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Sermon Notes

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Jesus Brings Many Sons to Glory

Hebrews 2:10-13

I. The Center of our Salvation: Almighty God

^{NASB} Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

A. God-Centered Salvation

1. God's Purpose is the Focus of Hebrews 2:10

- a. NIV rearranges the order of the Greek
- b. ESV, KJV, NASB all begin properly... with God
- c. What was RIGHT for God to do, what was appropriate for God to do is the center of this verse

2. God the Center of the Universe and All History

- a. The author emphasizes God's central role in the universe
- b. Everything in the universe exists FOR GOD
- c. AND everything in the universe exists THROUGH GOD

We are living in God's house... we are playing with God's things... we are eating at God's table... we are sleeping under God's roof... we are breathing God's air... we are wearing God's clothes...

Everything in the universe is God's, for He made it for His own glory and sustains it for His own glory

- d. The essence of our sinfulness is to put man at the center... and to relegate God to nothingness

The centerpiece of our secular society... of secular education in the government schools, of secular banter on the talk radios, of secular perspectives in the news media, of secular mentality in the political debates... the essence of secular America is one central lesson:

GOD, IF HE EVEN EXISTS, IS IRRELEVANT

Irrelevant to your Chemistry mid-term; irrelevant to who wins the big football game on Saturday afternoon, irrelevant to your plans for a career, irrelevant to the scenery at Yosemite National Park, irrelevant to the economic conditions in the United States...

God just doesn't matter... because He is never brought up in any of those discussions, never mentioned at all

BUT... when you enter the world of the Bible, it is an entirely different issue!!

As you step into Genesis 1:1, you enter the REAL WORLD:

Genesis 1:1-3 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

e. Everything in the universe exists FOR God and THROUGH God

Romans 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

f. A God-centered salvation is the focus of the entire Bible

3. God is the Alpha and Omega of Human Salvation

a. Human sinfulness mars God's perfect universe

b. God alone can remedy this pollution and bring us to glory

B. God Crafted a God-Honoring Salvation: "It was fitting..."

1. The author to the Hebrews speaks of the FITTING nature of God's plan of salvation

2. It was FITTING = it was appropriate, it was well-suited to God and His nature

3. God can do nothing that violates His nature

4. Everything God does lines up well with who He is and what He wills to do

5. God is never passive, along for the ride, a victim, taken where He does not want to go

6. So, if God wanted to save sinners and bring them to glory, He had to do it in a fitting way

C. The Destination of Our Salvation was Fitting: Our Glory

1. We'll speak more of this destination in a moment, but the destination of human salvation had to be a fitting one
2. It was fitting to bring many sons to glory
3. It lined up with the holiness of God... it lined up with the goodness of God... it lined up with the grace of God

D. The Means of Our Salvation was Fitting: Christ's Suffering

1. The author's point here was that it was especially fitting for God to bring many sons to glory BY making Christ perfect through suffering

^{NASB} Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

2. For God to vindicate His holiness and justice by crushing His own Son on the cross was awesome, and it was FITTING if He wanted to save us

Romans 3:25-26 God presented him as a propitiation, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

3. It would NOT have been fitting for God to bring us to glory APART from Christ's suffering
4. The perfection of our salvation is that it LINES UP with God's nature, God's attributes... He saved us in the most FITTING way

II. The Destination of Salvation: Our Glory

Hebrews 2:10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering

A. The Focus of Salvation: "Many Sons..."

1. We'll talk more about the family aspect of our salvation in a moment... SONS
2. But just notice phrase... God is BRINGING MANY SONS to glory

3. Bringing = a focus on God's activity, God's power, God's leadership... God comes to lead us out of sin and death and misery and bondage to a Promised Land
4. The richness of who is saved... a great multitude: "many sons"

Revelation 7:9-10 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

5. The image is of a long line of sons and daughters of the living God being LED OUT of captivity to a magnificent destination and a magnificent condition

It is BOTH a destination and a condition: in heaven we will SEE glory and BE glory

"In bringing many sons to glory..."

