

5 Day Devotional
March 8, 2026 AM Sermon
“What a difference Jesus makes”

Day 1: Jesus Is In Charge

Reading: Hebrews 2:5-9; Psalm 8:4-6

Devotional: The angels, magnificent as they are, will not rule God's coming kingdom—Jesus will. This truth matters profoundly for where you place your trust. Pastors fail. Churches disappoint. Even our best spiritual mentors stumble. But Jesus cannot fail you. He is "the same yesterday, today, and forever." Today, examine where you've placed your ultimate trust. Have you been relying on religious activities, good people, or church attendance to secure your eternity? These are good things, but they cannot save. Only a personal relationship with Jesus—the One actually in charge—can give you eternal security. Worship Him alone today, not the created but the Creator.

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Day 2: The Broken Stewards

Reading: Genesis 1:26-31; Genesis 3:17-19;
Romans 8:18-22

Devotional: God entrusted humanity with dominion over His creation—to subdue it, care for it, rule it wisely. We failed spectacularly. Sin entered through our rebellion, and the curse followed: pain, toil, thorns, death. The very creation meant to bless us now burdens us with disease, disaster, and decay. Cancer exists because sin entered the garden. Earthquakes shake because creation groans under the weight of our fall. This isn't God's original design—it's the consequence of our choice. Yet even in this brokenness, hope emerges. Creation itself "eagerly waits" for redemption. Today, acknowledge your own brokenness honestly before God, knowing He sees it and still loves you.

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Day 3: Death Tasted for Everyone

Reading: John 3:16-17; 1 John 2:1-2;
2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Devotional: The word "everyone" appears over 1,200 times in Scripture meaning "all" or "every." When Hebrews 2:9 says Jesus "tasted death for everyone," it means exactly that—everyone. Not just the religious. Not just the moral. Not just those who grew up in church. Everyone. You are an "everyone." The person you consider too far gone is an "everyone." The self-righteous person who thinks they don't need God is an "everyone." Jesus experienced death—fully, completely—so that no one would be excluded from the invitation. This doesn't mean all are saved, but all are loved and all are offered salvation. Who in your life needs to hear they're an "everyone" God loves?

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Day 4: Grace Alone Saves

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7;
Romans 3:23-24

Devotional: You cannot earn heaven. Baptism doesn't save you. Church membership doesn't save you. Good deeds, moral living, and religious activity cannot purchase your salvation. Hebrews 2:9 is clear: "by the grace of God" Jesus tasted death for everyone. Grace means unmerited favor—receiving what we don't deserve. You deserve hell; God offers heaven. You deserve judgment; God offers mercy. Many sit in church pews for decades assuming they're saved because of their religious resume, but salvation comes through grace alone, by faith alone, in Christ alone. Today, honestly assess: are you trusting in your works or His grace? Have you truly been born again, or are you merely religious?

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Day 5: The Invitation Requires Response

Reading: Romans 10:9-13; John 14:6; Acts 4:12

Devotional: Jesus died for everyone, but not everyone goes to heaven. The invitation is universal; the response is individual. You must be born again. You must repent of your sins and call upon the name of the Lord. The only unforgivable sin is rejecting the Holy Spirit's conviction until your final breath—saying "no" to Jesus until it's eternally too late. There are no second chances after death, no holding area, no do-overs. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord." Today is your day of salvation. If the Holy Spirit is convicting you right now, don't harden your heart. Respond to the invitation. Confess Jesus as Lord. Believe He died and rose for you. Be saved today!