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*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## Hebrews 2.

(2013).

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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## Hebrews 2.

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**INTRODUCTION:** this letter is written to Hebrews who had been enlightened, endured sufferings, been publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, stood alongside others who were persecuted, had compassion on those in prison and joyfully accepted others plundering their property (probably the Romans) knowing they had an eternal possession (Heb. 10:31-36).

It appears they had a faith in Christ, but were still bound by the Levitical priesthood and the Jewish religious system and because of this the author brilliantly uses Moses Tabernacle, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place and Old Testament Scriptures to prove Jesus is the only High Priest anyone needs and that it is by faith in Christ and God's grace not religious works that God's people are counted righteous.

The blessing of this letter is not limited to the Hebrews since everyone who is seeking God or who is a brother or sister of Christ will be overwhelmingly awed as they read this well-crafted and awe-inspiring letter as it beautifully progresses through the chapters proving Jesus is the Christ (probably written about A.D. 68).

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### Topics.

- How shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?
- It was not to angels that God subjected the world to come.
- We see Jesus who for a little while was made lower than the angels.
- God is bringing many sons to glory.
- The founder of salvation would be made perfect through suffering.
- Christ who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have one origin.
- I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation.
- Jesus destroyed the power of the devil.
- It is not angels Jesus helps, but the offspring of Abraham.

### The Previous Chapter.

In the previous chapter the author of Hebrews was proving to the reader that God has exalted his son the Lord Jesus Christ above all deities, divinities and angels. He spoke of Christ creating a new world, and upholding it by the power of his word and of the Lord's throne being forever. The chapter ended with God telling the Lord to sit at his right hand until he makes his enemies his footstool.

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**NOTE:** for information concerning people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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### We must Pay Close Attention to what we have Heard.

Hebrews 2:1-2 ----- <sup>1</sup>Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. <sup>2</sup>For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,

Since the author in the previous chapter talked about God speaking to our fathers by the prophets the words, "The message declared by angels" (v2) can refer to heavenly angels or to the prophets spoken of in the previous chapter and even to the apostles. This is because the English word angel in the New Testament comes from the Greek word *aggelos* meaning messenger. In some verses the Greek word *aggelos* has been translated angel while in others it has been translated messenger and sometimes it refers to heavenly angels while at others to human messengers. In most instances the context the word angels is used in make it clear as to whether it is referring to human messengers or heavenly angels (though there are some exceptions).

The following are some Bible examples where the word *aggelos* has been translated to messengers showing that the Greek word *aggelos* can refer to human people or heavenly angels.

John the Baptist is a human angel: -

- I send my messenger (*aggelos*) before your face, who will prepare your way before you." Truly, I say to you, "Among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist." (Matt 11:10-11).

John the Baptist sent human angels: -

- When John's messengers (*aggelos*) had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds (Luke 7:24).

John the Baptist is Jesus human angel: -

- This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger (*aggelos*) (angel) before your face" (Luke 7:27).

Jesus sends human angels: -

- Jesus sent messengers (*aggelos*) ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans (Luke 9:52).

Titus is a human angel of the church: -

- Titus, is my fellow worker for your benefit and as for our brothers, they are messengers (*aggelos*) of the churches (2 Cor. 8:23).

Paul's thorn in the flesh was human angels of satan: -

- To keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger (*aggelos*) of Satan to harass me (2 Cor. 12:7).

Rahab received human angels: -

- Rahab the prostitute was justified by works when she received the messengers (*aggelos*) and sent them another way? (James 2:25).

It is clear that it was the common in the Greek language to call certain human beings an angel (*aggelos*) and that many angels of the Bible are human men (both good and bad).

**For further information see the title: -**

- Angels can be Human Messengers in, Angels (ON WEBSITE MENU).

**Every Transgression or Disobedience received a just Retribution.**

The words, "The message declared by angels proved to be reliable and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution" (v2) refer to Old Testament Israel. Each time Israel rebelled against God and turned to Idols God sent prophet after prophet to warn them of impending judgment and doom and yet their hearts remained diamond hard toward the prophets and toward God's word.

