested by supernatural signs

This is a great Savior—pledge allegiance!

▲ *Jesus emerged in the hymnal*

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁷ You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under his feet."

- David prophesied that Jesus would be made lowly
- David prophesied that Jesus would be made Lord

▲ *Jesus entered into humanity*

⁸ In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. ⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels,

▲ *Jesus experienced a humiliating hanging*

⁹ he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

▲ *Jesus is exalted to heaven*

⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

▲ *Jesus is embracing an eternal harvest*

—*He's birthing sons*

¹⁰ In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

—*He's bragging on brothers and sisters*

¹¹ Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹² He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises." ¹³ And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

—*He's breaking satan's strongholds*

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.

- The fiend of death is destroyed
- The fear of death is demolished

—*He's blotting out the stains of sin*

¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

—*He's bringing strength and supply to the saints in their struggles*

¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Psalm 22

For the director of music.
To [the tune of] "The Doe of the Morning."
A psalm of David.

- 1

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
so far from the words of my groaning?
- 2

O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,
by night, and am not silent.
- 3

Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;
you are the praise of Israel.
- 4

In you our fathers put their trust;
they trusted and you delivered them.
- 5

They cried to you and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not disappointed.
- 6

But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by men and despised by the people.
- 7

All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking their heads:
- 8

"He trusts in the LORD;
let the LORD rescue him.
Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him."
- 9

Yet you brought me out of the womb;
you made me trust in you
even at my mother's breast.
- 10

From birth I was cast upon you;
from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- 11

Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.
- 12

Many bulls surround me;
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- 13

Roaring lions tearing their prey
open their mouths wide against me.
- 14

I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted away within me.
- 15

My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.
- 16

Dogs have surrounded me;
a band of evil men has encircled me,
they have pierced my hands and my feet.
- 17

I can count all my bones;
people stare and gloat over me.
- 18

They divide my garments among them
and cast lots for my clothing.
- 19

But you, O LORD, be not far off;
O my Strength, come quickly to help me.
- 20

Deliver my life from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dogs.
- 21

Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;
save me from the horns of the wild oxen.
- 22

I will declare your name to my brothers;
in the congregation I will praise you.
- 23

You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!
Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!
- 24

For he has not despised or disdained
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.
- 25

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows.
- 26

The poor will eat and be satisfied;
they who seek the LORD will praise him—
may your hearts live forever!
- 27

All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,
- 28

for dominion belongs to the LORD
and he rules over the nations.
- 29

All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—
those who cannot keep themselves alive.
- 30

Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.
- 31

They will proclaim his righteousness
to a people yet unborn—
for he has done it.

Psalm 8

For the director of music.
According to *gittith*.
A psalm of David.

- 1

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
above the heavens.
- 2

From the lips of children and infants
you have ordained praise
because of your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.
- 3

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
- 4

what is man that you are mindful of him,
the son of man that you care for him?
- 5

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6

You made him ruler over the works of your hands;
you put everything under his feet:
- 7

all flocks and herds,
and the beasts of the field,
- 8

the birds of the air,
and the fish of the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
- 9

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Isaiah 8

- 11

The LORD spoke to me with his strong hand upon me, warning
me not to follow the way of this people. He said:
- 12

"Do not call conspiracy
everything that these people call conspiracy;
do not fear what they fear,
and do not dread it.
- 13

The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy,
he is the one you are to fear,
he is the one you are to dread,
- 14

and he will be a sanctuary;
but for both houses of Israel he will be
a stone that causes men to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.
- And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare.
- 15

Many of them will stumble;
they will fall and be broken,
they will be snared and captured."
- 16

Bind up the testimony
and seal up the law among my disciples.
- 17

I will wait for the LORD,
who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob.

I will put my trust in him.

18 Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me.

We are signs and symbols in Israel from the LORD Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.