B. The Destination of our Salvation: Seeing Glory

1. In heaven, we will see glory
2. Listen to the description of that magnificent place

Revelation 21:1-3 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them.

Revelation 21:11-12 [the New Jerusalem] shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates.

Revelation 21:22-26 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

The entire city of God and the new heavens and new earth will be glorious, shining with the radiance of God through Jesus Christ

The colors will be perfect... the proportions will be perfect... the light will be breathtaking... the entire universe will glow—openly glow—with the glory of God

"In bringing many sons to glory..."

God wanted to bring His adopted sons and daughters to the most glorious place imaginable... to view His glory and to worship Him for it

C. The Condition of Our Salvation: Being Glory

1. BUT it would NOT be fitting for us to be there and be ugly, wretched, rebellious sinners, clothed with filthy stinking rags of sin
2. It would NOT be fitting for us to be there and take away from the glory of the place by our evil darkness
3. If we will be there, we must be glorious ourselves
4. SO God intended not only that we would SEE glory but also BE glorious ourselves
5. We will ADD to the glory of the place

Revelation 21:23-27 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

6. We will bring our own glory into the city and we will shine radiantly like the sun

Matthew 13:43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

- a. The glory of our deeds purified by Christ's blood will adorn the city
 - i) The courage of the martyrs will make the place shine
 - ii) The sacrifice of the missionaries will be radiant
 - iii) The generosity of those who gave money, time, energy, effort to bless others will shine radiantly in the walls of the city
 - iv) The best sermons preached by Spurgeon and Luther and Robert Murray McCheyne will radiate there
 - v) The boldness of George Whitefield's field preaching to the coal miners will shine there with a perfect light
7. Sanctification is the act of being brought to holiness and thus to glory

a. Here it's "bringing many sons to glory"

b. Next verse:

Hebrews 2:11 Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

c. Being made holy = being brought to glory

Romans 8:29-30 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Note: from justified to glorified... we will be MADE glorious by being made holy

And it was FITTING that God should do it to us!!

III. The Pioneer of our Salvation: Jesus Christ

Hebrews 2:10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

A. Jesus is the Author of Our Salvation

1. Greek word = *archegos*...

a. Some translations: author of our salvation

Picture some great author weaving the greatest story in human literature

Leo Tolstoy, sitting at a desk in his home of Yasnaya Polyana in Russia, putting pen to paper beginning in 1862 and crafting arguably the greatest novel in literary history—War and Peace. A sprawling tale of Czarist Russia and the Napoleonic invasion told through the eyes of five aristocratic families and 580 different characters... a complex, psychological drama of immense complexity... all of it flowing from the mind of what many have called the greatest author of all time... Leo Tolstoy

Yet how much greater a story has Christ written... the AUTHOR OF OUR salvation... not just of MY salvation, but of the salvation of all the elect from every nation and every era of human history

b. Concept: Christ WROTE our salvation story

Revelation 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

- i) He says “I am the Alpha and the Omega...” these are LETTERS used to write a story
- ii) Your life story is salvation, and it was written in Jesus’ blood before you were even born!!

Psalm 139:16 All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

- c. Author comes up with story line, plot, characters, plot twists, climax, denouement, etc.
- d. The whole story is HIS... written in His blood

Thus can “archegos” be translated “author”... but its home base is more active and heroic... something like the “Captain” of our salvation, or the “Pioneer” of our salvation, or the trailblazer of our salvation

usually refers to a HERO, a great warrior, who was a trailblazer and who through military conquest subdued an area and founded a city... he was then a patriarchal leader who had sons and grandsons, and was looked on as the founder of the whole city and the surrounding region

ESV translates it “FOUNDER” of our salvation... as though He was the one who established a city in which you could live... or PIONEER maybe...

