

# SERMON GUIDE

Hebrews: Christ Our Brother and Captain of Our Salvation

Hebrews 2:10-18



## SERMON NOTES:

Scripture Exegesis: Hebrews 2:10-18

**VS 10 -- *For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.***

The Hebrew writer says it was fitting for the Father, the One for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. Let's highlight three things here that need some explanation:

**in bringing many sons to glory** -- The idea of sons is not neglecting women, it is both men and women who are treated as heirs of an inheritance. We are treated and counted as sons. This salvation brings glory to us. Now listen carefully, the purpose of all things is to bring God glory. But one of the major purposes of God is to bring many sons to glory. This refers not only to the eternal life and forgiveness of sins that are ours. It refers to the honor and magnificence that is bestowed on redeemed man. He glorifies us in salvation. And in so doing, is Himself glorified. His glory expands our He brings many sons to glory.

**founder of their salvation** -- Jesus is called the founder of our salvation. Another phrase for founder that's often used is "captain." Jesus is the captain of our salvation. He is the leader. He is the source or author of our salvation.

**made perfect through suffering** -- Here being "made perfect" means "learning obedience" through suffering. This does not mean that he was once disobedient and then became obedient. It means that Jesus moved from untested obedience into suffering and then through suffering into tested and proven obedience. And this proving himself obedient through suffering was his "being perfected" or "fitted" or "equipped" to that office. The original word means to "consecrate" "dedicate" or "set apart" to a particular office.

**VS 11-13 -- *11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, 12 saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." 13 And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me."***

He who sanctifies (Christ) and those who are sanctified (us, the sons brought to glory, those who received this great salvation) all have one source. What source is that? From flesh. Remember, this Son of Man came into the world. Jesus is God in the flesh. This is why He (Jesus) is not ashamed to call us brothers.

This is why it is often said "God our Father, Christ our Brother." Jesus called God, the Father. Jesus tells us to address God in prayer as Father. So it is fitting that since the Son of God, and Second Person of the Trinity, took on flesh to save us, He be called our "brother." That is another familial term by which we can understand God's love for us.

In fact, the Hebrew writer then quotes Psalm 22:22 and says, ***"I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."*** This Messianic psalm is instructive for many reasons. One, Jesus quoted it from the cross when He said, *"My God My God, why have you forsaken me."* It is a psalm that begins with that cry and ends in victory. That's exactly why Jesus quotes it from the cross. Here the Hebrew writer appeals to Psalm 22 and says Christ our brother, in bringing us to salvation, sings over us. There is a joy that our salvation brings Him.

The Hebrew writer selects three Old Testament passages to show the Messiah as claiming brotherhood with men. One biblical commentator outlined the author's points by highlighting 3 things with each text he references 1. Christ's assumption of manhood in order to show God to men, 2. Christ's assumption of manhood in order to show the pattern of a godly life to men; and, 3. Christ's assumption of manhood in order to bring men into the family of sons.

***VS 14 -- Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,***

So the children of God, saved through Christ, are flesh and blood, Christ Himself became the same thing. Why did He do that? So that through death He could destroy the one who has the power of death, that is the devil.

In what way does the devil have the power of death? As a result of sin, the wage or payment we receive for sin (as creatures) is death. In Colossians 2:14-15, the apostle Paul highlights how the legal demands that Satan had over us were nailed to the cross. Those demands were death and damnation. We rightly deserve death and separation from God. But Christ comes into the world to pay that death and cancel the legal demands Satan has over us.

***Colossians 2:14-15 -- 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.***

How did Jesus do it? By becoming flesh and dying in the place of guilty sinners. The debt that was owed was paid by His sacrifice. It is a propitiation. A death that diverts the wrath of God off of us and onto another object, namely Christ. The legal demands were satisfied. The Devil was defeated. Christ destroyed Satan, the one who had the power of death over humans. This is why throughout church history the church has celebrated the atonement by highlighting the substitutionary death of Christ and the victory of Christ over Satan (Christus Victor).

