


# JESUS OVER EVERYTHING

HEBREWS READING GUIDE

WEEK 3



# JESUS OVER EVERYTHING

WEEK 3  
JANUARY 30, 2023



CHURCH IN THE SQUARE

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EVERY DAY ...

... A PASSAGE TO READ,

... SOME COMMENTS TO CONSIDER,

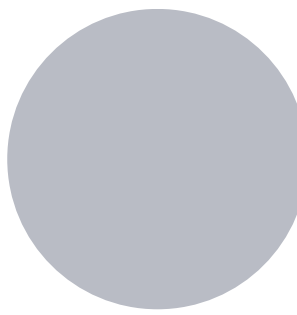
... THREE QUESTIONS TO ASK,

... A PRAYER TO PRAY.



# WEEK 3

## HEBREWS 2:1-13



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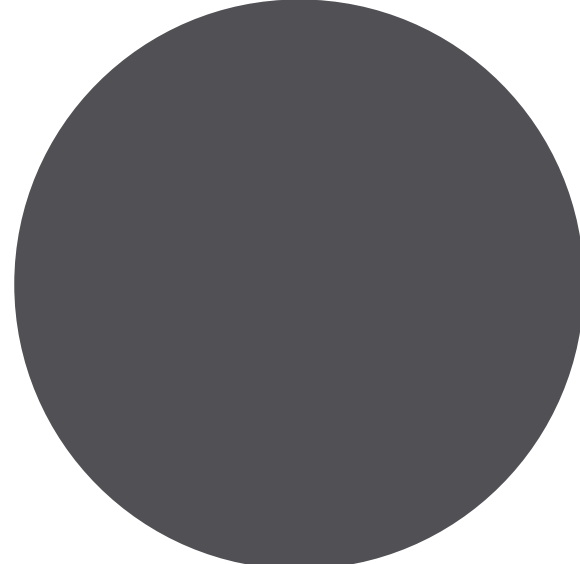
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# DAY 1 JESUS DRAWS NEAR

## First read Hebrews 2:1-4.

Like a fallen leaf on a slow-moving stream, it's easy to drift away from the gospel. Unwittingly we allow ideas, powers, and patterns of our cultural moment to influence how we think and live (see Romans 12:1-2). And so the writer of Hebrews instructs us, **"we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard"** (v.1). We ought to interrogate our thoughts and actions, making sure we're reflecting the character of Jesus and not the character of this world.

Jesus knew this burden. In fact, he prayed for us, **"they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one"** (John 17:14-15). To this end Hebrews' author gives us a negative and positive exhortation. First he cautions us that sin receives **"just retribution"** (v.2). Sin is costly. Then he encourages us that **"signs and wonders and ... miracles and ... gifts of the Holy Spirit"** have all been given to point us to Christ. Righteousness is possible.

Sin causes us to drift away from Jesus, but Jesus draws near

# DAY 1

## JESUS DRAWS NEAR

1. How have you experienced the nearness of God recently?
2. What worldly patterns are you currently battling? How are you drifting away from the gospel?
3. How does the nearness of Jesus both comfort and empower you?

*Heavenly Father ...*

*What a gift that despite the death and separation sin has caused, through Christ you draw near. Help me to trust your nearness today. Help me to discern the difference between your character and that of this world.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

# DAY 2

## JESUS SEES US

### First read Hebrews 2:5-9.

As the writer continues to ponder the supremacy of Christ over the angels, he also speaks of human dignity. He does so by posing a question from Psalm 8, **“What is man that you are mindful of him?”** (v.6, Psalm 8:4). The psalmist “emphasizes the surprising dignity of people in spite of their being dwarfed by the massive reaches of God’s creation” (Beale and Carson, 945). Our value is revealed in God’s attention.

Hebrews expounds and goes even further. Not only does God see us, but **“we see him”** (v.9a). The Son of Man was **“made lower than the angels”** through the incarnation yet was **“crowned with glory and honor”** (v.9b). You see, the cross is not only where divine humility and exaltation meet, but also where our value is most vividly expressed (see Philippians 2:8-9). In order to fully see us and be fully seen by us, Jesus suffered death. And because he died, we don’t have to die (v.9c). Our value is revealed by God’s attention and his love.

We see Jesus and Jesus sees us.

# DAY 2

## JESUS SEES US

1. What does this passage tell you about God?
2. What does this passage tell you about you?
3. You are seen and loved by God. How should this inform the way you live today?