B. Jesus is the Pioneer Hero of Our Salvation

1. Concept: Jesus goes ahead of us boldly, carving a trail that we must follow if we are to reach the promised land
2. The trailblazer hero must be a warrior with immense courage, for the promised land must be taken by force, by victory, by courage, by arms
3. Picture the exploits of a Daniel Boone, carving a way through the Appalachian mountains in 1778, blazing the Wilderness Trail to the fertile soil of Kentucky; he has to fight off the Cherokee, Shawnee and Delaware Indians who do not want settlers in their hunting grounds; with great knowledge and courage he widens the Wilderness Trail by felling trees and making a road; he establishes Boonesboro in Kentucky and defends it from multiple Indian attacks; before the end of the 18th century, his Wilderness trail is followed by over 200,000 settlers... he is an *archegos*... a warrior pioneer whose courage enables him to establish an ancestral town in enemy territory where his descendents can flourish... Jesus is the *archegos* of our salvation... the bold pioneer, carving the way, destroying the enemy, building a city for us to live in

BUT... now we see what our salvation COST

IV. The Cost of Our Salvation: Christ's Suffering

Hebrews 2:10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

A. What Suffering Did Our Pioneer Have to Endure?

1. The suffering of incarnation
2. The suffering of temptation
3. The suffering of rejection and persecution
4. The suffering of torture and physical death
5. The suffering of the wrath of God as our substitute

B. How Is Jesus "Made Perfect" Through Suffering

1. It was FITTING for God to make Christ endure all of this
2. If Christ had not, He would not have been able to achieve God's purposes in our salvation
3. NOT that Christ was imperfect... not at all
 - a. Jesus was sinless and holy
 - b. Jesus was perfectly pure in every way
 - c. Jesus was the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being
4. BUT the word "perfect" here has to do with completion, achieving God's standards by His actual obedience in a human body
5. If Christ had NOT suffered incarnation, He could not shared in our humanity and understood the physical nature of our misery... what it was like to be hungry, tired, feel pain, feel weariness...

Hebrews 2:14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity

6. If Christ had NOT suffered temptation, He could not have been our sympathetic high priest, able to help us in our temptations

Hebrews 2:18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

7. If Christ had NOT suffered rejection by His own people, He could not have fulfilled God's purposes in election for the Jewish nation, who HAD to reject Christ in order that God might show mercy on them apart from works

Romans 11:31-32 [The Jews] have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

8. If Christ had NOT suffered physical torture and death, He could not have destroyed the devil and freed us from our slavery to fear of death

Hebrews 2:14-15 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil-- ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

9. If Christ had NOT suffered the wrath of God, He could not have atoned for our sins in the sight of God, upheld the justice of God, and brought sinners like us to glory

Hebrews 2:17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

Without suffering, Jesus could have done NONE of these things!!!

It was FITTING to make the pioneer of our salvation PERFECT through suffering

V. The Reason for our Salvation: Family Ties

A. Saturated in Family Language

Hebrews 2:11 Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

Hebrews 2:12 He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

Hebrews 2:13 And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

Hebrews 2:14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity...

Hebrews 2:16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.

Hebrews 2:17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way

B. Abraham's Descendants: A Covenant Fulfilled

1. God promised Abraham that his descendents would be as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand of the seashore
2. In sending Jesus, God was keeping His promise to Abraham and to his true children
3. Now not all physical offspring of Abraham are truly Abraham's children
 - a. Jesus said to His Jewish enemies in John 8 "I know you are Abraham's descendents; but because you are ready to kill me, you are really of your father the devil..."
 - b. Romans 9 says the same thing

Romans 9:6-7 It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children.

