

Answering Back (Hebrews 2:5-18)

Have you ever thought, “I just want someone to understand what I’m facing - someone who ‘gets’ how I feel and can actually do something about the brokenness and fear I’m experiencing”? Hebrews 2:5-18 answers back with the one who was made lower, who suffered, was tempted and tasted death for us. But how do Jesus’ humility and triumph bring order to our chaos, wholeness to our suffering and help when we’re tempted?

1. Paying attention to Jesus’ humility and triumph (Hebrews 2:5-17)

Psalm 8:4-6 “made lower” = incarnation/humility. “crowned with glory” = enthronement/triumph.

V5 “the world to come...” is “a common Jewish expression for the future age in which all of God’s purposes in salvation will be fulfilled.”



V8b “we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.” “But we see him (Jesus)” = “To discern; look at.”

V11 Jesus had to share in our humanity so that we might share in his glory. Psalm 22:22; Isaiah 8:17-18

VV14-16 So that he might destroy him who has the power of death. 1 John 3:8

V17 And become a merciful and faithful high priest to make propitiation (atonement) for our sin.

2. Answering back

When suffering comes our way, anxiety is heavy, temptation is fierce - how do you answer back?

3. Asking for help (Hebrews 2:18)

QUESTIONS (Pray, read the passage and pick 4-5 questions to discuss. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide.)

1. Read Hebrews 2:1-18. In order not to “drift away” we must *pay closer attention* and not neglect this great salvation. What happens if we neglect something? Hint: think of your yard or health.
2. Reflect on some experiences that have drawn you away from Christ. What influenced your decisions in those times? What are you presently doing to make sure you don’t drift?
3. To prove Jesus is too great to neglect, the writer tells us more about him in VV5-9. What major facts does he communicate about Jesus in these verses?
4. What does it mean to you on a daily basis that Jesus has *already* dealt with death on our behalf and is *already* ruling the world as its rightful Lord/King?
5. According to Hebrews 2:14-18, why did Jesus “*share in our humanity*” and “*have to be made like his brothers in every way*?” There are several reasons!
6. Which image from Hebrews 2 (representative, pioneer, older brother, high priest, atoning sacrifice) connects with you most and why? In what ways does Jesus fulfill these roles perfectly?
7. How does Jesus help you when you’re tempted?
8. When suffering comes your way, anxiety is heavy and temptation is fierce – how will the truths about Jesus’ found in Hebrews 2 help you “answer back” in hope?

Maybe you’ve been paralyzed by fear, living in shame, believing lies. Hebrews 2:18 is an invitation to ask for help. Spend time in prayer (individually or as a group) asking Jesus for the help you need.