*Heavenly Father ...*

*You see us. You know us. You are mindful of us. You love us.  
May your gracious attention bring us comfort, peace, and joy  
today.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*



# DAY 3

## JESUS SUFFERS

### First read Hebrews 2:10.

Suffering is inevitable. To be human is to experience pain and hardship. We don't all suffer the same way, but we all suffer. Sociologist Peter Berger also thought it was just as inevitable for us to "bestow meaning on the experience of suffering" (*The Sacred Canopy*). That's what makes Jesus' suffering so impactful. Suffering was not inevitable for him and the meaning was clear.

As the eternal Son of God, he was invisible, untouchable, and unkillable. Yet Jesus made himself a candidate for the sorrows of this world by taking on flesh (see 1 Peter 4:1-2).

He *became* visible.

He *became* touchable.

He *became* killable.

And the writer of Hebrews tells us there are two primary motivations or purposes behind his suffering. Through his suffering Jesus was "**bringing many sons to glory**" (v.10b). His suffering leads to salvation. Not only so, but through his suffering Jesus was being made perfect or complete and qualified as "**the founder of [our] salvation**" (v.10c, see also 2:17). His suffering makes him our Savior.

Jesus suffers.

# DAY 3

## JESUS SUFFERS

1. What does it mean that Jesus is your Savior?
2. How have you suffered recently? How have you responded to your suffering?
3. How do the sufferings of Jesus help you understand and endure yours?

*Heavenly Father ...*

*Because your Son suffered, I'm never alone in my suffering ... my suffering is not meaningless ... and my suffering won't last. Give me peace and assurance as I wait for suffering to cease.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

# DAY 4

## JESUS SANCTIFIES

### First read Hebrews 2:11.

Salvation forges a new relationship between Jesus and humanity. By faith we **“all have one source”** (v.11b). We are all children of the Heavenly Father. And because we are his children, **“he who sanctifies,”** sanctifies us (v.11a). Sanctification is the process by which Jesus makes us more like Jesus.

He makes us more loving, like him.  
He makes us more faithful, like him.  
He makes us more obedient, like him.

Sometimes that means comfort in our sorrow. Other times that means correction of our sin. After all, **“the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights”** (Proverbs 3:12). Ultimately the truth is what sanctifies us. Jesus asked his Father, **“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth”** (John 17:17).

Since Jesus is the truth and Word made flesh, then we become more like him by simply being with him (see John 1:14,14:6). Jesus sanctifies.

# DAY 4

## JESUS SANCTIFIES

1. Is it comfortable for you to think about God as Father?  
Why or why not?
2. How is Jesus making you more like himself right now?
3. How does Jesus death and resurrection make sanctification possible?

*Heavenly Father ...*

*Thank you for making me your children. Help me to live like your child today, with security, love, and joy. Help me to live like your Son, Jesus.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

# DAY 5

## JESUS IS OUR BROTHER

### First read Hebrews 2:11-13.

Jesus is our brother. And ours is not an unchosen association akin to biological siblings. Jesus is our brother by blood and choice. He relates to us and advocates for us. What's more, Hebrews even tells us, **"he is not ashamed to call [us] brothers"** (v.11). The Son speaks to the Father, quoting Psalm 22, **"I will tell of your name to my brothers"** (v.12a, Psalm 22:22). That means he shares his Father's plans, glory, words, power, love, and purposes with the rest of the family. He's not afraid to be associated with us. He's not afraid to share his Father with us. But there's even more.

Jesus is not ashamed to be associated with the Father either. Jesus tells the Father, **"in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise"** and, **"I will put my trust in him"** (v.12b,13). Some of us don't want our fathers to share in the love of the family. We're ashamed of our fathers. Others of us don't want to share parental love with the rest of the family. We're in competition with our siblings.

But in Jesus, we have a brother who is not ashamed of his siblings nor of his Heavenly Father. Jesus is our brother.



# DAY 5


## JESUS IS OUR BROTHER

1. What does the brotherhood of Jesus reveal about the Fatherhood of God?
2. How does seeing yourself as Jesus' sibling shape the way you see God? How about the way you see other Christians?
3. Why is the gospel necessary for this familial relationship with God?

*Heavenly Father ...*

*Thank you that Jesus is my brother. In his brotherhood, I see myself as your child. Help me to live as one who is not ashamed of you. In his brotherhood, I see myself as part of a spiritual family. Help me to live as one who is not ashamed of my brothers and sisters.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*



# JESUS OVER EVERYTHING

To receive updates about this reading guide and discover more gospel resources to help you enjoy the truth and beauty of Jesus, please visit [churchinthesquare.com](https://churchinthesquare.com).



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