

Knowing and Growing in Christ
Hebrews 1:2-3 (Week 02) 01/21/2024
The Sevenfold Superiority of Christ

This is my message written prior to being preached. Please excuse the bullet point format and any grammatical mistakes. This is meant to be spoken.

Introduction

- This is the second **week** of our series through **the letter to the Hebrews**.
- And like last week, we'll be looking at **1 ½ verses**. 1:2b-3.
- So, turn with me to **Hebrews Chapter 1**.
- I'm going to read **verses 1-4** for context.

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:1-4)

- On the evening of **May 21, 1882**, when **Charles Spurgeon** preached from this text, he announced... **I have nothing to do tonight but to preach Jesus Christ.**
- He then went on to show that he was **following** a well-established and **glorious tradition**.
- He pointed to the book of **Acts where Luke**, writing of the early church says...

⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus. (Acts 5:42)

- And then in **Acts 8:5** he says...

⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. (Acts 8:5)

- And later when **Philip** climbed into the **Ethiopian's chariot**, he writes...

³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. (Acts 8:35)

- Then in **Acts 9**, after Paul's **conversion**, he says...

²⁰ And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." (Acts 9:20)

- And finally, **Spurgeon** pointed to **Paul's own words** to the church in **Corinth**...

² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (1 Corinthians 2:2)

- So, as we turn to **Hebrews 1:2, 3** I feel like I'm in **great company**,
- knowing that the best **thing I can do** is to **preach Jesus Christ!**
- **This great text will allow nothing else.**
- **However**, in the Church **today**, when it comes to **preaching**,
- It's often said that the preacher must be **relevant** and **practical**.
- He must address **the needs of his congregation**.
- And I don't **disagree** with that.
- The problem is, the **perceived needs** of the congregation can take **precedence** over preaching Jesus Christ, over proclaiming the word of God.
- And when that happens, sermons become nothing more than **self-help talks** about all kinds of **practical, relevant** things...
- parenting, dating, marriage, finances, apologetics, spiritual gifts etc...
- And again, I'm not **opposed to learning about these things**.
- **But**, we need to understand, **what the early church and the Apostle Paul understood**,
- That the most **relevant, practical** way to address **the needs of any congregation**.
- **Especially our** greatest need of **Knowing and Growing in Christ** is to **preach Jesus Christ and him crucified**.
- **Nothing** can substitute for our **ultimate need of Christ in Our Lives**.
- So, as we turn with great **anticipation** to these **Christ Saturated** verses in **Hebrews Chapter 1**.
- I want us to see **The Sevenfold Superiority of Christ**.
- Which is not to say that **Christ is only superior in 7 ways**,
- because he is superior in every way.
- **In fact**, last week we saw his **superiority to the prophets**.

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,

- God spoke first through the prophets and then through His Son.
- And the main point is that Christ is superior to the prophets because his message not only fulfilled theirs, but he spoke God's final comprehensive, complete, conclusive revelation.
- So, we saw that **Christ is superior to the Prophets**.
- And then next week we'll look at **verses 4 through** (not sure).
- Where we'll see that Christ is **superior to the Angels**.
- But today we're going to look at the **Sevenfold Superiority of Christ** that is proclaimed in **Hebrews 1:2b-3**.
- And the first thing we see is **Christ is superior because...**

1. Christ is the Heir of All Things

- **Verse 2...**

² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, (Hebrews 1:2)

- **Jesus Christ the Son of God** is the **Heir**.
- Which makes perfect sense because when Hebrews was written (and throughout most of History) the **Sons** were the natural heirs.
- Thus, the text flows from **sonship** (**God has spoken to us by his Son**)
- to **heirship**: ***whom he appointed heir of all things.***
- Now Christ as heir is prophesized in Psalm 2:7-8, which Hebrews will quote in verse 5 (next week).
- But in Psalm 2 we read...

⁷ The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you. ⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. (Psalms 2:7-8)

- Here, the Son (who is Jesus) is specifically said to be heir to the Earth and its peoples.
- And **Hebrews expands** that to **include all things** which includes everything.
- Heaven and earth, the universe, all matter, and all spirit, **it all belongs to Christ.**
- And appointing Christ the heir of all things in completely **justifiable** for two reasons.
- **First** because he is the Creator, and second because he is the Redeemer.
- As Creator of the universe, **he is its natural heir.**
- Paul makes this very clear in **Colossians 1:16**

¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:16)

- As the creator of all things, he has the right to receive all things.
- **Plus**, notice that Jesus not only created all things, but they were created for HIM.
- Everything in the universe is created through him and for him.
- **Therefore, as creator he is heir of all things.**
- But in addition to his **natural right to inheritance** as **Creator**,
- As **Redeemer** he's earned (or purchased by his blood) a vast inheritance of **souls** renewed through his atoning work of reconciliation on the cross.
- We are his **inheritance!**
- This is a mind-boggling truth, to say the least.
- It's so stupendous that Paul prayed that the church...

¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, (Ephesians 1:18)

- The apostle was praying that his readers would understand how highly they are valued in Christ.
- Think of it - Jesus is heir to all things in heaven and earth and beyond,
- but we (the saints) are his glorious inheritance. We are his treasures.

- But there is more.
- In **Romans 8:17** of the **redeemed** Paul writes...

17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ... (Romans 8:17)

- Because Christ and Christ alone is the heir to all things,
- and because we are children of God, we belong to Christ, we are in Christ,
- Then we are fellow heirs with Christ.
- As the song tells us...

I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His Blood!

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,

For I'm part of the family, The Family of God

- As those who are adopted into God's family, we are joint/fellow heirs with His Son.
- As Paul makes clear to the **church in Corinth...**

21For all things are yours, 22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, 23 and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's. (1 Corinthians 3:21-23)

- Because you belong to Christ, **all things are yours.**
- Now I have to say, I don't know exactly what that means or will look like in our future glory.
- **But it clearly means something spectacular..**
- And for those who are willing to believe it and live based on it.
- It becomes very relevant and practical as ***we travel this sod***, for we know that **come what may.**
- Christ our creator and redeemer is the heir of all things and because we belong to him our future inheritance **is glorious and secure.**
- And that should **be extremely relevant and practical** as we face the challenges of life.
- So first, we see **Christ's Superiority as** the heir of **all things.**
- And second, we see Christ's **Superiority** as...

2. Christ is the Creator of the World

- So we touched on this in our last point but now let's focus in Christ as Creator.
- **Verse 2...**

2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. (Hebrews 1:2)

- The word used for **world** in the Greek is **ai-on-as** and it literally means **age or since it is plural ages.**
- It can mean **world, or universe** but it also means **periods of time** and **even eternity.**
- Jesus created the earth (the world), the universe, space and time, matter known and unknown.

- And this becomes mind boggling when we think about our **expanding universe**.
- Cambridge physicist **Stephen Hawking**, who has been called "the most brilliant **theoretical physicist** since **Einstein**," says in his best-selling **A Brief History of Time**.
- **that our galaxy is an average-sized spiral galaxy** that looks to other galaxies like a swirl in a pastry roll and that it is over **100,000 light-years across**
- **Light year is the distance light travels in a year.**
- And 100,000 light years is about **six hundred trillion miles**.
- Hawking says,

We now know that our galaxy is only one of some hundred thousand million that can be seen using modern telescopes, each galaxy itself containing some hundred thousand million stars.

- And it's commonly believed that the average distance between these **hundred thousand million galaxies** (each **six hundred trillion miles across** and containing **one hundred thousand million stars**) is **three million light-years!**
- Is your mind blowing yet.
- Well, in addition to that, the work of **Edwin Hubble**, based on the **Doppler effect**, has shown that most galaxies are moving away from us.
- So, the universe is constantly expanding.
- Some estimates say that the most distant galaxy is **eight billion light-years** away,
- and that it is racing away at **two hundred million miles an hour**.
- **Got it!**
- And why do I tell you this?
- Because it's one way to emphasize the supreme creative power of Christ.

through whom also he created the world

- The Universe, The Heavens and earth, space and time and eternity.
- He created every speck of dust in the **hundred thousand million galaxies of the universe**.
- He created everything we see and everything we cannot see...
- He created every atom (that sub-microscopic solar systems) with its neutrons and protons and orbiting electrons.
- As we have already read in **Colossians...**

¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:16)

- And in the beginning of John's gospel one of the first things he tells us about Jesus is..

³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. (John 1:3)

- Everything was created by him, and nothing was created without him.
- Oh, the great superiority of Christ.
- We humans, with all our science and technology, can't even create the tiniest speck of dust,
- much less a living creature.
- but Christ, created all things **ex nihilo**, out of nothing he created everything.
- Now, thus far I've emphasized Christ's superiority in creating the **material universe**.
- But let me briefly mention that he also creates **all things spiritual**.
- As David Prayed in **Psalms 51**...

