

Hebrews 2: 10-13; “In Bringing Many Sons to Glory”, Sermon # 9 in the series – “Holding Fast our Confession”, Delivered by Pastor Paul Rendall on February 12th, 2012, in the Morning Worship Service.

When it says here that “it was fitting for Him” it is referring to the Person of the Father in the Godhead. It befitted the Father’s eternal purpose that His Only-Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, be made the Captain of our salvation. This was of the Father’s appointment that the Lord Jesus Christ go into battle by Himself and overcome all of the enemies and all of the obstacles to every believer’s obtaining this great salvation from sin, and the gift of eternal life. It was and is of the Father’s appointment that you, if you believe in Jesus, shall inherit eternal glory. The Father is the Person of the Divine Trinity who has decreed and appointed your salvation, if you come to Christ. He is the One who is bringing many sons to glory. Glory is another word for heaven. Being brought to glory is to be brought into the excellence of the presence of God, to be with Him there forever. Whether it is being brought to heaven in the intermediate state after you die, or whether it is your being brought into the New Heavens and the New Earth which will come after Christ returns and judges the world, God’s purpose for you if you are a true Christian is to bring you to glory and to show you His glory forevermore. But we need to understand that this word “glory” has more meaning connected to it than the greatness of what we will be brought into in the future after we die, and Christ returns; as great a thing as that will be in that day. To know Christ and to have fellowship and communion with Him in your heart right now, today, is a very glorious privilege. To be brought to faith in Christ is to be brought to have glory in your heart right now. You and I need to understand this morning that from the moment that we believe, we begin to experience that glory in our souls. The Apostle John says concerning his own experience and the experience of the other Apostles, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” They saw the Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, as He walked upon this earth. But you and I do not know Him after the flesh. Instead, it is like the Apostle Peter said of our Christ in 1st Peter 1: 8 – “...whom having not seen you love.” And “though you do not see Him (now), yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of the your faith—the salvation of your souls.” So this is what I want to speak to you about this morning; the Father’s bringing many sons to behold Christ’s glory, both in this life, and eternally. 1st of all – The Father brings many sons to see the Glory of Christ as their Suffering Savior. 2^{ndly} – The Father brings many sons to see the Glory of Christ their Living Sanctifier. And 3^{rdly} – The Father brings many sons to see the Glory of Christ being their Ever-Present Brother. Let us give ourselves to receive these truths of Christ’s glory and be transformed to become righteous and holy people by them.

1st of all – The Father brings many to see the Glory of Christ as our Suffering Savior. (Verse 10)

“For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.” This is a very interesting statement, well worthy of our consideration here today. The captain of our salvation, the One chosen to lead you who believe to eternal glory, must be perfect in every way. The Father would see to it that it was so. You will say to me, “Well, I thought that He was born into this world sinless.” And you are very right. When the Lord Jesus came into this fallen world of woe, He came into it with no sinful nature like you and I have from birth. His mother was Mary, but His Father was God. His mother Mary had never known a man, and so there was no original sin that was transferred from a man to her in the conception of this child in her womb. She had no relations with Joseph. It was the Holy Spirit who overshadowed Mary. It was before Mary and Joseph came together that “she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit.” This “Holy One” who shall be born to you, the angel said to Mary, shall be called the Son of God. Jesus’ coming into this world was totally unlike the statement which is found in Psalm 58, verse 3 which says, “The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.” The Lord Jesus came forth from the womb with no estrangement from God; rather He came forth perfectly representing the Father. He came forth speaking the truth at every point. Indeed we must say that He was the truth about God personified in every possible way. He was and is the only man born of a woman who has come into this world without sin.

Then why was it necessary that the Father had to “make the captain of our salvation perfect through sufferings”? It certainly was not necessary from the standpoint of His deity. As God the Son, He ever was, and always has been, and ever will be perfect. But our Lord Jesus in His incarnation became something that He had never been before. He became a man. It was very needful for Christ the Son to become man so that in taking upon Himself our nature, He could go on to obey God’s law fully and completely and perfectly in our place. And then He could also go on to suffer and bleed and die as a substitutionary sacrifice in our place. So in taking upon Himself this human nature, He had the need for the Father to make Him perfect through sufferings, in order that He might become our Savior from sin in every way that we need to be saved from sin. Only the Father, who orders all things after the counsel of His will could do this great thing of ordering all the circumstances in the life of our Lord Jesus so that he would learn obedience in this holy and perfect way on our behalf. The Lord Jesus, by the appointment of the Father became a priest forever, in this necessary and holy way, according to the order of Melchizedek as it says in Psalm 110.

