Reflection: How does "seeing Jesus" help you to understand who you are as a human being? How can accepting the authority of the Bible and what it says about humanity help you see yourself better? Does Artificial Intelligence intimidate you in any way and how do you view AI in general?

Follow UP in the Word through the Week…

Monday: Genesis 3:1-5. What does the serpent tempt Eve with in this "first conversation about God" recorded in the Bible? How does this temptation show up in other human efforts and in how we may view ourselves as human beings?

Tuesday: Genesis 11:1-4. According to verse 4, what was the reason they wanted to build the tower? How does that compare to the use of modern technology and how we view human beings?

Wednesday: Psalm 8:4-6. Review Psalm 8. What part of the answer to the question "What is man?" makes more sense to you now?

Thursday: Romans 8:20-24. What is the "hope" described in this passage? How does that help you today?

Friday: Psalm 144:3-4. What part of the answer to the question "What is man?" makes more sense to you now? How does "seeing Jesus" help make sense of this response?

Saturday: Job 7:17-18. What part of the answer to the question "What is man?" makes more sense to you now? How does "seeing Jesus" help make sense of this response?

Hebrews 2:5-9
The Greatest Human

1. A Problem as Old as Humanity

A. "Houston we have a problem"

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."" -Genesis 3:1-5 ESV

"Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."" -Genesis 11:4 ESV

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"-Romans 3:23 ESV

B. A Stern Warning Hebrews 2:1-4

C. A Fascination with Angels (5)

"And to which of the angels has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?" Hebrews 1:13-14 ESV

"The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."" -Psalm 110:1 ESV

2. Rewind to Psalm 8 (6-8)

A. Jesus fulfills the mandate of Psalm 8

"What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him

dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet," -Psalm 8:4-6 ESV

"Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." -Genesis 1:26-27 ESV

B. We Do Not Yet See How It Will Be

"For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?" -Romans 8:20-24 ESV

3. But We See Jesus (9)

A. Jesus' Human Experience

"O LORD, what is man that you regard him, or the son of man that you think of him? Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow." Psalm 144:3-4 ESV

"What is man, that you make so much of him, and that you set your heart on him, visit him every morning and test him every moment?" Job 7:17-18 ESV

B. "But we see Jesus"

"The answer to the question about who we are is finally eschatological, where tears are no longer part of the human reality, where joy is the order of eternity, and where our transience disappears in the disappearance of death. We cannot see that yet. But we do see Jesus." Patrick Miller, *What Is a Human Being?*

"The Christian message does not, however, stop with the raising of Christ from the dead. Rather, that is where it starts. For the resurrection of Christ has a major implication for us in the present – that we humans can share in his resurrected life. This is a vastly bigger thing than a human upgrade involving AI. It is, in fact, God's answer to the serpent's taunt that launched the whole human homo deus project in the first place: "You will be like God." For, as we have already indicated, one major consequence of the temptation and fall of humanity is that deep in the human psyche is embedded the idea that God, if there is one, is against us human beings, against our moving up in the scale of being, against upgrades, against knowledge and all that is associated with fulfilling human potential for flourishing. And because God is against us, we need to snatch at godhood when we get the chance.
This is not true; indeed, to be blunt, it is the lie of all lies, and millions of people have fallen for it. Far from being against us, God wishes to share not only his image with us as he did in creation, but his life, so that we can become not simply his creatures but his sons and daughters. This has all the potential of a real enhancement." John C. Lennox, *2084 and the AI Revolution*

"Our current terms fail to explain the reason why human history changed so dramatically. The period BCE is better described as BC (the period 'before Christ'), and the years we now refer to as part of the Common Era (CE) are better labeled as AD (*Anno Domini, *or the 'year[s] of our Lord"). While the designations BC and AD may seem like artifacts from the past, they are a far more accurate description of history's timeline, given that they reference the divine person of interest, who divided history." — J. Warner Wallace, *Person of Interest*