

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

GOD HAS MADE YOU A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS

Hebrews 2:6-8 (Psalm 8:4-6) “What is mankind that You are mindful of them, a son of man that You care for him? You made them a little lower than the angels; You crowned them with glory and honor and put everything under their feet.”

Lest there be any pride or trust in self, the writer to the Hebrews here in chapter 2 directs your attention to the words of Psalm 8:4-6. God created human beings, not they Him. God placed human beings into His creation and gave the human race its position among all He created. Your status as a human being is “a little lower than the angels,” giving you and all people a great responsibility, “Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground . . . Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” (Genesis 1:26,29-30)

In these words of Genesis and Hebrews God is praised as the creator of the universe. Behind everything that is in the universe is the hand of God in forming and sustaining it. In this world that denies God as creator and sustainer, these words remind you who is in charge of the material world and what your response should be.

This is especially true when today the world’s view is human beings are only a more highly developed animal. God’s word says otherwise. In God’s created order you, as a human being, are the priority of His creation other than the Angels who are higher yet. You, God says, along with all of humanity are to rule over and subdue all of His earthly creation, living out your life to give glory and honor to Him in all you do.

Adam and Eve, at Satan’s seductive temptation, were not satisfied with their place in God’s order. They ate of the forbidden fruit wanting to “be like God.” Since that time all members of the human race try to be gods and in doing so become slaves to Satan. In spite of this sinful behavior, God does not forsake you. He sent

Jesus to do and be for you what you cannot do for yourself. His Easter resurrection assures you that through faith in Him alone you are victorious over all of Satan's temptation and through faith in Jesus alone you have the assurance of restoration into the family of God.

Prayer: Guide me, O Lord, that I do only those things that give honor and glory to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Gracious God, You send great blessings New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending, For Your love we offer praise

Refrain:

Lord, we pray that we, Your people Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings May bring glory to Your name.

By Your Word You formed creation Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure May our care encircle all. Refrain:

In His earthly life, our Savior Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication Offer love that never ends. Refrain:

Heav'nly Father, may our caring Bear the imprint of Your grace,
With the Son and Holy Spirit, Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! Refrain:
(LSB 782)