

# ONE BIBLE, ONE STORY: THE EPISTLE to the HEBREWS

## Chapter 2

### Last Week's Main Points

- Everything that God wants to reveal about himself is revealed in the Son.
- The Son is the heir of all things, the radiance of God's glory, ... (1:2b-4)
- The Son is far superior to angels

### I. Introduction: From the news...

### II. Warning! Danger! (vv. 1-4)

#### A. First of five “warning passages” in Hebrews

1. Continues the argument from Chapter 1, drawing out the implications
2. What is the author warning against?
3. What does the author prescribe as the “antidote” to this danger?

#### B. “Qal Wahomer”: arguing from “light” to “heavy”

1. The lesser: Violating the law the angels merited punishment
2. The greater: How much *more* are consequences for violating the salvation Jesus brings?
3. Witnesses to this “great salvation”

→ *What does the author of Hebrews mean by “salvation”?*

### III. Jesus our Trailblazer (vv. 5-18)

#### A. “Made a little lower than the angels” (vv. 5-9)

1. God subjected the “world to come” not to angels, but to Jesus  
→ *Meaning of “world to come”?*
2. Psalm 8 – testifies to Jesus, who became human
3. What *don't* we see/experience yet? (v. 8)
4. What *do* we see now? Why is what we see significant?

#### B. Why can Jesus represent us before God completely and fully? (vv. 10-18)

1. In groups:
  - a) Looking at these verses (10-18) how and in what ways did Jesus become “like us”?
  - b) What did he accomplish on our behalf?
  - c) Why was it important that he be like us in every way?
2. Things to know and note:
  - a) “Founder” – trailblazer, path-maker, pioneer, “one who goes before”
  - b) “Made perfect”: “indicates the fulfillment of God’s saving purpose and contrasts the inadequacy of what went before.”<sup>1</sup>  
 → *Side-note: Exegesis in verses 12-13*
  - c) Exodus language - vv.14-16
  - d) Verse 16: “helps” vs. “takes hold”)

#### IV. Questions for Reflection

- A. In our day and age, what tempts you to “drift away” from following Jesus? Do warning passages like this frighten you? How might the author of Hebrews respond to that fear?
- B. Jesus was “crowned with glory and honor” after his suffering, death, and exaltation to the right hand of the Father. In so doing, he received the glory and honor that God intends for humanity! Reflect upon what it means that human beings are intended for “glory and honor” – what does that mean for “right now”? How might that affect the way we treat each other and those around us?
- C. This week, meditate on what it means that Jesus is our Trailblazer / Pathmaker / Representative / Pioneer / Founder. How does/should the fact that he has been tested, tempted, and gone through suffering just as we have, affect how we think and live?

#### V. For Next Week

- Read and reflect upon Hebrews 3
- *For further exploration:* Look up the verses from the OT Scriptures (Psalm 8, Psalm 110, etc.) in these first two chapters. In what ways does the author of Hebrews see these passages as being about Jesus? How does knowing the context of these verses help us understand what the author of Hebrews is saying about Jesus?
- *For further exploration:* Diagram the argument of the book of Hebrews thus far in a way that makes sense to you. What do you discover through this exercise?

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<sup>1</sup> R.T. France, “Hebrews,” in *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary, Rev. Ed. Vol. 13* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006), 53.