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (Psalms 51:10)

- God can, through Christ, **create in us clean hearts**, renewed spirits.
- In fact, as Paul makes clear **to the Corinthians**, he can make us into **new creations**:

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

- Jesus can take whatever you are, whoever you have been your "nothingness."
- and create a new person.
- There is nothing in your heart or mind or soul that is beyond the **creative power of Jesus Christ**.
- No matter how unique you may think yourself or your problems, or your sins to be.
- Jesus Christ the creator of the world can bring his creative renewing transforming power to your life.
- And that is **extremely relevant and practical...**
- So **second**, we've seen Christ's Superiority as the Creator of the World.
- And third we see his superiority as...

3. Christ is the Radiance of God's Glory

- **Verse 3 begins...**

3 He (the Son, Christ) is the radiance of the glory of God ...

- This word **radiance** is important for us to understand.
- The Greek can mean **reflected brightness**,
- and there are **some translations** that say, "**He is the reflection of the glory of God.**"
- But it also means **extremely bright in and off itself**.
- And this is the **sense** in which we should take it.
- There is a vast difference between **reflection and radiance**.
- as different as the **functions of our sun and moon**.
- The moon reflects light, whereas the sun **radiates light, it is the source of physical light**.

- Jesus does not simply reflect God's glory; **he (as God the Son) is part of it!**
- This was shown on the **Mount of Transfiguration** when...

³ ...his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. (Mark 9:3)

- This **describes** Christ's own **intense radiance**, but he is radiating God's glory.
- The **Nicene Creed** says that he is... **God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God. (Nicene Creed)**
- **So bottom line**, Christ shines forth the glory of God,
- he is in himself glorious and when you see his glory you see the glory of God.
- **So third**, we see Christ's Superiority through **His Radiance of God's Glory**.
- And fourth we see his Superiority as...

4. Christ is the Exact Imprint of God's Nature

- **Verse 3...**

³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature,

- The word translated "**exact imprint**" refers to the image on a coin which perfectly corresponds to the image on the **coin press**.
- Jesus is therefore **completely the same in his being/nature** as the Father.
- **However**, there's an important **distinction** between the Father and the Son.
- They both exist **separately or distinctly**, as do the coin press and its image on the coin.
- So, in a mysterious yet true way. the Father and the Son are distinct from one another,
- but the Son is the exact imprint of the Father.
- They have the exact same nature **therefore they are distinct yet one**.
- **We see this in the first verse of John's Gospel.**
- **He begins his introduction of Christ with these words...**

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)

- The word (the Logos, Christ) was with God.
- This shows the separateness, the distinctness of Father and Son.
- The Son is with the Father.
- But John also says, and the Word (Christ) was God.
- He is the **exact imprint of God's nature**.
- Jesus is **all God**, "very God of very God."
- As he himself said...

⁹ ...Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. (John 14:9)

- So, in Christ, we have one who is distinct from the Father but is also the exact imprint of the God's nature.
- And this is all wrapped up in the **mystery of the holy Trinity**.
- Which we will not go any farther into at this time.
- Bottom line though: **Jesus is the superior revelation of God**.
- He radiates God's Glory like nothing else.
- And He is the exact imprint of God's nature.
- Therefore, when we see Jesus, we know just what **the God of the universe is like**.
- We know how **he thinks**.
- We know how **he talks**.
- We know how **he relates to people**.
- And as we saw last week, God has spoken in his Son.
- In Christ we have **God's supreme communication, his final revelation**.
- **So fourth**, we see **Christ's Superiority is his deity**,
- he is the **exact imprint of the nature of God**.
- And fifth we see his Superiority as...

5. Christ is the Sustainer of the Universe

³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.... (Hebrews 1:3)

- We already saw that Jesus is the Creator of all things,
- but after he created, he didn't just sit back and passively watch what happened.
- He is both the past creator of all things. and the present active sustainer of all things.
- He is actively holding up all things.
- And how does he do this?
- Hebrews tells us, **by the word of his power**, specifically by his spoken word.
- The writer is clear here.
- He does not use the Greek word logos ("word"), which is used to indicate revelation,
- but **rhema** ("word"), the spoken word.
- Just as the universe was called into existence with a spoken word,
³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)
- So also, the universe is sustained by the speaking voice (the word of the Son's Power).
- Again, this is reflected in Paul's Letter to the Colossians...

¹⁷ And he (Christ) is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:17)

- From all those spinning galaxies to our own solar system, to every atom with its electrons orbiting its protons and neutrons.