Pause button here. Notice that this isn't an argument that there is a devil. It assumes the reality. There is a spiritual battle happening all the time, all around us. Satan is real. He is our adversary. He wants to destroy us and drag our souls to Hell. The fact that a world of people walks around oblivious or unconcerned is exactly his preference. We are not a battle with flesh and blood alone (Ephesians 6).

**VS 15 -- *and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.***

He destroyed the one who has the power of death, Satan, by His death. And He (Christ) delivered all those who through fear of death were subjected to lifelong slavery. So Christ destroyed the penalty and power of Satan. Lost sinners live in bondage and slavery to sin. They don't know God. They will face judgment. And the Hebrew writer says they live in fear of death. They have no hope or confidence in what happens after death. But for those in Christ, that yoke of slavery has been overturned. Christ delivers from fear of death.

That's the flow of thought in verses 14–15. Five steps:

- you are human;
- therefore Christ became human;
- so that he might die for you;
- to nullify the deadly power of the devil;
- so that you might be freed from slavery to fear and live in freedom for the rest of eternity.

**VS 16 -- *For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.***

It's not angels He helps, but the offspring of Abraham. Have you stopped to consider that a third of the angels fell in the rebellion against God? Christ was not sent for the redemption of one angel. No angel was given a chance for salvation and redemption after their fall. Yet, in the grace and kindness of God, He does save and bring many sons to glory. Undeserved. Unwarranted.

Why does He say "offspring of Abraham," is this only for Jews? By no means! The promise to Abraham was that he would father a nation that would bless the nations. All in Christ are grafted into the vine. We are grafted into the family of Abraham. Children of the covenant promise.

***VS 17 -- Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.***

In light of this, Christ had to be made like his brothers (us, human) in every respect. He was fully human, not kind of human. This was necessary so that He might be our merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

We often talk about this at Christmastime, but I'll highlight it again here. The reason the Son of God came into the world as a human was to pay the full price for humans. The Savior had to be a God-Man. Fully God, because only God has the power and ability to pay the debt, even though He doesn't owe it. And Fully human, because only humans owe the debt, even though we don't have the ability to pay it. So the GOD-MAN must come to pay the debt because He's the only One who can. In this way, He could serve as our High Priest. This is the first mention in Hebrews of the High Priest, but we'll see this again. The High Priest was the one person in Israel who could go before the LORD on behalf of the people and offer sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus is our High Priest, spotless and without blemish. Except Jesus doesn't go before God on our behalf to give a sacrifice. He goes to God on our behalf as the sacrifice.

***VS 18 -- For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.***

Because God became one of us. Christ knew suffering. He knew temptation. He experienced the full range of emotions and experiences that we do (yet was without sin), He is able to help those who are being tempted. He can not only forgive us when we fail, but He can strengthen us to obey when tempted. All of this is because He is our brother who has gone through it all already: temptation, suffering, and death. So we can look to Him to be our help.

### **Application:**

#### **1. Studying theology not only helps us understand these truths but love these truths.**

There is a lot of theology in this passage today. If I'm being honest with you, it's hard. It requires some work and lifting. These are not easy messages to prepare for. But here's the deal, we want to know the Bible. We want to understand God's Word to us. It is a gift. It is worth laboring for. One of the big problems we have today is that many Christians are very theologically and biblically illiterate because their churches are theologically and biblically anemic.

Everyone is a theologian. It's not like some are and some aren't. Everyone is a theologian. It's just a matter of whether you are a good one or a bad one, an informed one or an uninformed one, an accurate one or an inaccurate one. Do you see it? So I encourage you to dive deeper into your personal life to study theology. The more you understand and grasp theology, the more you will love the truths of the Bible.

\*Join Discipleship classes at MDWK this fall.

\*Grab some basic theology books.

