

Lenten Devotional Reflection

10th March, 2020 (Lent Day Twelve)

Scripture: Hebrews 2:1-9 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. ²For if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, ³how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, ⁴while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will.

⁵Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸ subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Message

Do you think the recent novel coronavirus epidemic and social rifts are natural or human made disasters? I believe the answer is both. On the one side, these incidents are caused by man’s arrogance and selfishness, which are called “sin” in the Bible. Knowing the law and not observing the good, failing to know the good, failing to change the wrong, and disrespecting God are all everlasting problems, all of which are “sin”. But “human made disasters” do not refer to one particular person or some people, “since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”.

On the other side, I believe these incidents are “natural disasters”. God creates and controls everything. We may not understand why God allows bad things happen. Such arrangement has its meaning and is ultimately a benefit to man, as God loves the world.

Man should strive to fulfil their duties and love one another in order to reduce human made disasters. If we know how to give thanks and fear the Lord, God will give out timely blessings to all of us.

Reflection

1. How do you feel when reading the verses “What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet.”?
2. How do you comment yourself between “self-exaltation” and “humbleness”? In your profession, family life and church ministries, where is “self-exaltation” and “humbleness”?
3. Are we now facing “natural disaster” or “human made disaster”?

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