- He holds it all together.
- Without the power of His word sustaining creation, everything would literally fall apart.
- I am not a **theoretical physicist**, but my son is.
- And he tells me that **physics identifies and studies the forces that hold everything together**.
- Gravity, electromagnetism, strong and weak nuclear forces just to name a few...
- But my question is, where do these forces come from, and how and why do they continue to hold us together?
- Well, with all due respect to Physics, Hebrews says, Jesus Christ **upholds the universe by the word of his power**
- Jesus Christ is the Force behind the Forces of Nature.
- He sustains the physical universe.
- And like we saw with **Christ as Creator**.
- Jesus Christ not only sustain the physical universe.
- He also sustains our spiritual lives.
- He creates in us clean hearts; he creates in us new persons.
- And he sustains us with the power of his word.
- In **Psalm 55 David** writes...

²² Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved. (Psalms 55:22)

- And to the Philippians Paul wrote...

⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

- God through his Son Jesus Christ sustains us in our trouble and continues to work in our lives,
- he will sustain us to the end **to the day of Christ Jesus**.
- So, fifth Christ's superiority is seen in his ability to sustain the universe physical and spiritual.
- And sixth Christ's superiority is seen in that he...

6. Christ is the Purifier for Sins

- At the end of verse 3 we read...

³ After making purification for sins... (Hebrews 1:3)

- The author of Hebrews has **detailed the superiority** of Christ on a **universal scale**.
- He is the heir of all things, the creator of the world, the radiance of God's glory, the exact imprint of God's nature, and the sustainer of the universe.
- And then, suddenly the writer moves to Christ as the one who purifies us from our sins.
- We go from Christ's relationship to all things, the universe, God and his glory.
- **To his relationship to SIN.**

- And I think it's here that **Christ's superiority** becomes the **most relevant and practical** for us.
- Here Christ becomes directly involved in the messiness of our lives.
- Let me try and put what we have seen into perspective.
- If we could be transported to the end of the universe and then journey back to earth,
- passing all the galaxies Christ created,
- seeing the vastness of the glory of his sustaining power.
- Maybe even getting a glimpse of his divine nature,
- Seeing the radiance of God's glory in the spinning expanding universe.
- And as we travel, galaxies, nebulae, black holes (if you can see them).
- We gain a clear understanding of Christ's creative, sustaining power.
- And we are overwhelmed as we remember that **everything we see** belongs to him.
- And then as we approach earth, we continue to marvel at the glory of his creation.
- Seeing all the living creatures that he made upon the earth and under the sea.
- Seeing humanity, in all its diversity, knowing that he created each and every one of us for his glory.
- And then as we enter the atmosphere, we're transported **some 2,000 years back in time**.
- We arrive on earth near Jerusalem, and as we scan our surroundings, **we see a man**.
- And we recognize Him as **Jesus Christ**, the heir of all things.
- The **creator of the world**.
- The radiance of God's glory,
- The exact imprint of His nature.
- And the Sustainer of the universe.
- There he is, the one who is superior to all things.
- And here's the amazing thing,
- here's the think I'll never understand in this life.
- **He's nailed to a cross.**
- His body is broken and bloody and beaten because he is giving his life for my sins.
- He who knew no sin is becoming sin for my sake.
- He's taking upon himself the wrath of God, that I deserved.
- He's giving his life as a sacrificial offering so that I can be forgiven
- and I can be made pure, holy, righteous before God.
- He's on that cross so that I can enter into relationship with God through Him.
- What an amazing turn of events.
- Christ is described in such glorious terms, and then it almost sounds like an aside...
- **After making purification for sins.**
- But in those 5 words we see that **Christ is Savior because he alone is superior to our Sin**.
- Christ alone, who knew no sin, did what no other person (or spiritual being) could do.
- He, who is the glorious supreme creator God, gave his life for you and me.
- He paid for our sins with his life.

- So, sixth **Christ's is superior as the only one who can purify sins.**
- Then 7th. And finally, we see Christ's superiority as...

7. Christ is the Ruler of All

- verse 3...

After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
(Hebrews 1:3)

- So why does the writer, after telling us that Christ made purification for sin then tell us that he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high?
- Well, the most obvious reason is that sitting down at right hand of the Majesty on high speaks to Christ superior position as ruler, king, **and we will get to that shortly.**
- **But first**, there's another, **less obvious** (to us Gentiles) reason.
- I say to us Gentiles because the significance of sitting would not have been lost on a Jewish audience.
- Why? **Because a priest never sat down.**
- Levitical priests were always standing because **no sacrifice was ever complete.**
- The borders of the high priest's garment were sewn with bells so the people could hear him moving inside the Holy of Holies.
- Otherwise, they wouldn't know if he had been struck dead or not.
- Picture the High Priest entering the Holy Place trembling (and ringing) as he bore the sacrificial blood before the **ark of the covenant** and sprinkled it on **mercy-seat.**
- There he entered and stood year after year, high priest after high priest,
- **for the work was never done.**
- But Jesus, a **superior high priest**, sat down.
- This is what Hebrews tells us in **Chapter 10...**