But turn with me over to Hebrews Chapter 5, verse 5. “So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: ‘You are My

Son, today I have begotten You.” “As He also says in another place: ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek’; who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered, and having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.” I wonder if you can now see the glory of Christ as your suffering Savior? God requires of you obedience to His Holy law. You have not given it to Him at many points, let alone given it to Him perfectly. God is a God of perfect Justice and His Justice must be satisfied. But God the Father so led Christ into all the various situations of required obedience, that He obeyed His Father perfectly, so that the Father’s justice is satisfied. You can now, by faith in Him, have a better righteousness than your own. You may look very good and very moral to people around you, but in the eyes of God the Father, you have many sins, many faults, many sinful weaknesses that keep Him from bringing you to glory to be with Him, the pure and perfect and holy God. But when He looks at Jesus and sees the perfection not only of His Person, but also the Perfection of His obedience which led Him to suffer on your behalf, God is most satisfied in saving you and welcoming you into His presence, and bring you into His glory if you will obey the gospel.

Notice that believing the gospel is a matter of strict obedience. Christ became the author of eternal salvation to all who will obey Him. Even as Jesus learned obedience, you must learn to obey Him. You must learn to obey in order to your being brought to glory. But when you believe, not by the strength of your own free-will in obedience, but by the strength of Christ’s grace in obedience, then you will be saved. For God does not regard your spiritual strength, for you have none to offer Him. You can promise Him that you will obey His law and keep His commandments and you will never be able to do it perfectly. But Jesus did it perfectly. He does not regard your good works, because each and every one of them is not good enough. You might think that your good works should merit something in His sight, but they are full of imperfections, so much so, that He must take them and dip them in the blood of Christ to find them acceptable. Do you see the glory of the suffering Savior? He was nailed to the cross for all kinds of sinners; those who see themselves as the worst and chief of sinners, and those who think of themselves as the best of sinners. Actually the best of sinners are often blind to the depth of their sins before God. They have not understood their own heart, for if they looked carefully at the perfection of what God requires in their obedience, and pray for the illumination of the Holy Spirit, they would see how very short they fall in every way, of God’s glory. Do you by your free will love God with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength? Do you by your free will love your neighbor as yourself? Do you do this perfectly? No, by no means! Your obedience to God’s holy law is flawed at a number of major points at the very least. God

cannot accept you as you are in yourself, a sinner in his sight. But He still requires of you perfect obedience to His holy law. What shall you do to be saved from His wrath? Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans Chapter 3, verse 21 says: “But now the righteousness of the God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.” “For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

So when you believe in Jesus Christ you will find grace and glory. You will never find these things in looking to the supposed strength of your free will. You have failed God, and you will fail to keep His holy law at many points, and yet you may deceive yourself, thinking that you have the strength to keep His law even now. You can never merit favor with God by the acts of your free will in your trying to keep His law in a way which will satisfy God, because we all fall short of His glory. But faith in Jesus Christ His Son satisfies Him fully and it satisfies Him forever. Christ has not fallen short of God’s glory. He is excellence itself. In Him was perfection of obedience at every point. And His perfect humility in His obedience led Him to the cross to suffer there for you and to bear your sins, when He had none of His own to bear. 2 Corinthians 5: 21 – “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” Have you seen the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ and taken Him to be your only Savior from sin? No other Savior will be found by you. And no other Savior will do. Do not believe the lie that there are many Saviors or many Lords. There is only one – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now 2ndly – The Father brings many to see the Glory of Christ their Living Sanctifier.