- c. On the other hand, Galatians says of Gentile believers

Galatians 3:7-9 Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." ⁹ So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

- d. God doesn't help angels... he doesn't save DEMONS who joined Satan in rebellion... but he helps Abraham's offspring BY FAITH...
- e. And He helped us by becoming a human being like we are

C. Jesus Not Ashamed of Us!!!

Hebrews 2:11 Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

1. Astonishing!!! Is there anything in our lives that WOULD make Jesus ashamed to call us brothers?
2. Yes... our sins are shameful things
3. But Jesus is NOT ashamed to be called our brother because His blood has atoned for our sins and made us perfectly holy in His sight!!
4. So on Judgment Day, He will acknowledge all true believers as His brothers in the sight of God
5. Therefore, do you not see how wrong it is for us to be ashamed of Jesus in this world?

Mark 8:38 *If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.*

No true child of God can truly be ashamed of Jesus... SPEAK UP FOR HIM!!!

D. Fellowship of Humanity

Hebrews 2:14 *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity*

1. Flesh and blood

- a. The children Jesus wanted to save had flesh and blood
- b. Jesus, in His incarnation, took on the same nature... truly human
- c. His reason for doing it, as we will discuss more fully next week, was to destroy the devil by dying and free us from death
- d. But the point here is human beings have a fellowship of physical nature... flesh and blood, and we had no choice in the matter
- e. But Jesus willing made himself a partaker of the same nature
- f. In the bible, "flesh and blood" = family ties

Note: "flesh and blood" often refers to a family tie... "blood is thicker than water"

Genesis 29:13-14 *As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he hurried to meet him. He embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his home, and there Jacob told him all these things. ¹⁴ Then Laban said to him, "You are my own flesh and blood." After Jacob had stayed with him for a whole month*

Joseph's brothers hated him, but shrank back from killing him:

Genesis 37:27 *Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.*

When the tribes of Israel wanted to make David king, this is how they approach him:

2 Samuel 5:1 *All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood.*

Jesus' choice to be human was an ETERNAL one... after He died, He HAD to be raised from the dead to defeat death... in order to do that, He had to be willing to spend eternity in a human body... and He was

Luke 24:39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

2. Faith

- a. Jesus is also a partaker in the life of faith
- b. We relate to God only by faith... so also Jesus in a mysterious way related to God by faith

Hebrews 2:13 And again, "I will put my trust in him."

The quote is from Isaiah 8

Isaiah 8:17 I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob. I will put my trust in him.

Isaiah the prophet, suffering through the uncertainty of the Assyrian invasion and the questionable future of the Jews said these words...

"I will wait for the Lord... I will put my trust in him."

God, it seemed, was hiding His face from the Jews because of their sins... all Isaiah could do was to trust in God to keep His word

So also Jesus, bearing our sins and suffering under the wrath of God, fully entrusted Himself to God BY FAITH... to forgive the children of God and to raise Jesus from the dead:

1 Peter 2:23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Luke 23:46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Jesus trusted the Father to receive Him and to raise Him from the dead

So Jesus was made like us... like a sinner, trusting in God

E. Jesus Loses None of the Children

1. Note that the children have been ENTRUSTED to Jesus by the Father for salvation

Hebrews 2:13 And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

2. Therefore Jesus will lose NONE of all the Father gave Him

John 17:6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word.

John 18:9 This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."

Christ will appear in heaven with EACH and EVERY ONE of the children the Father gave Him... every last one of the elect will be there... Christ doesn't lose His children!!!!

John 6:39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

VI. The Consummation of our Salvation: Worship

A. Heavenly Worship Together with Christ

Hebrews 2:12 He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

1. The picture here is one of the "great assembly"
2. So often pictured in the book of Psalms... the assembly of all the righteous around the throne of God for worship
3. Here, quoting Psalm 22, after the suffering of His soul, Jesus will declare God's name to the brothers... to the children He has rescued from hell... He will speak God's name, God's attributes, God's glory into our ears in the great assembly
4. AND He will sing!!!!!!
5. This is one of two verses in the Bible the speak of Jesus singing

After the Lord's Supper, when they had eaten the Bread and drunk the Cup, they sang together:

Matthew 26:30 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

But here, it is JESUS who sings the praises of God the Father to the assembly!!!

