“Who’s Going To Glory?”

Please open your Bible with me to the Book of Hebrews at chapter two.

Have you ever gloated? Can you remember the last time you won; say you won at a board game or even a sport; and you began to gloat; maybe even quote “rub it into the loser’s face”? That’s sort of the concept we have in Scripture.

Consider Satan’s defeat of Jesus at the Cross. I can only imagine that when Jesus died, Satan gloated like Haman in the Book of Esther. Haman must have been very glad for what he accomplished. Why? Because *his* success was the result of doing something to ruin someone else. Haman had hoped to fully ruin the Jews.

But think further back than Haman to the day, I’m sure, Satan sang for joy at the destruction of Adam and the destruction of the human race on the day Adam and Eve ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

So, for sure, Satan, again like Haman, threw a loud party on Good Friday 30 A.D. and gloated over the LORD’s death. We’re told in Scripture that Satan, who was gloating while Jesus was suffering and dying on Calvary; Satan thought that by quote “defeating” Jesus at the Cross; that he’d won. The reality is this. Satan, his henchmen, and his power were the ones who were vanquished on that day.

I want to speak today on the topic that, likely, scares Satan the most. I want to consider with me the death of Christ. And I want you to see it from the perspective of this. “What did God really do at the Cross? And what was really accomplished that day?”

But before I read this passage in Hebrews, let me say this. Now, I realize you aren’t Jewish. But, imagine being a Jew. You’ve converted to Christianity. And you are being rejected and persecuted by your loved ones. And you are now beginning to wonder “How can Jesus be the Messiah and then die?” “What really took place at the Cross?” So, the Holy Spirit had the Apostle Paul write *this* letter; we call it “Hebrews”; to the Hebrew Christians to answer those questions.

Would you look with me at the words of the Holy Spirit in Hebrews 2 beginning at verse nine?

Hebrews 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. (10)* *For it became him [it was worthy of 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,…”*

I’ve titled today’s message “Who’s Going To Glory?” Shall we pray?

The most important and the greatest victory ever won was won at the Cross. Now, there are those who consider the LORD’s death a tragedy. And, for those who know little or nothing about the Bible, or, for those who have a no respect for the Bible, you can understand that. But, for you who are saved, the Cross is the greatest event in history. After all, it’s the day that the Father gave His Son to be the answer to your deepest need; to have your sins dealt with once and forever. The Cross is God’s rescue plan.

So, here’s the question of the day. “What specific things have come to you from the Cross?” And the answer is found here in this passage.

First, Jesus tasted death for every man; verse nine.

Hebrews 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.”*

Jesus was and is the most magnificent Person ever. He is God’s own Son. He’s the Only Begotten Son of God. There is no one greater than the LORD Jesus. And what did the Greatest of All Persons do? He willingly lowered Himself beneath the angels.

And why? Verse nine again; *“That He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”*

Folks, there was no other way for God to do what needed to be done for you and me except for His Son becoming a man and going to the Cross. The Second Person of the Trinity, stepped out of His Comfort Zone in glory; to do what one man called the “unimaginable.” He, the Sovereign of the universe made Himself able to die. Jesus, God, the Son, became Jesus, the Son of Man.

And what had happened that all this was necessary? Can you recall with me Satan’s effect on the human race way back in the beginning of creation? Satan deceived the woman and then lured the man into a state of defiance towards God. The human race had been thrown into a state of disobedience by the deception of the devil. From that day to this, we, the human race, have been in a state of hopelessness and despair; except for one thing. The Cross of Christ is the answer to the fall of the human race.

So, the LORD shows us here; one, the means by which Jesus became a man; and two, the means by which the Cross came to be so important to the human race.

Hebrews 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.”*

What is the means by which Jesus became a man? The whole work; from the moment of the LORD’s conception in Mary’s womb; was the work of God’s grace. And Jesus is the Central Figure in that grace.

And, second, how is it that the Cross became so important? The answer. Jesus tasted *“death for every man.”*

It’s always struck me that Satan was so ignorant of just what was happening that day. Hadn’t he been aware of Genesis 3:15; God’s response the Satan’s effect on Adam and Eve?

Genesis 3:15 *“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”*

Jesus, the Seed of the woman, the Seed of Mary; the One born of a virgin; He was the Victor that day; not Satan. The devil’s head was crushed because the One Who died that day so perfectly suffered that could “taste” death for you. The grave, death, Satan, the crucifixion could not contain the Son of God. Three days later He rose up from that stony pit.

What Satan intended as his final victory became His failed military coup. How could anyone even think he could overcome the Son of God? And, as you are about to see, that “taste,” that “experience” became the only true path to the Gates of Glory.

First, Jesus tasted death for every man.

Second, Jesus is right now bringing sons into glory; verse ten.

Hebrews 2:10 “*For it became him [it was worthy of Him], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory,…”*

We don’t use some of the Old English words from the Bible today. But they are very good words. This one, “became” is one we’ve lost. Today you might here “That suit is quite becoming on you.”

It means this. What Jesus did was worthy of a Man like Him. In other words, Christ giving Himself up and dying for others perfectly suited Him. Think, for a moment, of all the great leaders of the world. What suits them? What becomes them? What strikes you about them?

None of them can attain to that which becomes (is worthy) of Christ. He and He alone perfectly matches His death for you and me.

And why? Because everything came into existence by Him. And everything is ultimately His. Verse ten again. Hebrews 2:10 “*For it became him [it was worthy of Him],* ***for whom are all things, and by whom are all things****, in bringing many sons unto glory,…”*

You see, He’s the Creator. So, yes, man fell. Satan destroyed the human race with his temptation in the Garden. But all is not lost. Christ Jesus has come to the rescue. He, “for whom are all things, and by whom are all things;” He has done something about the inglorious, sin-filled, lost human population. He went to the Cross.