After much long suffering and patience God was forced to judge Israel's transgressions and their disobedience because they had become so grossly corrupt and therefore all the words of the prophets that they had heard came to pass. This is why the author of Hebrews is saying we must pay close attention to the words of God that we have heard, lest we also drift as Old Testament Israel did.

### **Such a Great Salvation?**

Hebrews 2:3-4 ----- <sup>3</sup>how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested (confirmed in KJV) to us by those who heard, <sup>4</sup>while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

The word, (we) includes all those who from the time of Christ to his return have heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Jews and Gentiles alike).

### **Such a Great Salvation.**

The Christian message of Salvation is referred to as such a great salvation for the following reasons:-

- It cost God the life of his Son.
- Jesus suffered brutal, bloody, cruel and humiliating torture and laid down his life to purchase our salvation.
- All who humble themselves before God in repentance and accept Christ as their Saviour are delivered from the domain of darkness and transferred to the Kingdom of God's beloved Son (Col 1:13).
- Whoever is in Christ not only has God's favour but also has the love of God and of Christ dwelling within.
- Everyone in Christ is set free from the endless struggle of trying to attain righteousness by self-effort and pursuing the demands of the law.
- Those in Christ are saved by faith and God's grace and not by works, self-effort or rigidly keeping religious rites, customs and traditions.
- God grants as a pure and free gift righteousness that leads to eternal life to all who are in Christ.
- All those in Christ will be raised to eternal life and everlasting glory.
- Every brother and sister of the Lord will dwell in eternity with Christ and with God his heavenly Father and in this eternal world there will be no more suffering, sickness, sorrow or pain since God Himself will be 'All in All.'

Is it any wonder the author of Hebrews calls the Christian salvation message a great salvation is there any other religion that proclaims such glory? (This author has not found one).

### **How shall we escape if we Neglect such a Great Salvation?**

One of the reasons the author of Hebrews is warning those who have heard the message of God's great salvation not to neglect it is because they had far more light than those of the Old Testament. It was not only first proclaimed by Christ himself, but was also confirmed to those who heard it by multitudes of miraculous healings and many wonders that God by His Spirit performed through Christ as he proclaimed the Good News of this great salvation.

The stunning miracles Jesus performed authenticated and testified that he was the prophet to come like Moses, the promised seed of Abraham and of David, Israel's Messiah the Christ the Son of God and Saviour of the world. No man on earth could do the things Christ did without the full power of God flowing through him,

thus his sign miracles evidenced that he was approved of God, sent by God, had God's favour and was God's beloved Son and the one Moses and all the prophet spoke of (John 20:30-31). We know Jesus miracles were to authenticate that he was sent by God the Father because when John the Baptist was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the one who is to come and Jesus answered John's disciples with the following words: -

- Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me (Matthew 11:2-6) (Luke 7:18-23).

The Old Testament states that the Christ will open the eyes of the blind, heal the ears of the deaf, cause the crippled to walk and the mute to speak with joy (Isa. 29:1-24) (Isa. 35:1-10) (Isa. 42:1-10) which Jesus did while he proclaim the great salvation of God.

Added to this Jesus when speaking to the Jews said: -

- The works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me and the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me (John 5:36-37).

Thus; the reason we are told, "Not to neglect such a, great salvation."

**It was not to Angels that God subjected the World to Come.**

Hebrews 2:5-7 ----- <sup>5</sup>Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup>It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? <sup>7</sup>You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honour.

The author of Hebrews obviously has a tremendous knowledge of the Old Testament Scripture yet he says, "It has been testified somewhere" (v6) he knows what is in the Scriptures, but cannot quote the exact references to where they are found.

There is a valuable lesson we can learn from this, i.e., though their maybe benefit (for those who have such a mind) in memorizing the locations of where verses are found it is not important for spiritual growth since just knowing what the Bible says is enough for any brother and sister to grow majestically in the love of the Lord. The people who did speak the words, "What is man, that you are mindful of him" were Job and David (twice in Psalms).