¹¹ And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, (Hebrews 10:11-12)

- He sat down because, **as Jesus said from the Cross...**

³⁰ ..."It is finished,"... (John 19:30)

- Jesus' sacrifice is superior to all others because it alone **was and is able to purify sins.**
- I want us to see the **utter fallacy and blasphemy** that any one of us (any sinner) could purify themselves.
- That we (with our pride, greed, lust, love of self, etc....) could ever pay for our own sins with **"good" deeds, works of "righteousness" is impossible!**
- There is only one way to purity, and that is through the **superior blood of Jesus Christ.**

- In **Romans 5:9**, Paul writes...

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood... (Romans 5:9)

- The only way to **justification**, to be **purified of our sin**, is by faith, by trusting in the sacrificial, shed blood of Jesus Christ.
- By faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.
- Paul makes this clear in **Romans 3...**

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe... (Romans 3:21-22)

- So, Christ sat down at the right hand of God, demonstrating that his sacrificial death but sufficient to purify the sins and impart righteousness to those who have faith in Him.
- Okay, now we can turn to the **other obvious reason** he sat at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
- Because that seat at the right hand of God is the **seat of exaltation and authority**.
- Jesus is now and forevermore superior to all rulers and authorities.
- For he is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
- This was prophesied in **Psalms 110:1...**

¹ The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." (Psalms 110:1)

- And while on earth **our Lord applied the Psalm to himself**: He said...

⁶⁹ But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God." (Luke 22:69)

- "**The right hand**" is the place of highest honor and authority.
- Upon Jesus's **ascension**, the LORD God, **Yahweh**, tells him to sit at his right hand.
- And at that time, Because of what Christ accomplished, because he humbly gave his life that sins might be purified... Paul says in **Philippians 2...**

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)

- So, Christ is lifted up, exalted as the ruler, the king of all, all in heaven and earth and under the earth will bow before him, will confess that he is Lord!
- Again, he is Superior to all Rulers, Kings, Authorities, Governments that have ever existed.
- And never, never forget that he is the Ruler of our Lives.
- He is superior to us; therefore, we must submit to him in all things for our good and God's Glory.
- Can't get more practical than that!

- Now let me add one more thing about Christ's authoritative exalted position at God's right hand.
- From this position Christ does something that is extremely relevant and practical for each and every one of us.
- He intercedes for us.
- We find this not in Hebrews but in Romans.
- In **Romans 8:34**, Paul asks, "Who is to condemn?"
- And the **rhetorical answer come**, NO ONE Can condemn us...
- And then he explains... No one can condemn you because...

34 ...Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. (Romans 8:34)

- **Do you see what this means?**
- The heir, the creator and sustainer, the ruler of all things.
- The divine one who radiates the glory of God.
- The one who purified our sins, and rules over all.
- That one, Jesus Christ, who is superior to all, is praying for you and me!
- It is good when we pray for one another but is great to know that Jesus Christ is praying for us.
- He is interceding on our behalf, he is our mediator, our advocate before God.
- That's pretty cool!
- Now one final thing as we close.
- This may be the most practical relevant thing of all...
- This same Jesus who is Superior in every way, not only gave his life for your purification.
- He not only rightly rules over all things including our lives.
- But (and this is awesome) he desires to be in relationship, with you.
- To all who are suffering, to all who are struggling, to all who are trapped in their sin.
- To anyone and every.
- Jesus Christ gives this invitation.

***28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* (Matthew 11:28-30)**

- Jesus Christ who is superior in every way to everyone is also gentle and lowly in heart.
- And in his love and grace and mercy and humility,
- He invites you and me with our labors and burdens to come to him, to rest in him.
- To have relationship with him, to be yoked (connected) to him, to learn from him.
- And given all we have seen today of his greatness, his glory, his superiority,
- How can we possibly turn down such an invitation.
- So, I would encourage you as I encourage myself with these very relevant and practical words.
- Go to Jesus, take your burdens, your labors, your difficulties, your struggles, your sins to him.
- Rest in him, receive ministry from him.

- For he alone is superior to all our sins, to all our trouble, he alone can create new life in our souls.
- He alone can sustain our Chirstian walk.
- He alone can purify our sin.
- So go to him today and every day, for he alone can and will meet your every need.
- **Would you pray with me!**