

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Vaught Sermon Notes: Hebrews

W.O. Vaught Archive

4-10-1977

When the Opposition Becomes His Footstool

W. O. Vaught

Ouachita Baptist University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/vn_hebrews



Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#), and the [Liturgy and Worship Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Vaught, W. O., "When the Opposition Becomes His Footstool" (1977). *Vaught Sermon Notes: Hebrews*. 1. https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/vn_hebrews/1

This Sermon Notes is brought to you for free and open access by the W.O. Vaught Archive at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Vaught Sermon Notes: Hebrews by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

WHEN THE OPPOSITION BECOMES HIS FOOTSTOOL

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS
NUMBER 4
HEBREWS 1:10-14

Dr. W. O. Vaught
Immanuel Baptist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

HEBREWS 1:10 "And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:" This now brings us to the sixth documentation from the Old Testament concerning the victory of Jesus Christ in the Angelic Conflict. This is a quotation from Psalm 102:25-27. The word "kai" simply means that the documentation of the evidence of his supremacy is now continued. So look what we have been studying--DOCUMENTATION FROM OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY. "Thou" comes from "su" and it means "You, and you only." Then we have the vocative "Lord" from "kurios." It means "The unique and only Lord." Next, we have "Kata" with the accusative of "Arche" and it is the plural of "arche" so it means "with reference to the beginnings." So it refers to the various creations.

The creation of the heavens and the earth was one creation. Then, sometime later, we don't know how much later, the angels were created. Then later on, this planet was refurbished so man could live on it. Then still later on, vegetation and animal life and man were all created. So thus far, we have "And you, and only you, with reference to the beginnings, O Lord."

Now the word "kurios" means Lord, but the Romans used this term for Caesar. This passage says that Jesus Christ was the creator of all these beginnings. How long ago? No one knows. Carbon dating is not accurate. It is a guess. He simply spoke and the worlds came into being. (Stars and suns and moon and planets moving about and no traffic problem at all.) Christ's traffic pattern for the universe was perfect. (Wouldn't it be wonderful to have his hands on our traffic problems for a while?)

The words "hast laid" come from the greek word "themelioo" and is an aorist, active, indicative. So it means "The earth you have founded and the heavens." The heavens "are" and this is a present, active, indicative of "eimi" and it means "keep on being the work" and the word is "ergon." The works of Christ's hands. The word for hands is "cheir." This is an anthropomorphism. Hands belong to man and not to God. When Jesus became a man, then he had human hands. An anthropomorphism is ascribing to God human characteristics. But you take all the hands of all the angels and all the men that have ever lived and he has more strength than all of them together.

1. His hands are the hands that created the whole universe.

Psalm 95:5 and Hebrews 1:10

2. His hands were nailed to the cross. Psalm 22:16, John 20:19-28

3. His are hands of security. Psalm 37:24, John 10:28

(So there you have it--Creation, salvation, security.)

HEBREWS 1:11 "They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;" This "they" is plural "autoi" and refers to the heavens of the previous verse. It means "They themselves shall perish." This is a future, middle, indicative of "apollumi." This refers to the destruction of the heavens at the end of the Millennium. (Rev. 21:1)

Men plus the Devil can't bring perfect environment to the world, but Jesus Christ can. When the final satanic rebellion is put down, then the heavens will be destroyed. (Matthew 24:35, 2 Peter 3:10-12, Rev. 20:11, Rev. 21:1, Hebrews 12:26-27, Isaiah 34:4)

"But thou" and this is emphatic and means "You and only you." The word remain is a present, active, indicative of "diameno" and it means to remain unchanged. "They all" is from "Pantes" and it refers to the heavens. "Shall wax old" is a future, passive, indicative of "palaioo". It doesn't really mean to wax old, but it means they will be superceded (Waxing old, I suppose, is as smooth a way as they can go.) "As doth a garment" is an illustration of a coat you wear out and replace it with something new.

HEBREWS 1:12 "And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail."

"And like a vesture" and the word for vesture is "periboliaon" and it means something you wrap all the way around you. Like the Romans used to dress. "Helisso" is the word for coil, or wrap. "They shall be changed" is a future, passive, indicative of "allasso" and it means to replace something with something new and better. "But you keep on being the same" and it is a present, active, indicative of "eimi." "And thy years shall not fail" and the word for fail is "ekleipo" and it means fall-off or come to an end. In other words, the heavens are at the mercy of Jesus Christ. All nature is at his beck and call and at his mercy.

HEBREWS 1:13 "But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?" Now we come to the climax. "Tis plus the accusative" and this means "But face to face with which of the angels has he said" and the word for say is a perfect, active, indicative of "Lego." "At any time" is "Pote" and it means any time in eternity past or now in time present.

Now we come to the seventh documentation and this comes from Psalm 110:1. "Sit down" and this is a present, active, imperative of "kathemai." It is a dramatic present. The active voice means it was said to one person. The imperative mood means it was an order. This is one of the most dramatic moments in history. "Sit on my right hand side." "Until I appoint" is an aorist, active, subjunctive of "tithemi." This construction here means this is a point of time in the future certain to come, but the time it comes is unknown to us. "Enemies" refer to Satan and fallen angels. "Footstool" really means the footstool of your feet. (This is a figure of conquest. Like they used to do when the general put a foot down on their head as they came by or made them march under his drawn sword.) So this says, "Sit on my right hand side until I make thine enemies the footstool of thy feet."