**JOB:** is in a state of deep despair, depression and almost suicidal, he feels God has set his focus on him and testing him every moment of every day and is longing for God to turn away from him. While in this low state Job says: -

- *What is man, that you make so much of him, and that you set your heart on him, visit him every morning and test him every moment? How long will you not look away from me, nor leave me alone till I swallow my spit? (Job 7:16-19).*

This is fabulous and should be a huge encouragement to any brother or sister suffering despair or depression. Job feels God has set his eyes against him to his harm so much so that he wishes he had never been born. This is a man who God not only called his servant but also said of him, "There is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil" (Job 1:8) and at the end of Job's suffering God blesses him to the max (Job 42:12-17).

**Clearly showing: -**

- Sickness, depression, hardships and struggles are not a punishment for sin or a sign that we have committed some sin that we are unaware of.
- In prayer it is not wrong or offensive to be honest before God with our heart felt feelings even if they are negative

- What God considers great faith is not worldly success, riches, wealth and fame but enduring in faith as Job did through the struggles and hardships of life.
- Genuine faith cannot be measured by a person's joy or lack of it, success or failure, sickness or health, nobleness or lowliness, but only by enduring in faithfulness this is what thrills the heart of God.

**DAVID:** after looking at all the glory of the heavens the moon and the stars which he ponders in awe-inspiring wonder to be the work of God's fingers says: -

- *What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"* Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, sheep, oxen, beasts of the field, birds of the air and the fish of the sea, O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Ps. 8:3-9).

**DAVID:** again in an attitude of overwhelming thanksgiving praises the LORD saying: -

- Blessed be the LORD, my rock, who trains my hands for war, he is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield and he in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me. *O LORD, what is man that you regard him, or the son of man that you think of him?* Man is like a breath (Ps 144:1-4).

### **The glory and honour of men and woman is that God:-**

- Has given them the ability to make their own choices and decisions.
- Has set them above all other living creatures.
- Has given them a mind that can create reason, think and learn.
- Has created them with the ability to change their lives for the better.
- Has given them the opportunity of eternal life and everlasting glory.
- Has set His great love upon them.

Clearly anyone who takes a moment to consider the vast beauty and diversity of the fish that swim in our oceans, the birds flying in the air, the plants and flowers growing on our planet and the mind blowing and endless enormity of the heavens and the millions of uncountable planets will be humbled and overwhelmed and declare with wonder as Job, David and the author of Hebrews did, "God what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?" (v6).

### **At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him**

Hebrews 2:8 -----<sup>8</sup> putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

The words, "At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him" (v8) refer to death and sin (i.e., selfishness, ego, pride, greed, lust, jealousies etc. Clearly man cannot conquer death and sin rules in the heart of the individual, in the heart of kings, in the collective heart of governments and even in the heart of religious leaders. Death and sin is the only thing that mankind cannot conquer this is why the world is never free of wars and peace is always allusive. Though those in Christ are counted righteous by God, they are not righteous in reality, since sin still remains in the flesh (self, pride and ego). This is why the writer of Hebrews says, "At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to mankind," but a breath-taking and awe-inspiring day is coming when: -

- The Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God and the dead in Christ will rise first then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and our perishable (corruptible in KJV) body puts on

the imperishable (incorruption in KJV), and our mortal body puts on immortality and so we will always be with the Lord when the perishable (corruptible in KJV) puts on the imperishable (incorruption in KJV), and the mortal puts on immortality and death is swallowed up in victory (1 Thess. 4:14-18) (1 Cor. 15:53-55)

When this breathtaking and world changing event takes place both death and sin will be destroyed in those who are raised to everlasting glory  
And all things will be put under their feet.

### **We see Jesus who for a little while was Made Lower than the Angels.**

Hebrews 2:9 ----- <sup>9</sup>But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Jesus was born the beloved Son of God glorious light entered the world all the angels rejoiced with heavenly joy. This birth was to change the spiritual world of God forever. The most glorious and beloved of God was made lower than the angels in the following ways Jesus was born mortal whereas the angels are eternal. The angels dwell with God in glory, Jesus dwelt with corrupt and sinful humans. The angels feel no pain or sorrow and cannot die whereas Jesus suffered a brutal, bloody and cruel death.