## **2. There is a real adversary in the world set against us.**

Satan is real. The devil has real power. Not everything we see in the world is simply a flesh and blood matter. There are dark spiritual things that exist everywhere.

You are not just weak in your flesh. You have an enemy that tempts. It's not just a bunch of silly people warring against truth in our culture. There is a Liar and Deceiver hellbent against God's Word and ways.

This is one of the reasons we are told to pray for deliverance from the evil one. We need spiritual help to deal with spiritual problems. This is also why we need spiritual solutions to spiritual problems in the world.

## **3. Christ alone can save us.**

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## **4. The Christian life involves sanctification toward godliness.**

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## **5. Walking with Christ gives us the real tools we need for life.**

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We are told that Christ sets us free from the fear of death.

He is able to help us in our temptation.

He comforts us in our suffering and trials.



- How was your week? What is one thing you're grateful for and one thing that challenged you?
- How did you GROW in obedience to Christ over the last week?
- Where did you GO to share the gospel or have a spiritual conversation with someone?



## LOOK UP

- **REVIEW:**

- Read **Hebrews 2:10-18** and then have someone else in the group read it again, preferably from a different version.
- What big takeaways did you have from the teaching?
- Additional Scripture:
  - John 14:6
  - Romans 8:14
  - Galatians 4:6
  - Ephesians 4:18
  - Romans 5:10
  - 1 Peter 2:21–22
  - John 8:44
  - Romans 5:81
  - John 2:2
  - Romans 8:1
  - Hebrews 4:14
  - 1 Corinthians 10:13
  - Matthew 11:28-30

- **REFLECT:**

- What does it mean to bring many sons to glory?
- How is Jesus the founder of our salvation?
- How was Jesus made perfect through suffering?
- In what way does the devil have the power of death?
- What does it mean that Jesus is a High Priest?
- How is Jesus able to help us when we are tempted?

- **RESPOND:**

- Do you find comfort that Jesus is able to help you when you are tempted?
- Do you think of yourself as a theologian? Why or why not?
- What steps will you take to grow in this area?
- How does growing as a theologian help in the following areas:
  - Battling Satan?
  - Sanctification?
  - Walking with Christ?

- **MEDITATE:**

- Hebrews 2:10 -- *For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.*

- **MEMORIZE:**

- Hebrews -- 2:18 -- *For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.*



- **FOLLOW:** How will you follow Jesus this week and grow in your love and understanding of Him?
- **FISH:** Who in your sphere of influence needs to hear this story, your story or the gospel?
- **PRAYER:**

- Pray over any request from your group members.
- Directional Elder - **Chris Townson**
- Ministry - **For the Nations**
- **Pray for our long-term units on the field:**
  - The Wilsons
  - The Grays
  - The Starks
- **Pray for our mid-term sent ones on the field:**
  - Kaesi
  - Ethan & Dustin (May 16 - June 30)
- **Pray for our short-term teams:**
  - Southeast Asia Team #2 departing on June 15
  - London Team departing June 30
  - Asian Pacific Rim Team #2 departing August 16
  - Central Asia Team #2 departing on September 27
- **Pray for the lost - Unreached People Group (UPG):** Comorian in France



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- **Population in Country:** 97,000
- **Global Population:** 97,000
- **Christian Adherent:** 0.00%
- **Evangelical:** 0.00%
- **Primary Religion:** Islam
- **Primary Language:** Comorian, Maore
- **Summary:** Comorians are among many other African migrants who live in France. Thousands have risked their lives to migrate to France and when they get there they live in poverty.
- **Prayer Focus:** Pray for the few Comorian believers to be salt and light to their neighbors. Pray that the Lord would equip Christ followers in France to share the gospel with Comorian immigrants. Pray for a movement to Christ among the Comorians in France. Pray that they would experience freedom from physical and spiritual suffering through Jesus Christ.
- Want to keep up with other Unreached People Groups? Download the Unreached of the Day App <https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday/app>