“For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one,” it says in verse 11. It is true, if you know it not, that sanctification is more than just being initially set apart to God’s purposes in salvation. It is being sanctified in the on-going sense of being made holy, all the way to glory. There is great glory in your being made holy as a believer. The Lord Jesus by His death and resurrection has died in order to bring you into union with Himself. It is to His glory and to the Father’s highest interests, that you are becoming more righteous and more holy in all of your behavior as you live upon the earth, and as you live out the grace which has been given to you in Jesus Christ. Some think of sanctification only as their being called righteous and holy. God the Father does call all believers righteous and holy because of the work which Jesus has done on their behalf. However if we as a professed Christian do not go on to pursue holiness, having been given the truth of what Jesus has done for us in the gospel, then we are no true Christian. Listen to Hebrews Chapter 12, and verse 14. “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble,

and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.” “For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.” You can see from these verses that the person who does not pursue holiness shall not see the Lord. They shall not enter heaven. They shall not behold God’s glory. If you are a true believer you will cry out to God for the grace to be a better person. You shall become one who is attempting to use all the grace that God gives you to move away from sin and to change so that you are pursuing righteousness, holiness, and truth in your inmost being. Jesus is called the Captain of our salvation here in the verses that we are studying this morning. There was not only perfection of obedience in our Lord Jesus when He walked upon the earth, but there is also perfection of wisdom and power in Him now, which will lead us through this life, into greater holiness. If you are a true believer you have received Christ’s Holy Spirit. Christ will increasingly show you His glory when you, as a believer, go about to learn to do God’s will in every particular. In other words, you will come to know the secret of His Covenant and you will be brought to behold the miracles of His grace working in your heart, changing you from one degree of glory to another higher degree of glory, and that coming by the power of His Spirit working in you.

Let me turn you to some verses which will give you comfort and assurance in this regard. Turn with me over to Psalm 25, verse 8. “Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He teaches sinners in the way.” “The humble (or meek) will He guide in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.” “All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.” “For your name’s sake, O Lord, pardon my iniquity, for it is great.” “Who is the man that fears the Lord?” “Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.” “He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his descendants shall inherit the earth.” “The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.” Let me ask you if you have learned this blessed truth this morning? It is because the Lord is good and upright that He teaches sinners in the way. God is willing to show you the error of your way. He is willing to show you His good way. All he is asking for from you is humility, or what is termed in the older language, meekness. Now meekness is not weakness. It is by grace having a teachable spirit. Meekness is that attitude of humility which keeps you from asserting that you know everything about a given subject. A person who is not meek is often asserting that they know better than all of God’s preachers and teachers what is right and true. They know better than what God’s word clearly would teach them about righteousness. A person who is not meek will argue with God and with righteous men who are attempting to show them the truth of the Bible. But having meekness and humility is really to have spiritual strength. God will guide you into all the truth if you are meek. He will show you His covenant secret, which is that even though you are not striving in your own strength and wisdom to obtain good things for yourself,

God Himself will give them because you are trusting in Him to supply them through Jesus Christ your Lord. If you are a meek person, you are a person who is learning to pray more and more, you are not asserting yourself; your own strength, your own righteousness, and your own thoughts about any given subject which the Bible teaches on; you are doing that less and less. You are a person who letting the Bible speak to you, and you are praying to do exactly what it says. You are learning to live by faith in the Son of God who loved you and gave Himself for you. You are pursuing peace with all men. You are letting bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. You are attempting to be kind to other Christians, tenderhearted, forgiving them when they have sinned against you, even as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4: 31 and 32) That is the sanctification that Jesus leads you into.

Turn to Psalm 84, verse 8. "O Lord God of Hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!" "Selah". "O God, behold our shield, and look upon the face of Your anointed." "For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand." (Outside) "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness." "For the Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly." "O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You!" If you were to take the time to read the rest of the Psalm you would see that this is a man who is longing to be able to be worshiping God in His tabernacle; the place for gathered worship in the Old Testament times before the temple was built. He states in verse 2 that his soul longs and faints for these courts that he might meet with God there, with other believers in worship. He notes that even a bird, a sparrow, had been able to make a house for herself around the altars of the tabernacle. So, he prays, why not him? He says in verse 5, "Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage to Zion." He knows that the person who is trusting in the Lord will pass through many trials which may produce weeping, but even these trials in the valley of Baca, the valley of weeping, will be made into a spring of refreshing as God gives them strength to bear them. They will go from strength to strength and appear before God in Zion. This is an Old testament picture of the Christian's journey through this life. The anointed of the Lord that the Old Testament believer wanted God to look upon, and who was their shield, was King David. But the New Testament believer's anointed who is looked upon is Christ. He is our shield and our strength. It is the Lord God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has given Him to be the light of the world; a Sun and a Shield to His people. It is the Lord God and Father of our Jesus who will give grace and glory because of His obedience and suffering on our behalf, that will sanctify us and make us holy and fit for heaven. He will withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly. And how do they come to walk uprightly? It is by trusting in Christ continually for every good thing that He will give. It is trusting that the Father will work all things for our good and for His glory.

