



# Summer Study Discussion Guide #10

**Sermon Title:** But We See Jesus

**Biblical Reference:** Hebrews 2

**Date Preached:** Sunday, August 14th, 2022, @ 11am

**Summer Study Date:** Wednesday, August 17th, 2022

## Sermon Summary

In Hebrews 1 Paul teaches the Hebrews that Jesus is better than the angels. In chapter 2 he expounds and explains this truth and begins with an admonition in verses 1-3. What he taught was of the utmost importance since Jesus is better than the angels.

Paul then helps them understand that even though Jesus was made lower than the angels and even though He died on the cross, He was still better. This was all part of God's plan. Paul reminded the Hebrews that when man was created God put him in charge. However, their experience taught them that man was not in control; man had lost his dominion at the fall. Ultimately, the Hebrews were not to despair. Why? Because they could see Jesus and He was the answer.

## Quick Review

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or anything that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Were you able to apply something you learned from the sermon this week?

## My Story

The Hebrews had a tough time believing in the "incarnation" (that God became flesh). They could not see that Jesus was better than angels because of His humanity and His death on the cross. Can you describe for us what the most difficult part about the gospel was for you to believe?

# Digging Deeper

## 1. Introduction

*Ask a volunteer to read: Hebrews 2:5-8*

*5 For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.*

*6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?*

*7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:*

*8 Thou hast 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 see not yet all things put under him.*

Paul reminds his readers the amazing truth that God in His vast creation created man to hold a special place. Paul drew their attention to what the Psalmist was amazed by when on starry night when he looked up the night sky and wondered how the Creator could put man in such a special place. Paul then mentioned the sobering truth that mankind had forfeited the rule of the world and lost dominion when he fell.

### Discussion Questions:

- Paul quotes David in *Psalm 8:3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; 8:4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?* How does this truth speak to your heart or your life?
- In verse 8 Paul points out that all things are not now as God intended them to be. Why do you think it is important to remember even today? (When what we are seeing and experiencing in the world is *not* the way the Lord intended it to be.)

## 2. We See a Representative

*Ask a volunteer to read:*

*Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

*Heb 2:16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.*

Paul is teaching them the answer to man's dilemma (*losing his dominion and being subject to death*) was the incarnation of Jesus.

**Discussion Questions:**

- According to verse 9, why was it necessary for Jesus to be made lower than the angels? When did this happen?
- What does the willingness of Jesus to be made lower than the angels teach us about the character of God? How can we follow that example in our lives?
- What does it mean that Jesus “should taste death for every man”?

**3. We See a Deliverer**

*Ask a volunteer to read: Hebrews 2:10-11, 13*

*10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

*11 For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,*

*13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.*

**Discussion Questions:**

These verses show us what the Lord accomplished through His becoming flesh. He came into our world and made a trail for all. He was the captain; He made a way out. Though His incarnation He was able to deliver us.

- How could Christ be perfected through sufferings if He was already perfect (verse 10)?
- Verse 11 says that those who are sanctified are one with Jesus and He is not ashamed to call us brethren. Give us an example of how becoming a flesh made Jesus one with us?
- Jesus was not ashamed to call us brethren because He walked the paths that we have walked. He walked our streets and experienced our pain. How are you affected knowing Jesus experienced many of the same things you are experiencing now?
- Verse 13 Paul tells the Hebrews because of the love the Lord showed by becoming a man he would put his trust in Him. Paul is telling them to trust the Lord in the face of the persecution or loss that resulted from them embracing the Lord. What area of your life is the most difficult to trust the Lord with?

#### 4. We See an Emancipator

*Ask a volunteer to read:*

*Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;*

*Heb 2:15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

In these verses Paul shows how through the incarnation the Lord defeated enemies we could not defeat and set us free from those enemies. Paul told the Hebrews that Jesus could deliver them from the bondage of the law by delivering them from the fear of death. Many of the Jews were enslaved to the law through fear of death.

#### Discussion Questions:

- What are your thoughts and feelings about your own death?
- What is an example of how fear of death can subject someone to bondage?

#### 5. We See a Sympathizer

*Ask a volunteer to read:*

*Heb 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*

*Heb 2:18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.*

Becoming a man brought with it the temptations that all people face. As God, He knew about these temptations already. But by becoming a man, He could experience them firsthand. As we saw earlier in the chapter, this “perfected” His human side. He could identify with what we were going through. He could give us the perfect example of how to respond to it in action, not just with words. Jesus can empathize with us in a deeper way and intercede for us more personally. So whenever we are tempted, we can look to the example of Christ to see how He responded.

#### Discussion Questions:

- How did becoming a man enable Jesus to be both merciful to man and faithful to God?

- What is an example of how Jesus helps you when you are tempted?
- What lessons can we learn from Jesus about how to respond to temptation?

## Taking It Home

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they can do because of hearing the message:

1. What point in this message was most impactful for you?
2. How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
3. How will you put into practice what you have learned today?