How honoured and proud God must have been as he watched his Son remain in such devotion and faithfulness to Him as he endured living amongst fallen humanity and none of this for himself, but that we might be reconciled to his heavenly Father and be raised to eternal life and everlasting glory.

Is it any wonder God has crowned His beloved Son with glory and honour, how thrilled the heavenly Father must have been when He heard Christ while hanging bleeding, bloody and in torturous pain utter the words, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." What love, what mercy, what forgiveness is there any other faith on earth that has such a compassionate and merciful Saviour? This humbled author has not found one) such is the glory the wonder and the beauty of the Christian faith.

### **God is Bringing Many Sons to Glory.**

Hebrews 2:10-13 ----- <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." <sup>13</sup>And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me"

The words, "In bringing many sons to glory" (v10) show that from the beginning of creation it was and always has been God's goal and desire to have children and produce an eternal family, who from their own free will choose to belong to the heavenly family God is creating in His Son. God in His eternal plan of Salvation and in His wisdom deemed it necessary that the Saviour of mankind should be in a loving union with those who he would save and that he should partake of the same nature of those he would sanctify and redeem to glory, thus the reason the Lord of glory was born of a woman.

Christ, God's eternal Saviour and the exalted Son of God understands the nature of those he redeems and is therefore not ashamed to call them, "Brothers and Sisters," in mercy and grace he identifies them with himself showing that in God's great work of redemption there is a oneness between Christ the Saviour and those he redeems. This is why it was necessary that Jesus should assume the nature of humanity. Here is the glory and beauty of the Saviour though he is without sin and exalted above all things he is not ashamed to give the name "Brothers and Sisters" to those (no matter how sunken and degraded they maybe) who he came to redeem and is willing to acknowledge himself as of the same family. This is the wonder and splendour of the Saviour God purposed and planned in His eternal mind before the world began.

## **The Founder of Salvation would be Made Perfect through Suffering.**

Whatever the proud, carnal and unbelieving mind may imagine, the spiritual mind sees God's glory, splendour, wonder and love in the cross of Christ and why God thought it fitting that to bring many sons to glory the founder of their salvation would be made perfect through suffering (v10). When a seeker of God comes to the cross and comprehends the great love God has for them and fully perceives that the Lord of all glory surrendered himself to a brutal, bloody and cruel death so that he could save them to eternal glory through his suffering their minds are provoked and their hearts are stirred by such awesome and overwhelming love.

God the eternal mind of all wisdom understood that there is nothing in this world  
that impacts on the human heart as powerfully as love especially  
love that is set upon someone who is not worthy of it.

## **Christ who Sanctifies and those Who are Sanctified have one Origin.**

It should be understood that though the literal meaning of the word sanctify means to make blameless and holy in the context of the following verse: -

- For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin (v11).

This does not mean that those who are sanctified will be made sin-free. If it was possible for anyone of us to achieve this glorious state while in this mortal and fallen body then Christ died for no purpose. Rather in this context the words, sanctify and blameless carry the idea of living a lifestyle that honours God and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It means forsaking behaviour that could be harmful to another human physically, financially, sexually, emotionally, mentally and spiritually and instead being filled with the fruits of the Spirit, (i.e., love, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, patience, grace and mercy and such like things) in contrast to being led by self, ego, pride, lust and greed etc.

## **Noah was Blameless.**

It is written: -

- Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation and he walked with God (Gen. 6:9) (Gen. 7:1).

Being righteousness and blameless in this context does not mean that Noah was without sin before God it simply means that he was a decent man, who only did good. Today we don't use the word righteous in this context, we would simply say, he was a very good man, meaning he was kind, decent and treated others with fairness, respect and justice. Notice it says he was righteousness and blameless in his generation, meaning no human could accuse him of any wrongdoing. Righteousness and blameless as used in this context is about being righteousness and blameless before mankind, and not about being without sin before God

## **Jobs was Blameless.**

The LORD said of Job: -

- There is none like my servant Job, on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil? (Job 1:8)

And even after Job had been tested and suffered greatly the LORD said: -

- There is none like Job on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity, even though I the LORD have almost destroyed him without reason (Job 2:3).

