



# Links Players

## Adversity - The Moon is Always Round

*At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death so that by the grace of God, he might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2: 8-9, ESV)*

Consider those many stories—some hilarious, some outrageous—stories where we read about a tour player arriving at his next tournament only to learn that the airline has lost or broken his clubs.

Recently, a friend invited a few of us to travel to Ireland to play golf at arguably some of the most beautiful golf courses in the world. Before I left for Dublin, I needed to be in Philadelphia, PA, for a week.

You can imagine my anxiety after missing two connecting flights only to finally arrive eight (8) hours late when I discovered that my luggage, including my golf clubs, had been lost.

In the big scheme of things, the fact that my golf clubs were lost probably strikes most as a minor thing. And, indeed, it is. But in the moment, it was overwhelmingly awful. After pausing to gather myself, I remembered the most fundamental truth, “Jesus is on the throne, ruling his world in providential authority, even the small stuff like losing golf clubs.”

How will we respond when life throws everything at us, including the kitchen sink? The many biblical answers go beyond the scope of any one devotional, but the most important is this—faith in Jesus Christ acknowledges that the unaided eye sees only chaos and confusion, but the eye of faith affirms God’s providence in our lives.

Here’s the thing, though. It rarely seems, if ever, like Jesus is in charge of things down here on earth. With a straight face, how can we say, “Jesus is ruling the world,” and actually mean it?

When we look at our world with all its brokenness, especially when it interferes with our lives, it is the easiest thing to throw up our hands and doubt that Jesus is enthroned and cares about our ordeals.

To teach his young son about this reality, Dr. Jonathan Gibson wrote a marvelous children’s book, *The Moon is Always Round*. The thesis of his book is something like the following: When we look at the night sky and see the crescent moon—the moon appearing in its arc-shape—we should never conclude that the moon is only that sliver that appears to the naked eye. We know that the “moon is always round.”

When the waves of adversity are bashing against the shores of our lives, we must remember that Jesus is always on the throne and oversees every event in our lives, no matter what our eyes tell us.

As the author in Hebrews reminds us, “...we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor...”

**Prayer: Jesus, open our eyes to see you in all the beauty, glory, and power of your current reign!**

**READING:** Hebrews 2: 5-9; Matthew 28:18-20; John 16: 33; Romans 16: 20.

1. It’s notoriously difficult to gain perspective after an awful round or disastrous swing. What do you do to situate your disaster in a larger and positive perspective?

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2. Sometimes, this truth is hard to grasp, especially in tumultuous seasons of life. How do we reconcile Jesus’ having “all authority in heaven and earth” with all the chaos currently occurring in the world?

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