

(***WDILL** = *What Does It Look Like*) **LVCC WOW Tuesday Lunch Study**

Outline for "Time with God" NCV study bible page #522-523

The NCV Bible's book of Hebrews 1:1 - 2:4

A

The commentators remind us that the author of this letter to the Hebrews is not clear. The discussion within is directed to the Jews who have accepted Christ as the Messiah and the struggle emotionally, socially and practically as a result of this decision. The religious Jews, who did not accept Christ, attempted to influence the Christians by reminding them of the temples of worship and established ways of reaching for God. The writer of this letter compares the greatness of Christ to the, wonderful yet falling short, prophets, angels and sanctuaries of times past.

Verses 1-4: Let's consider the power and attribute of Christ outlined here:

1. Who is Christ taking the place of?
2. What has the son had a part in and what does He oversee?
3. What does Christ represent?
4. What does He continue to do and from where?

Verses 5-9: Here we see further distinctions between the Old and New Testaments / Covenants:

1. How does Jesus' coming differ from the ways God communicated with us B.C.?
2. First there were angels, prophets, miracles and Jesus coming and presence ... what's next? (Trick Question!)

Verses 10-14

3. What in these helps us to trust and depend on Jesus?

Verses 2:1-4:

1. How might we "be punished" if we do not follow or obey?
2. What experiences and tools have we been left with that help us live the life we're called to?

"Insights" by William Stoddard page 523.

1. Please read over these insights and jot down some of the feelings that go along with the scenarios used as examples. How did these people in the examples feel and why?
2. In the last stanza it is suggested that "In prayer let us remember all the joy we have drawn from the wells of salvation. Let's list a few things to be grateful for in our salvation!"

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B Old Testament Readings: (pg. 523 NCV Study Bible)

1. Let's first identify how this OT scripture might relate to the NT readings.
 - a. Which actual OT and NT verses seem to be similar?

 - b. What is the common message of the NT and OT readings?

2. Vs. 1b refers to the parting of the Red Sea. One commentator says: Just as the Passover speaks of the redemption by *blood*, the Red Sea Tell of the redemption by *power*!
 - a. Think for a moment that you are heirs of and have access to the power of God which parted the Red Sea. Leaves one speechless. *WDILL to rely on this power in our day to day lives?

3. This is another passage that breaks down the ways God's power appears in our lives.

As their own God, and therefore their *strength, song, and salvation*, v. 2. Happy therefore the people whose God is the Lord; they need no more to make them happy. They have work to do, temptations to grapple with, and afflictions to bear, and are weak in themselves; **but he strengthens them: his grace is their strength**. They are often in sorrow, upon many accounts, **but in him they have comfort**, he is *their song*; sin, and death, and hell, threaten them, but **he is, and will be, their salvation**: See Isa. 12:2.

- a. Now what additional way can you think of as to *WDILL to rely on this power in our day to day lives?

“Action Point” reviewing the NCV study bible’s application questions (*in italics below*):

1. *What makes salvation great?*

2. *Who revealed it?*

3. *Who has proven it?*

Then the NCV study goes on to say: *Throughout the ages, God’s people have rejoiced and celebrate his salvation. Go ahead, be amazed, and join them in praising God for His salvation!*

1. Just as we can encourage a loved one by repeating the same thanks for their kindness, wisdom, affection, encouragement and other specific gifts over & over ... what are some basic and advanced things we can continually thank God for?

2. Do you think it’s a good idea to repeat thanks to God for similar things over & over? Whether yes or no explain why.

WEDNESDAY

*God Has Given Us
a Great Salvation*

Hebrews 1:1–2:4

God Spoke Through His Son

1In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets many times and in many different ways. ²But now in these last days God has spoken to us through his Son. God has chosen his Son to own all things, and through him he made the world. ³The Son reflects the glory of God and shows exactly what God is like. He holds everything together with his powerful word. When the Son made people clean from their sins, he sat down at the right side of God, the Great One in heaven. ⁴The Son became much greater than the angels, and God gave him a name that is much greater than theirs.

⁵This is because God never said to any of the angels,

“You are my Son.

Today I have become your

Father.” *Psalm 2:7*

Nor did God say of any angel,

“I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son.”

2 Samuel 7:14

⁶And when God brings his firstborn Son into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship
him.”

Psalm 97:7

⁷This is what God said about the angels:

“God makes his angels become
like winds.

He makes his servants become
like flames of fire.” *Psalm 104:4*

⁸But God said this about his Son:
“God, your throne will last
forever and ever.

You will rule your kingdom
with fairness.

⁹You love right and hate evil,
so God has chosen you from
among your friends;
he has set you apart with much
joy.” *Psalm 45:6-7*

¹⁰God also says,
“Lord, in the beginning you made
the earth,
and your hands made the
skies.

¹¹They will be destroyed, but you
will remain.
They will all wear out like
clothes.

¹²You will fold them like a coat.
And, like clothes, you will
change them.

But you never change,
and your life will never end.”

Psalm 102:26-27

¹³And God never said this to an angel:

“Sit by me at my right side
until I put your enemies under
your control.” *Psalm 110:1*

¹⁴All the angels are spirits who
serve God and are sent to help those
who will receive salvation.

Our Salvation Is Great

2So we must be more careful to follow what we were taught. Then we will not stray away from the truth. ²The teaching God spoke through angels was shown to be true, and anyone who did not follow it or obey it received the punishment that was earned. ³So surely we also will be punished if we ignore this great salvation. The Lord himself

first told about this salvation, and it was proven true to us by those who heard him. ⁴God also proved it by using wonders, great signs, many kinds of miracles, and by giving people gifts through the Holy Spirit, just as he wanted.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

I will sing to the LORD,
because he is worthy of great
honor.

He has thrown the horse and its
rider
into the sea.

²The LORD gives me strength and
makes me sing;
he has saved me.

He is my God,
and I will praise him.

Exodus 15:1b-2b

LORD, teach me what you want
me to do,
and I will live by your truth.
Teach me to respect you completely.

²Lord, my God, I will praise you
with all my heart,
and I will honor your name
forever.

³You have great love for me.
You have saved me from death.

Psalm 86:11-13

INSIGHTS

Our salvation is good reason to rejoice. Hannah rejoiced because of salvation in a song that Mary echoed when Jesus was born and salvation had come. The magi rejoiced when they saw the star that led them to the infant Jesus and salvation (Matthew 2:10). The Ethiopian eu-

nuch rejoiced in the discovery of salvation through Philip’s ministry of the Word (Acts 8:39). Christians rejoice in hope and even in suffering since they have peace with God (Romans 5:2–3).

Rejoicing and salvation belong together. The coming of Jesus into this world can never be a matter of academic aloofness or objective study. Because it is real and because it means so much it goes right to the heart to make it leap with joy. It is the emotion felt when a woman finds a lost coin or a shepherd finds a lost sheep or a waiting Father sees his lost son on the horizon (read Luke 15). It is not like a student poring over a book in the library. It is more like a student with a thousand others, rejoicing over a touchdown on the field. It is like oil drillers watching their first wild fountain of black gold after days of hard and fruitless labor. It is a soldier seeing a light in the window or a returning prisoner finding yellow ribbons tied all over the tree. In prayer let us remember all the joy we have drawn from the wells of salvation. It should make quite a list.

William Stoddard

ACTION POINT

If you risk living as if salvation were unimportant, take notice! What makes salvation great? Who revealed it? Who has proven it? Throughout the ages, God’s people have rejoiced and celebrated his salvation. Go ahead, be amazed, and join them in praising God for his salvation!