THE DOCTRINE OF OPERATION FOOTSTOOL

1. ISRAEL UNDER DISCIPLINE.

At the time Hebrews was written, Israel was facing national disintegration. In less than two years after this message was written, Rome will destroy Jerusalem and take the nation into captivity. They would no longer be the official representative of Jesus Christ in the earth. They will not only continue in their unbelief, but they will be out of their land under the fifth cycle of discipline. (See Leviticus 26) The only answer to the condition of Israel is the grace of God. The message to them was "Don't drift by the port of salvation."

2. ISRAEL WAS REPLACED BY THE CHURCH.

(This doesn't mean that Israel ceased to be the chosen people of God and it doesn't mean that Israel doesn't have a future. It doesn't mean the four unconditional covenants to Israel will not be fulfilled.)

But Israel went out under discipline in 70 A.D. and the church moved in as the official representatives of the Lord to give the message of salvation to the world. During the Church Age when any Jew is converted, he becomes a member of the body of Christ.

3. BECAUSE OF THESE THINGS THE ANGELIC CONFLICT HAS BEEN GREATLY INTENSIFIED.

In the Church Age we are living in the intensified stage of the Angelic Conflict. Here we see a radical change in the function of believers. In the Old Testament, angels were the teachers of the prophets. Angels gave a great part of the law to Moses. But in the Church Age this responsibility has been shifted to the pastor-teacher. All of this was accomplished by Christ being seated on the right hand side of God. (Ephesians 1:22-24, 2:16, 4:4-5, 5:23-24, 5:30-32 and Col. 1:18, and 1:24 and 2:19) All these passages emphasize this truth.

4. AT THIS TIME THE BODY OF CHRIST IS BEING PREPARED ON EARTH.

This is being accomplished by the work of the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor. 12:13. Every believer is entered into union with Christ. Positionally right now every believer is superior to angels. Every believer during the entire Church Age is positionally superior to angels. Even when you are out of fellowship, out of the bottom circle, you are still superior to angels. Col. 2:10

5. THE BODY OF CHRIST, WHEN COMPLETED HERE ON EARTH, IS REMOVED.

This is what is referred to as the Rapture of the Church. 1 Thess. 4:16-18. Rapture is a technical word for the resurrection for all Church Age believers. This includes the dead and the living of the Church Age. The completed body then becomes the bride of Christ.

6. THE BRIDE IS PRESENTED TO CHRIST IN HEAVEN.

First of all the bride once in heaven received ultimate sanctification. This happens once we are in resurrection bodies. 1 Cor. 15:51-57, Phil. 3:21, 1 John 3:1-2. The bride is not permitted to have anything old. (They may wear something old and something new now, but not then.) 1 Thess. 5:23, Phil. 3:21. Once the bride is in heaven, all human good is cleansed away. 1 Cor. 3:12-15

7. THE BRIDE WILL RETURN WITH JESUS CHRIST AS THE SECOND ADVENT.

1 Thess. 3:13, Revelation 19:6-8

8. AT THE MOMENT OF THE SECOND ADVENT OPERATION FOOTSTOOL BEGINS.

1. Satan is chained for 1,000 years. Rev. 20:1-3
2. Fallen angels are removed from the earth by believers of the Church Age. Zech. 13:2, Col. 2:15, 1 Cor. 15:24-25

9. CHRIST AS THE NEW EARTH RULER CHANGES THE ENVIRONMENT OF ALL THE EARTH.

All restraint is taken off nature. (Rom. 8:22 compared to Gen. 3:17-18)

Religion is removed from the earth. 1 Cor. 10:20-21

False doctrine is removed from the earth. 1 Tim. 4:1

Spirituality will include ecstasies for the first time.

Joel 2:28-29

All animal nature will be changed radically. Isaiah 11:6-9

There will be no more war. Isaiah 2:4

Weather will be perfect all over the world.

There will be flowers everywhere. Isaiah 35:1-2

No thorns, no one on relief, and death will take a holiday.

(All men will be masculine and all women feminine. I haven't found a scripture yet to substantiate this.)

HEBREWS 1:14 "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" Here we have the results of the superiority of Christ over angels. "All" here refers to angels. All fallen angels are removed from the earth. Then what will all the elect angels do? They are already servants of believers (in time) and that's the way it is going to be forever. You have a guardian angel now and you will have a plantation of them serving you then. You will be telling angels to do what you want them to do and you will have sense enough to handle all this power.

(You recall when Jacob slept and dreamed he saw angels ascending and descending--They were ascending because they were already there with him. They didn't have to come down to be there.)

"Are not they all" (referring to elect angels) ministering and the word is "leitourgikos" and it means a subordinate slave servant.

But remember this, some of the sweetest things in life come from being a servant. Service has a sweetness and satisfaction about it. There will be freedom to do what you do best. Elect angels, superior to you by creation, will be glad to serve you. They are called "Spirits" and it is a nominative, neuter, plural of "pneuma." Then it says, "Sent forth" and this is a present, passive, participle of "apostello" and it means being sent into action as subordinate servants. They are sent "to minister" and the words are "eis diakonia" the word from which we get deacon. (The word actually means "under rower" and that was the hardest place to row in a slave boat.) The words "who shall be" come from "Mello" and it means "who being about to be" something. The word be heirs is a present, active, infinitive of "kleronomeo" and means "Being about to inherit deliverance."

So why are angels serving you now? Because, positionally, you are already as good as Christ. Angels will serve you in many ways. They will furnish music for you and do many things.

So this sets us up for the Angelic Conflict which we will study next time.