

The Inscrutable Question: Summary of the Lord's Victorious Proclamation from Hebrews 2:9-17; Occupation with Christ, Heb 2:9a

This verse begins with an adversative explanatory conjunction:

δέ / de / - "But" It is followed by the first person plural of the present active indicative verb:

βλέπω / blepo / - "we see"

present: Progressive; signifies action in progress or persistence. When in the indicative it is related to present time.

active: The believer produces the action of the verb.

indic.: Declarative; for the reality of the fact that a believer with doctrine is able to pick out what is important and emphasize it. Translated: "we keep on seeing"

NOTE: In verse 8 we also find another verb "to see," the present active indicative of **ὁράω / horao** /: "But now we do not see all things subjected to Him." We learn a point of doctrine by determining why in two consecutive sentences the verb "to see" is different.

- 1) The verb **ὁράω / horao** / in verse 8 means to "have perception as a result of seeing." You see a thing, you analyze it, and you understand it.
- 2) What is understood is that in the present dispensation, we do not see all things made subject to the authority of Jesus Christ. This is the devil's world and many people and many of their ideas and activities are not subject to Christ but to Satan.
- 3) On the other hand, we also understand that in the millennial reign of Christ, all things will become subject to Him.
- 4) In verse 9 we find **βλέπω / blepo** / which emphasizes the glance of the eye causing someone to see something of importance; something that catches his attention.
- 5) The two sentences are antithetical. In verse 8 we do not see that all things in *cosmos diabolicus* are in subjection to Christ.
- 6) However, in verse 9, we do see Jesus in honor and glory while we live in an environment of rebellion and discord. In the midst of these things it is Jesus who catches our attention.
- 7) The believer in Jesus Christ has the potential to face the exigencies of life with a mental perspective not available to others. No matter how disconcerting the circumstances, he can focus on the ultimate victory of our Lord at the Second Advent while the battles of the present warfare rage about him.
- 8) The mental attitude that makes this viewpoint a consistent reality is classified as occupation with Christ:

Occupation with Christ is the ultimate problem-solving device and one of three related to virtue love. Personal love for God is the believer's *motivational* virtue. This is reciprocal love in response to God's undiminished love for us from eternity past. This is the foundation for unconditional love for all mankind, the *functional* virtue of the believer's execution of the royal law. These problem-solving devices place the believer in spiritual adulthood. Advance to *occupation with Christ* places the believer in spiritual maturity. In this status he shares the happiness of God in the face of any circumstance in life. It is the mental attitude and thinking of Christ during the Incarnation. This thinking results in occupation with Christ rather than preoccupation with people and God emphasis taking precedence over people emphasis. To see Jesus as the highest value in life is the beginning of occupation with Christ.

- 9) The fallen angels of Tartarus knew that man was created to resolve the angelic conflict, therefore if man is not allowed to do so then the rules of engagement have been violated.
- 10) Nevertheless, their survival outside the lake of fire depended upon their leader, Lucifer, being able to outthink and outmaneuver God.
- 11) Thus Hebrews 2:9 takes up the subject of the resolution of the Invisible War by drawing our attention to a Man, made lower than the angels in His true humanity but elevated to a position higher than the angels in hypostatic union and resurrection body.

Hebrews 2:9 - But we keep on seeing something of value, namely Jesus, and only Jesus ...