You and I as Christians need to be saved from all of our temptations to sin. Indeed we need to be saved in the midst of all of our spiritual weaknesses and temptations to sin. How can we overcome the temptations which the Devil, the World, and our own flesh press us with each and every day? We must become men and women of prayer, believing that Christ is interceding for us before the Father. Hebrews 4: 14 – “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.” “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.” “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” When you are tempted dear Christian, remember that Jesus Christ was tempted in all points as you are, yet He did not commit any sins. Therefore you can come boldly to Him who is seated on the throne of grace and find mercy and grace to help in time of need. He can sympathize with your weaknesses, because there were points in His earthly journey where He was weak as well. This is how you come to greater holiness and learn to pursue greater righteousness in your conduct. It is found in pursuing His strength in the midst of your known and felt weakness. Chapter 2, verse 18 of Hebrews says, “For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.” Do you see the glory of Christ as your living Sanctifier? He ever lives to make intercession for you, and to show you mercy, and to give you of His precious grace.

Then 3rdly - The Father brings many sons to see the Glory of Christ being their Ever-Present Brother.

“For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: ‘I will declare your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.’ “And again, ‘I will put My trust in Him.’ “And again: ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.’” There are 3 quotes which are taken from Psalm 22: 22, Psalm 18: 2, and Isaiah 8: 18. The first is quoted in relation to the resurrection of our Lord. In Psalm 22 we find Christ describing His experience on the cross, prophetically telling of many of his personal struggles there. He was crying to the Father for deliverance from these sufferings, and all the while is justifying the Father as holy. He speaks of how He feels like a worm and not a man, of how they spoke mockingly to him of how since He trusted in God; let God deliver Him, since He delights in Him!” These were the very words of some of the rulers who were standing by at the crucifixion as Luke’s gospel records it. There is the description of His feeling as if he were poured out like water, and all of His bones being out of joint, how they pierced His hands and His feet, how they divided His garments among them, and for His clothing they cast lots. Then comes this amazing statement in verse 21 after He prayed and ask God to deliver Him. It says – “You have answered Me.” The Father’s answer was not to deliver Jesus from the cross, but to allow Him to triumph in death over all of our sins. His answer was to

deliver us, all of God's Elect; all of His believing people from eternal punishment and death, and to bring to us eternal glory. On the morning of His resurrection and in all the appearances during the 40 days that followed, the Lord Jesus was able to "declare God's name to His brethren. And in the midst of the assembly of them, He was able to praise Him! Christ is not ashamed to call us brethren for He has suffered, bled, and died for us. He put His trust in God that this very result would take place. And so there He was, raised from the dead, having triumphed over sin, and the Devil, and the grave, He and the children whom God had given Him. You who believe have been brought into a greater family than your earthly biological family. You have been brought into Christ's Church. He has brought you nigh unto God. You now can call God the Father your Father, and know the reality of Christ's Spirit at work in your heart helping you in all of your trials and sufferings for Christ's sake during the time of your earthly pilgrimage. You can call Christ your brother for you are now joint-heirs together of eternal life. Since He has suffered for you, to reveal to you His glory, He also lives forever to transform you into His image and likeness. 2nd Corinthians Chapter 3, verse 18 is now true of all of us who have believed. "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." And just as Jesus said to Martha in John Chapter 11, verse 40, before He raised Lazarus from dead, Let me close this sermon with those same words to you: "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" Believe in Christ and you will behold His glory now, and forevermore.