



DIGGING DEEPER

Hebrews 2:5-18 – The Supreme Saviour

PLEASE READ – Hebrews 2:5-18

GETTING STARTED

The letter to the Hebrews is full of very closely argued theology, but it's meant to be an appeal to the heart of the hearers as well as their minds. In today's passage we could focus entirely on the theology, but it would be a mistake to not let the wonderful set of encouragements here wash over us and refresh our souls, too. Perhaps a good start to any discussion might be to check up at the start which of the theological *and* which of the more personal application points people would most like to follow up on, and apportion time accordingly. So ...

- Are there any theological points here that puzzle or intrigue you, that you'd like to think further about?
- Are there some points in this passage that particularly grab your emotions, rather than just your minds, that you'd like to think further about?

Things to puzzle over

Verses 6-8 present us with a contrast between what we observe in the world around us, and what we might *think* (from the Word of God) we should be seeing there.

- So how is this apparent contradiction resolved here?
- When we have *big* questions about life, would it always be helpful to ask ourselves "How is Jesus (and the Cross) meant to inform our understanding of this point?"

Things to think through

It might be easy enough to write these down in a few words, but there's some pretty profound stuff here not far beneath the surface. Do any of these more theological points particularly grab you – puzzle you, trouble you, or delight you?

How deeply do you think believers in Jesus need to understand things like this? (And why?)

- Jesus is fully human (v9, v14)
- Jesus is the "pioneer" (v10) – you might like to develop this image a bit
- Jesus is the "atoning" "High Priest" (v17) – plenty more to come about these two technical ideas later in Hebrews ... and you can leave them for subsequent discussion if you like!

Things to delight in

It might be difficult to express some of this stuff in words – it's probably directed at least equally to our emotions, and describing those feelings can be tricky.

Which of these do you feel *you* particularly need to hear?

Which of these encourages you most?

Are there some that you find it quite difficult to really believe? (Why might that be?)

- Jesus' death concerns *you* (v9)
- Jesus will "bring many sons and daughters to glory" (v10)
- Jesus is proud to acknowledge us (11)
- Jesus has broken the Devil's power (v14) – perhaps particularly as regards accusation?
- Jesus has removed the need to fear death (15)
- Jesus delights to save us (v17)
- Jesus knows what it is like to be tempted (v18)

Is there anything here that has particularly touched you, that you feel you could do with working through further ... or sharing with someone in prayer?

Are there any thoughts it might be good to note down here, to consider in more depth later?