Blameless in this context does not mean that Job was without sin, it simply means he was a decent man who did no harm to another human, he helped the poor doing what was right before God and even under extreme suffering endured in faith remaining faithful to God.

There has only ever been one man who walked on earth without sin before God and his name was not Noah or Job but, the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **All have One Origin.**

The statement, "All have one origin" (V11) can refer to the following two origins: -

1. Both those who are sanctified and Christ are born of a woman who came from one man Adam and therefore in this sense we have one origin since Christ through his mother Mary has taken part of the same flesh, blood and nature of us all.
2. Those who are redeemed and their redeemer are both of one God and Father. The God of Christ is the God of the redeemed. Jesus Father is their Father and therefore they are of the same parent and the same family and in this manner of the same origin.

The Lord Jesus Christ and the cross were in God's eternal mind and plan from the foundation of the world. Jesus was born of a woman so that he could identify with humanity and stand as the perfect High Priest, the perfect mediator and the perfect judge between God and those who seek after Him. Jesus by his suffering and obedience fully understands what human weakness and suffering is since he himself has also suffered by his willing submission to God (especially when he was praying in the garden of Gethsemane fully aware he was facing a brutal and cruel death).

In this way God has made Christ the perfect captain and elder brother to everyone who surrenders their life to him because though he was without sin he fully understands human weakness and that entity and proneness in mankind that tends toward sin (Paul calls this proneness and tendency, sin in the flesh) and the power it has over humanity that limits every human from attaining to the high standard of perfection the law demands.

### **In the Midst of the Church.**

The English word church in the following verse, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing your praise" (v12) comes from the Greek word ecclesia which means a calling out of one thing into another especially into a religious congregation, a Jewish synagogue, a Christian community or an assembly of members on earth.

In citing the words: -

- I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing your praise (v12).

The author of Hebrews is alluding to the following words of David: -

- I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the church I will praise you" (Psalm 22:22, 25).

This Psalm was a well-known, famous and celebrated prophecy of Christ; it begins with Jesus words on the cross, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" In this Psalm three things are foretold: -

1. Christ would have a church (or congregation) in the world, a company of brothers and sisters who freely and willingly follow him.
2. Christ would declare his Father's name to them, meaning God's nature and attributes, His mind and will which he did in his own life while he dwelt among us and by his Spirit poured out upon his apostles, disciples, and brothers and sisters which enable them to spread the knowledge of God in the world from one generation to another.
3. Christ would sing praise to his heavenly Father in the church this he does through his Spirit dwelling in the heart of his brothers and sisters.

The worship and praise of the Father was what Christ had his heart set upon he laid out himself for his Fathers glory and would have his people to join with him in doing the same.

### **Jesus Destroyed the Power of the Devil.**

Hebrews 2:14-15 ----- <sup>14</sup>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 (diabolos) <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

**Devil:** (diabolos) means false accuser and slanderer in this context the word devil can be seen as that entity in the flesh that Paul calls sin in the flesh or the mind of the flesh that limits humanity from attaining to the high perfection and standard the law requires and to that voice in the mind that tells those in Christ they are separated from God and condemned to eternal death each time they fail to attain to the perfection that the law demands.

### **Sin the Law and Perfection.**

The law is perfect, just and good there is nothing wrong with the law, the problem is sin in the flesh (i.e., self, ego, pride, lust, greed, jealousy etc.), it is these that prevents, hinders and limits all of us from attaining to the high standard of perfection the law demands and to the good standard we desire. The law has no grace or mercy. The instant anyone fails to attain to even the very least of its standards and unrelenting demands the law without any hesitation, compassion or mercy declares a person guilty and condemned not only to mortal death, but also to eternal death

The power of sin (or the devil) is the law without the law sin (or the devil) are totally stripped of their power to condemn anyone. It is sin in the flesh (selfishness, ego, pride, lust, greed etc.), that causes all humans to fail from attaining to the high standard of perfection the law demands and therefore it is sin in the flesh that condemns humanity to mortal and eternal death. The word devil is used as a name that personifies that entity in the flesh (self, ego, pride, lust, greed, jealousy etc.,) that Paul calls, sin in the flesh. Paul in his letter to the Roman brothers and sisters wrote: -

- For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh (Rom 8:3).

