

Jesus, Crowned With Glory and Honor

Hebrews 2:5-18

Introduction:

- Illustr- Many years ago in Chicago, a scientist named Dr. Craig gave a lecture on the human body before the Medical Association of Chicago. He said, "Consider the average 150 pound body of a man from its chemical aspect. It contains water, and enough lime to whitewash a good size chicken coop, enough sugar to fill a small sugar bowl, and enough iron to make a 10-penny nail. The total value of these ingredients is about 98 cents." That was quite a few years ago. Perhaps in today's economy, man is worth about two or three bucks.
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- I. The Glorious Humanity of Jesus
 - a. Christ is fully God, and fully man
 - i. Col. 2:9, I Tim 2:5, 3:16
 - ii. See Philippians 2:5-8
 - b. After emphasizing Christ's divinity, now he demonstrates the humanity of Jesus from the Scriptures and applies the implications of Jesus' humanity.
 - c. It is Biblically wrong to think of Jesus as merely God or merely man. It is wrong to think of Him as half God and half man (or any other percentage split). It is wrong to think of Him as "man on the outside" and "God on the inside." The Bible teaches Jesus is fully God and fully man, that a human nature was added to His divine nature, and both natures existed in one Person, Jesus Christ.
 - d. We call this the hypostatic union- Jesus' humanity and divinity are not mixed, but are united without loss of separate identity. He is forever the God-man.
 - e. Interestingly, the first false teaching about Jesus in the days of the early church did not deny that He was God, but it denied that He was really human and said He only seemed to be human. The heresy was called Gnosticism

- f. As a man he was our perfect substitute. As a man he is our compassionate High Priest (v. 18, 4:15)
- II. Crowned with Glory and Honor
- a. V. 5-8 are quotes from Psalm 8
 - b. Mankind is lower in rank to the angels, and it is a wonder that God would notice him! (Ps. 8:4)
 - c. Man is lower in rank, but was bestowed the privilege of dominion over the earth (Gen. 1:26-28) Image bearers/vice-king
 - d. So even in Christ's humanity he is superior to the angels!
 - e. Psalm 8 speaks of man's destiny in the Kingdom age. What a glorious destiny awaits us! Paul said we would even rule over the angels! (I Cor. 6:3)
 - f. V. 8- "not yet." By all appearance the promise of Psalm 8:4-6 seems to be an unfulfilled promise. We do not see that all things are subjected to man. (sin, flesh, etc.)
 - g. But we see Jesus: The promise is fulfilled in Jesus, who is Lord over all. Through Jesus man can regain the dominion originally intended for Adam
 - h. V. 8- Our epistle points out how this promise, though not yet fully true of man is fulfilled ultimately in Jesus!
 - i. Hebrews refers to the subjecting of the whole earth to the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit uses and applies Psalm 8 to reinforce what He is saying.
 - j. God gave dominion to Adam, but Psalm 8 and Hebrews 2 look beyond the first Adam to the "second Adam."
 - k. Christ is sovereign
 - i. Referring to Christ, I Corinthians 15:27 says, "For He (God the Father) hath put all things under His feet."
 - ii. Ephesians 1:22, 23 says God "hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."
 - iii. The word "subjection" (2:5; twice in 2:8) refers to our Lord's sovereignty.

- iv. Vine's Expository Dictionary says "subjection" is "primarily a military term," meaning "to rank under."
 - I. Christ is crowned with glory and honor- because of His sufferings (v. 9, 10, 14)
 - m. He tasted death for every man! The atonement is available for all, but only applied to those who repent and believe. I John 2:2
 - n. Praise God when we do, our destiny is to rule and reign with Him!
- III. The Captain of our Salvation- v. 10
- a. The point is that it was fitting for the Father to do this, in the sense that it pleased the Lord to bruise Him (Isaiah 53:10), to do it for the sake of bringing many sons to glory.
 - b. This is how to become a child of God- John 1:12 says, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."
 - c. Matthew Henry said, "He perfected the work of our redemption by shedding His blood, and was thereby perfectly qualified to be a Mediator between God and man."
 - d. V. 14-16- The first Adam tasted the forbidden fruit and brought death to all, the Second Adam tasted death and brought life for all. He delivers us from the bondage of Satan!
 - e. No one else could "make reconciliation for the sins of the people" (2:17).
 - f. Christ became a man in order to die on the cross as our Substitute
 - g. Christ became a man, and specifically "he took on him the seed of Abraham" (Heb. 2:16). This is mentioned because this epistle was written to Hebrew Christians.
 - h. He is the captain of our salvation:
 - i. The leader; the author and originator of our salvation!
 - ii. He opened up the path of life, and the way to live each day!
 - i. He was an example of the pathway to glory- through humility
 - j. A Leader must do three things:

- i. Leads the way, and sets an example- He goes before us enduring all of the affliction that life has and shows us how to overcome them- v. 16-18
- ii. He must have followers. We must be committed to following Him at all costs! His suffering and death are for our salvation, but they are also examples of what we endure in life as well. He separated from the world and was meek and humble- as should we
- iii. A leader not only leads the way but makes all the preparations for the way. Jesus makes the arrangements for our progress as Christians.
- iv. A captain rewards his troops- Jesus rewards his followers

Conclusion:

- Caesar is known for how quickly he spread the Roman Empire. Legends tell us how fiercely his troops were devoted to him willing to battle to the death
- May we be devoted to our Captain- Jesus Christ!