

Satan has influence over this current world system,

The story of Job is a perfect example of this.

- Satan needed God's permission to touch Job.

Jesus stripped Satan of any legal power at the cross

Satan has been defeated,

Peter said that the adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour.

Rev 20:10

10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Col 1:13

13 He (God) has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

Col 1:13

13 For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, (NLT)

Believers don't need to fear death

- Satan no longer holds us in bondage
- through the fear of death.

John 5:24-29

24 "Most assuredly, I say to you

- this is important here because Jesus says "most assuredly" twice
- in these first two verses.

He's emphasizing the truth and importance of what He's about to say,

he who hears My word (that is, he who accepts and understands Jesus' teachings) and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

The moment you surrender to Christ,

- you can face that last judgement with confidence.

Why! Because Jesus used the present possession

- meaning that eternal life begins immediately.

1 John 5:11-13

11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Jesus continued:

25 Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live, 26 For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, 27 and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Heb 9:27-28

27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, 28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many.

To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Jesus destroyed the one who had the power of death:

Heb 2:15

15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Jesus came to free those in bondage.

Rom 3:23 - all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Jn 8:34, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.

John 8:36

36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Jesus frees us from the guilt of sin.

Now, wait a minute. If Jesus conquered death,

- **then why would there be a fear of death.**

Warren Wiersbe said in his Bible Exposition commentary in John 11 regarding “fear.”

Death is an enemy, and Satan uses the fear of death as a terrible weapon.

When the Lord said to Satan that there was none like Job on the earth, Satan answered and said, “Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.”

People will try almost anything to prolong life.

Jesus already conquered death.

Heb 2:16

16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

Heb 2:17

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren (like us), that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation (Jesus’ death on the cross absorbed the punishment we deserved) for the sins of the people.

The high priest represented the people before God,

- and he offered blood sacrifices for their sins
- and for his own sins in the holy of holies once a year
- on the day of atonement or Yom Kippur.
- This mentioned in Heb 9:7 as well.

The high priest was a foreshadowing of Jesus.

Heb 2:18

18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

The only way to know or to have an idea of what someone is going thru is to have gone thru it yourself.

Christ went thru much of what we go thru and more.

He was rejected and forsaken by His friends,

- at times having no place to lay His head
- His life was threatened as a baby
- Tried before the high courts on charges of treason,
- Opposed by His own family,
- And above all, executed by crucifixion.

God’s plan for us is “love.”

God's word is love. Some people don't understand the meaning of that,

- especially people of other faiths
- where they're not taught to love.

Heb 3:1-6

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. 3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. 4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. 5 And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Heb 3:1

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

"Holy," means to be set apart.

You've been adopted by God,

- you've been grafted into His family.

The writer then calls the believers "partakers of the heavenly calling."

The noun "partakers" comes from a verb meaning

- "to have with or to share with."

It was used in Luke 5:7 when Jesus told Peter

- to let out his net into the water to catch some fish.

Peter told Jesus they'd been working all night and caught nothing.

When the net filled with more fish than it could handle,

- they signaled to their **partners (partakers)**
- in the other boat for help.

But the help they wanted wasn't solely to help them with their catch

- so that they could keep it all.
- It was so that they could share (partake) in the catch.

The reward for the partakers (that's us) of the heavenly calling is heaven itself in the presence of Christ.

2 Cor 12:2-4

2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago — whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows — such a one was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows — 4 how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

One day we will receive crowns in heaven

- and we will be given a glorified body.

Why would one not consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, **as the writer of Hebrews says.**

We're not to simply glance at Jesus,

- we're told to give careful consideration to Him,
- fix your mind on Him.

The author was writing to Hebrew Christians

- that were in a backslidden condition.

They were in danger of apostatizing from Christ

- and returning to Judaism.

They were not maturing in their faith, instead they were in danger of turning away.

Heb 5:12

12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

They needed to get back to the basics of Christianity.

That's what happens when people are torn between Jesus and something else.

The rich young ruler is an example of this:

Matt 19:21

21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

You must be willing to lose the things which are most important to you.

Jesus said earlier in Matt 6 that you cannot serve two masters.

- You will hate one and love the other,
- or you'll be loyal to the one and despise the other.

Jesus said to His disciples:

Matt 16:25

25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

Matt 19:24

24 And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

People are often torn between worldviews and religion,

- between culture, family and truth.

Matt 16:26

26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Heb 3:1b

consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

Instead of chasing trivial matters, consider the Apostle (speaking of Jesus meaning "one sent." He was sent to bring the message of salvation.)

He's the High Priest of our confession.

He presents those who place their trust and faith in Him before God,

- and He offers Himself as the perfect sacrifice

Heb 3:2

2 who (Jesus) was faithful to Him (the Father) who appointed Him (Jesus), as Moses also was faithful in all His (God's) house.

Jesus and Moses were similar in that they were both faithful.

Moses is a prominent name among the Jews and rightfully so.

Eventually Moses became the most influential person in all of Egypt

There is some symbolic meaning to Moses being rescued.

For example, the basket he was placed in, (like Noah's ark)

- represents God's protection and purpose.

His rescue sets the stage for him later becoming

- the deliverer of Israel from Egypt.

Ironically, there were at least two attempts made on Moses' life.

God spared Moses because He had a plan for the people of Israel and that plan included using Moses to get them out of Egypt.

Ex 3:10

10 Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

That was Moses' commission.

Notice the comparison of:

John 3:14-18 to Exo 3:10

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already (wow, God doesn't condemn a person, he condemns himself), because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

The bible is now constructing for us, especially for the Hebrew mind,

- there's Moses and there's Jesus.

So if a Jew says, we have Moses and the Christians say, we have Jesus,

- it doesn't mean we are at odds with one another.

The Jew is saying, I've got Moses and I'm sticking to him, that's my religion.

The Christian says, I've read of Moses and I agree with him,

- that's why I'm a follower of Jesus.

See, you can check any religion out there and figure out

- which matches the OT best is Jesus.

God sent Moses to deliver His people out of Egypt.

- He sent Jesus to deliver
- every believer out of this world.

The author of Hebrews uses the comparison between Jesus and Moses

- to establish common ground
- before highlighting Jesus' greater position.

Eph 1:13-14

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

The promise is, when you believe Jesus is the Son of God

- you are sealed the very moment you do that.

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Rom 10:1-13

1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God (no question about that), but not according to knowledge (they don't know the word. Paul said in 2 Cor 3 when one turns to the Lord the veil is taken away). 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. (The law is fulfilled and completed once a person believes in Jesus then He imparts to an individual the fulfillment of the law. It's called faith, salvation and redemption)

5 For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them."

If you're going to live by the law, then you have to abide by all of it, not just parts of it.

Gal 3:10

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."

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6 But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) 7 or, "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (wouldn't it be easy for anyone to mouth these words. Yes, but God knows the intent of the heart. If a person doesn't really believe this and still confesses it, God knows) 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord

over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."