Jesus destroyed the devils (a personification of sin in the flesh) power to condemn humanity to eternal death because God counts those who belong to Christ as righteous apart from the law. This is the wonder and glory of the Christian faith and the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is a pure gift of God to those who are in Christ no-one is saved by the works of the law.

This is the Good News of the Gospel. Salvation is solely dependent on faith in Christ and God's grace this is why the law the devil and sin in the flesh has absolutely no power over those in Christ and therefore the law is totally stripped of its power to sentence to eternal death. It is in this sense that Jesus death has destroyed the power of the devil (also referred to that entity in the flesh called sin and sin in the flesh).

### **For further information see the title:-**

- Devil, in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

### **The Fear of Death.**

Though there is no-doubt the words, "Jesus delivered all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (v15) applies to the Jews since they were under Moses law and the Levitical laws of purification it is not limited to the Jews only since without Christ the only way anyone can be delivered from eternal death and saved to eternal life is by perfectly keeping the law and since that is an

impossibility everyone who tries to attain to righteousness that leads to eternal life through law keeping not only makes themselves a slave to it, but lives in constant fear since they can never attain to it.

It is this slavery and fear that Christ through his death has delivered us from, since whoever comes to God in humble repentance and accepts Christ as their Saviour is completely set free from the struggle and fear of attaining to the standard the law demands. This is because salvation in Christ as nothing to do with self-effort or the keeping of laws and rules since God imputes righteousness that leads to eternal life as a pure and free gift to those who put their faith and trust for their eternal salvation in His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christian salvation is solely dependent on faith in Christ and God's grace there is nothing anyone can do to pay God back for what it cost Him and the Lord Jesus Christ to purchase our salvation.

### **It is not Angels Jesus Helps, but the Offspring of Abraham.**

Hebrews 2:16-18 ----- <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The offspring of Abraham does not refer to the Jews only, but to all who are in Christ, since it is not the natural born descendants who God counts as the offspring of Abraham, but those who have faith in the promised seed of Abraham who of course is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the merciful and faithful High Priest to all those who trust in him. In contrast to the law which has no mercy Jesus is full of mercy because he understands the frailty and infirmities of human nature it is in this sense that Jesus Christ has been made the merciful, faithful and eternal High Priest for all those who come to him.

Jesus is the perfect helper and comforter because he has personally experienced human weakness and what others suffer and therefore not only understands our frailties, infirmities, hardships and emotional sufferings like no other can, but also understands why we cannot attain to the high demands of the law or even the standard our hearts desire. This is why Christ is the perfect mediator between us and God he understands our nature and will always show mercy and grace to those who love him.

**NOTE:** some religions teach that those who believe in Christ should confess their sins to a priest of their church. This is living under the Old Testament system and the Levitical Priesthood which is what Christ did away with on the cross of Calvary. Those who feel they must go to a human priest are annulling all Christ died for since he is the only High Priest anyone needs to humble themselves before and confess their sins to.

Jesus though not physically with us in this present era should be spiritually as real, by love in our minds and hearts as any mortal human priest is.

To feel in the heart that it counts for more by confessing to a human mortal (no matter how religious or spiritual they may be) is simply evidence that though a person may have a devotion to Christ they are still far from knowing him in love. Sadly this lack of spiritual reality mostly stems from a lack of understanding God's great love in Christ and the love and grace Christ has toward those who are faithful to him.

Just as love binds a sweetheart to her lover and captivates her heart and possess every thought of her mind and thereby imprints on every cell within her the desire to be faithful to the one she loves and to him only whether he is present with her or not, it is in the same way that love binds the faithful to Christ and captivates their heart and possess their mind so that they like the lovers sweetheart have no desire to seek after another whether he is seen or not.

**NOTE:** this does not mean we should not (with wisdom and discernment) share our faults with each-other in council or fellowship with those we trust that is a totally different topic, here we are talking about who is our High-Priest, Christ or mortal man.

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