

## “JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO...” SERIES

### THE CAPTAIN OF SALVATION

#### HEBREWS 2:10-13

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*10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, 12 saying,*

*“I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”*

*13 And again,*

*“I will put my trust in him.”*

*And again,*

*“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”*

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#### Introduction

What we have learned so far by the writer of the book of Hebrews

- Jesus is not an angel. He is superior to the angels.
- Do not neglect such a Great Salvation
- The Son of Man took on a human form. Through His atoning death on the cross, He was given “glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

In this passage of Scripture, we are introduced to the “founder of their salvation” or “the Captain of Salvation.”

#### BRINGING MANY SONS TO GLORY

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*10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.*

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The writer continues his argument that Jesus is the Messiah. This is a somewhat difficult as every Jew longed for the Messiah to come. The writer’s task was to introduce them to Jesus the Messiah, as God had meant for Him to be, even though He may not fulfill their ideal of the Messiah. For the Jews,

the Messiah would be sent by God and all the prophecies of the concerning the Anointed One would be filled in Him. Their thought was that the Messiah had two roles; 1) when the Messiah came, he would lead all the Jews out of bondage and 2) set up His kingdom in the world that was ruled only by the Messiah. Even the Gentiles would worship God and the Messiah would rule forever as the King of kings.

What they did not know was that the Messiah would fill both the roles of “leading out of bondage” and “ruling the world” in two actions instead of one.

“*For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist*” – This is a review that God the Father and the Messiah were one in the same, they are the creator of all things (1:2, 10; 2:7).

“...in bringing many sons to glory” – Both Jew and Gentile would worship the Creator and therefore bring them into the family in the glory of God.

“...*should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering*” – The King James Version translates this phrase into; “*to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*” I had always thought that was a grand name for our Savior; the “Captain of their Salvation.” I always looked at this like a military term of leader of men. As a Coast Guardsman, I saw this as the head of the ship or military unit on land or sea. But, it means so much more than that. Military leaders all act under orders from their superiors and the Messiah would be “acting on orders” from the Father. But, what if the Father and the Messiah were both one in the same. What if the Messiah was not just the deliverer, but He was also God? For me then, the term “captain” seems a bit trite. The translation of “founder” of their salvation holds a much greater importance than just someone who is carrying out the orders. The Messiah is giving the orders.

“...*the founder of their salvation*” – as their head and leader, and most importantly, the Originator and Author of salvation that would be acceptable to God the Father. The “founder” was made “*perfect through suffering*” for all men, that is “*that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man*” through his “*suffering of death*” (2:9). That is where the “*glory and honor*” from God is given the Messiah, the Christ of the New Testament.

Look at the last part of that phrase; I have simply dismissed it over time, “perfect through suffering.” I know that many a military leader has been made famous by their glorious death in battle. However, that is a long way from being made “perfect through suffering.”

If I was looking for the Messiah that was coming to lead all the Jews out of bondage and set up His eternal kingdom, this “*perfect through suffering*” was not what I would have been looking for. Where is the glory and honor in that?

Hence, this is the undertaking for the writer. To show that Jesus is far superior than just someone who died for a cause. Jesus is far superior to any plan of salvation. He IS the Plan of Salvation. He IS the Originator of the Plan of Salvation. He IS the Founder of Salvation.

#### SANCTIFICATION THROUGH THE FOUNDER OF OUR SALVATION

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*11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers,*

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“For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source” – It is clear that this refers to Jesus the Christ. The writer is attempting to show that there is a joining together of the one being offered and the one who accepts the offering. They are joined together by the shed blood of Jesus who died for them. Jesus as the Redeemer of all man, sanctifies those who become believers in Him. Sanctification is the act of “setting aside for a particular work or reward.”

“That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers” – The act of Jesus calling them “brothers” is His way of identifying with the believer. Jesus took on the nature of man, even though He was God. He assumed man’s nature in order to suffer the death required for the salvation of man. He is the “one source” for salvation and therefore sanctification.

His nature is more exalted than man’s nature, but He identifies with man. Can I get an AMEN?

#### DECLARING THE NAME OF THE CAPTAIN

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*12 saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” 13And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.”*

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“I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” – Because the audience of his readers are Jewish, and therefore are very knowledgeable about the Law and the Prophets, he quotes part of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm to bring them to his argument.

***Psalms 22:22** I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.*

This is a great example of the Gospel in action. Jesus is the Christ. He became man and suffered and died so that mankind could find salvation in the LORD. Because of this selfless act, the story of the

acts of the Christ will be declared to the people (brethren, the Jews), and in the midst of the worship of God, His work of salvation will be praised.

“And again” – the writer will quote another passage of scripture;

“*I will put my trust in him.*” Meaning that I will have confidence in God. There are several passages that the writer is drawing from. The first is a Psalm of David:

*Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*

The second is taken from David’s Song of Deliverance found in 2 Samuel 22:3-4:

*3 my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence.*

*4 I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.*

“And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me” – The third is a reference to the prophetic writings of Isaiah.

*Isaiah 8:18 Behold, I and the children whom the Lord has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.*

#### Conclusion

So, what can we make of this section of the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Hebrews?

1. Jesus death on the cross was not a loss as His death brought many “sons to glory.”
2. Jesus is the “founder” or “Captain” of our Salvation.
3. It should be simple and easy to announce to the world that Jesus secured your salvation with His death and resurrection.
4. Jesus sanctified the believers with His act of obedience unto the Father.

*Bob Crowder*