B. Like Aslan in the Chronicles of Narnia

1. In Lewis's fictional work, Aslan is a lion very much like Christ
2. In the Magician's Nephew, Lewis has Aslan not merely creating Narnia but SINGING it into existence

"The lion was pacing to and fro about that empty land and singing his new song... And as he walked and sang the valleys grew green with grass, It spread out from the Lion like a pool.

It ran up the sides of the little hills like a wave. In a few minutes, it was creeping up the lower slopes of the distant mountains, making that young world every moment softer. The light wind could now be heard ruffling the grass...The higher slopes grew dark with heather...a line of dark firs sprang up on a ridge...Far overhead the stars sang...And the deepest, wildest voice they ever heard was saying, "Narnia, Narnia, Narnia, awake. Love. Think. Speak."

It is what Scripture says the angels were doing as they watched God the Father and Jesus Christ create the world:

Job 38:7 while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

And heaven itself is depicted as a place of singing a new song:

Revelation 5:9-10 And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

Revelation 14:3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

So why shouldn't Jesus sing the praises of God to the congregation???

Hebrews 2:12 He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."

C. Until All the Elect Are Worshiping in Heaven, Christ Our High Priest Still Work to Do

VII. Application

A. Come to Christ

1. The focus of this passage is Christ's work for the children of God
2. Christ suffered for these children that none of them would be lost
3. You can be a child of God if you trust in Christ

John 1:12-13 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

4. His suffering is sufficient for your sins!!!

5. And if you trust in Him, you will be adopted into God's family and Christ will present you to the Father saying

“Here I am, and the children God has given me!!!”

B. Understand the Fellowship Christ Has with You in Suffering

1. Christ shared in your sufferings so that you could share in His glory
2. As you go through physical sufferings—sickness, pain, sorrow, loss—Jesus UNDERSTANDS these things... He was made perfect through suffering
3. Christ is your great High Priest who cares very deeply about your sufferings
4. ALSO... realize that your sufferings don't compare with the glory of heaven:
5. AND understand your sufferings have come to help you get to heaven
6. If Jesus needed suffering to make Him perfect as our mediator, understand that we need suffering to make us perfect for heavenly glory

C. Anticipate the Heavenly Worship with Christ

1. Picture Christ SINGING the praises of God the Father in the great assembly
2. Yearn for the day when you will get to share in that new song... get to hear Christ singing in a perfect and deep and rich and powerful voice
3. Worship God NOW through Christ and the Spirit... sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs as Christ will

D. Be God-Centered in Your Outlook

1. Meditate on the fact that all things exist for God and through God
2. Speak this fact back to God in our secular world:
 - a. God I know that everything I have is really yours
 - b. God I know that my own body really is yours
 - c. God I know that I am lounging in your living room, sleeping in your bedroom, eating at your table, choosing clothes from your closet, walking on your lawn... looking at your sky... climbing your mountains
 - d. God I also know that I live in an insane, unbelieving world that spurns you, ignores you, says you don't matter, you're not relevant to chemistry or algebra or English literature or CNN's headline news, or the World Series

or the migration of Canadian Geese for the winter... this world LIES about you, O Lord...

e. Hebrews 2:10 says it all

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

E. Meditate on Jesus as the AUTHOR or PIONEER of Your Salvation

1. Picture him like Tolstoy, sitting at a desk, writing your story before one of the days came to be... Jesus is the sovereign Author of your life story, and your life story is all about salvation: being brought from sin to glory
2. OR picture him like Daniel Boone, a powerful, intrepid warrior explorer pioneer, felling big oak trees to cut a way for settlers to follow, fighting off attacks from bloodthirsty enemies, setting up a fortress city in fertile land where you will be safe... the PIONEER or CAPTAIN of your salvation journey from sin to the land of glory
3. And PRAISE JESUS FOR IT!!!!