And for what purpose? Verse ten again. Hebrews 2:10 “*For it became him [it was worthy of Him], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things,* ***in bringing many sons unto glory****,…”*

He is, right now, bringing many sons unto glory. We, the completely lost and morally depraved have been rescued. Satan may have thought he was the victor that day. But what really happened at the Cross makes all the difference practically. It was for you and me.

He’s bringing you “unto glory.” You who are so prone to sin and wrong; you who are so lost; so alone; so apart from God because of your guilt and condemnation; He’s bringing you to glory. He doesn’t just forgive your sins. He puts you into His own realm. You who believe in Christ are bound for glory.

Let me say something about glory here.

Back in 1758 a book was written called “The Law of Nations or The Principles of Natural Law.” It was written by Emmerich de Vattel, a Swiss Diplomat. Vattel’s writings has a huge impact upon Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and Alexander Hamilton.

In chapter fifteen of “The Law of Nations,” Vattel writes about “The Glory of a Nation.” Here’s what he wrote. *“THE glory of a nation is intimately connected with its power, and indeed forms a considerable part of it. It is this brilliant advantage that procures it the esteem of other nations, and renders it respectable to its neighbors.*

*A nation whose reputation is well established — especially one whose glory is illustrious — is courted by all sovereigns; they desire its friendship, and are afraid of offending it. Its friends, and those who wish to become so, favor its enterprises; and those who envy its prosperity are afraid to show their ill-*will.”

The glory of a nation is an expression of its standing in among the other nations of the world. Vattel goes on to explain how the leader of a nation should act as it reflects that nation’s glory. He also explains the duty of the citizens of that nation; how they should act so as to reflect the glory of their country. You see, a nation should shine. That’s what glory does. It shines.

And you’ve certainly heard about the glory of one nation falling and the glory of another nation rising in the eyes of others. Sometimes you’ll read about the tarnishing of the glory of one nation.

Paul speaks about you and everyone who is born of the Spirit being brought unto glory. Now, imagine, if you can, that the glory of God’s creation was Adam. Yet, because he disobeyed the LORD, any and all glory was removed from the entire human race. And today, we are, at best, an inglorious humanity. We are tarnished because of sin.

And for what reason did Christ enter humanity? He’s “*bringing many sons unto glory*.”

That means that all the glory and all the loss we encountered when Adam sank into the ingloriousness of sin; all of this will one day be completely restored. And yet, Christ did much more than that at the Cross. He put *you* and He put *me* on the path to glory.

Folks, you have been elevated to the glory that shines in the face and the Person of Jesus Christ. You are no longer inglorious. You are glorious in Christ. And the most amazing future is awaiting you.

So, do you see what God wants? “He wants sons in glory” as one man puts is [Watchman Nee]. Does anybody remember Romans 3:23? It goes like this. Romans 3:23 *“For all have sinned, and come short of* ***the glory of God****;…”*

And what will we one day enter into? Romans 8:17 *“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also* ***glorified*** *together. (18) For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with* ***the glory*** *which shall be revealed in us.”*

*(21) Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into* ***the glorious liberty*** *of the children of God. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also* ***glorified****.”*’

Who’s going to glory? Can anyone here this morning see what God’s plan for you is? Can you see why He sent His Son into the world? Can you see why you are saved by His blood? Can you see why He has sent His Spirit into your hear? Can you see what He’s doing with you right now? Can you see what He’s got in store for you?

When you sin, you think about the penalty and the guilt and the condemnation you deserve for yours sins. What does God think? He thinks “he’s fallen from the glory of God” [from Watchman Nee].

When you sin, you give up your place as someone who “shines His glory.” And don’t presume it’s only the glory of Heaven. Remember the words of Jesus? Matthew 5:16 *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*

Today is your day to bring Him glory. Today you are to shine our His glory. Today you are the revel in this new-found glory. Today, the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory which will be revealed in you.

Now, that brings us to two concluding things: God’s sons and God’s purpose.

You, because of the Cross, because Jesus poured out His life; because He was crucified; because He suffered and died; you who believe have become the sons of God; joint-heirs with Christ. And, folks, there is no higher place in the universe than that.

But there’s more. What was God’s intention? What was His purpose when He sent Jesus into this world? He sent Him in order to receive many sons into glory. In other words, in salvation, you need the LORD. In glorification, He wants more sons and daughters.

God intends and God has intended from eternity past, to fill Heaven with children; with you and with me. Folks, Heaven is for children; the children of God; the ones who enter there. And why? We go there to radiate His glory for eternity. God will have the highest standing; an even higher standing than before He made Adam. Why? Because there are millions and billions and billions of His children. We are the children of God; children who are imitations of His Only Begotten Son, the LORD Jesus.

So, who’s going to glory?

Jesus came to do what? Hebrews 2:10 “*For it became him [it was worthy of Him], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory,…”*

So, today? Today, Christ lives in you; Christ, the Hope of Glory. Today, surrender your all to Him? Will you pray the prayer of surrender today and mean it? Or will you stay in the same place you were when you arrived today?

And as a Christian, in order to live truly in light of His words, you’ll need to pray this prayer. Make it your daily call Prayer. It’s the prayer of Surrender. It’s a wonderful prayer and I’m sure it honors the LORD when you pray it and truly mean it.

*“LORD, I submit all that I am to you; my spirit, my soul, and my body. Do with me what is most pleasing to you. Work out Your will upon me today. All for your glory/”*

Shall we pray?

Hymn \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; verse one.