

## Hebrews 2:13

In both Matthew 16:19 and 18:18 the Greek Text has a verb phrase that is a periphrastic future perfect, passive voice: “will have been bound/loosed”. However, in both the AV and NKJV, at least, the phrase is rendered as if it were a simple future: “will be bound/loosed”, with the result that people have thought that they could tell God what to do. Notice that the Text does not say if you ‘try’ to bind; it has to actually happen, for Heaven to be involved.

I recently saw an attempt to justify that simple future by an appeal to Hebrews 2:13, where all versions (including mine!) have “I will put my trust in Him”. His argument was based on the circumstance that “I will put my trust” is a translation of a periphrastic future perfect verb phrase, not a simple future. When I asked myself why I had translated the phrase as a simple future, I concluded that I must have simply copied everyone else. I then asked myself how I could make sense out of ‘I will have put my trust’. The answer lies in the circumstance that it is a quote from 2 Samuel 22:3, the beginning of a song that is repeated as Psalm 18.

David was thanking the LORD for having delivered him from all his enemies: “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; the God of my strength, in whom I will trust”. Considering God’s faithfulness in the past, David affirms that he will continue to trust Him. So far so good, but the author of Hebrews put those words in the mouth of the Christ [!], and he did not repeat the simple future. So why did he use the periphrastic future perfect? Verses 9 and 10 deal with the incarnation of the Son, which forms the basis for the three quotes from the OT in verses 12 and 13. For the Son to accept the incarnation required a supreme trust in the Father, since as a human baby He would be totally helpless and dependent. For Jehovah the Son to use David’s words as applying to His incarnation 1,000 years later, the periphrastic future perfect is precisely appropriate: “I will have put my trust in Him”. If I ever publish a fourth edition of *The Sovereign Creator Has Spoken*, I will correct Hebrews 2:13 as it is in the third, with an explanatory footnote.