

## Hebrews 2:5-9

“To boldly go where no man has gone before”

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Hebrews is all about Christ. The writer said in chapter 2:1-4, because we cannot exist without Christ. It's dishonesty to pretend we can. In chapter 2:5-18 the writer changes his focus as he anticipates the question with regards to the reason God the Son became fully man. At issue is Jesus in his humanity as our mediator before God.

The writer of Hebrews will argue that angels will never do as mediators. The simple reason for this is that don't deal with the same challenges that we do: **No angel has ever been a man; no angel has ever had to deal with the temptations that accompany a fallen human nature!** But Jesus, the Son, has! That's what the writer will say in chapter 4:15 where his reference is Jesus as High Priest where he writes, **“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”** What is in view in this chapter is the value for us because of the **identification of incarnation**. These 14 verses present four different views of Jesus earthly ministry. At the end of each view we will end up at the cross so that the reader would appreciate that whatever value there is in the life of Jesus, it is made available to us only by means of his death. The truth concerning Jesus is that He didn't come into this world to be our moral guide, our principled teacher or a worker of miracles. NO, He came to live in this world in order that he might die. At the cross, he poured forth his life in order that we may have life. These verses present: Four

**reasons why it was necessary that Jesus, the Son of God, became man.** This passage are miniature gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, though they are not in the same chronological order as they are in our Bibles.

1. Vs. 5-9 **The first reason Jesus Christ became a man is to: RECAPTURE OUR LOST DESTINY.**
2. Vs. 10-13 **The second reason why Christ became man is to: RECOVER OUR LOST UNITY.**
3. Vs. 14-15 **The third reason is to: RELEASE US FROM OUR PRESENT BONDAGE.**
4. Vs. 16-18 **The fourth reason is to: RESTORE US IN TIMES OF FAILURE.**

## II. Vs. 5-9 **RECAPTURE OUR LOST DESTINY.**

Vs. 5-9 **RECAPTURE OUR LOST DESTINY:** The first reason listed by the writer for the necessity of Jesus becoming a man is linked back to Genesis 1:28 where God said to Adam and Eve, “*Be fruitful and multiply; **fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**” No angel could take the place of Jesus Christ for God because **God never gave the right to govern the world to angels, He gave to mankind.** Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 6:3 saying, “*Do you not know that we shall judge angels?*”*

The writer quotes from Psalm 8, where David cries, “*What is man that You are mindful of him...?*” David was looking up into the majesty of the heavens and asks in verse 6 paraphrasing, “*Where is man's place in all of your creation?*” The right interpretation of “**son of man**” is given in the context as well as the Greek. Had he meant this as a reference to Jesus as the “*son of man*” you would not have had the phrase that follows the “**son of man**” which is “*that You take care of him.*” The “*son of man*” here means **the human race!** And the Holy Spirit answers his own question in verses 7-8.

"You have made him for a little lower than the angels, You have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet." The writer of Hebrews in verse 8b insists that when David says "all things," in verse 8 he meant, everything. For he adds a commentary saying, "**Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control.**"

The Greek word in verse 5 speaking of the "world" is **a word that describes the inhabited earth not the pre-inhabited world of Adam** and as such is a reference to **the Millennial reign of Christ**. The phrase "In subjection to the angels" is a military term used of arranging soldiers under a commanding general. That's why we read the context "For He has NOT put THE WORLD **TO COME**" ... "Under the control of angels".

According to Genesis 1:28 mankind's intended destiny, was God authorized dominion over all His creation. We were made to be reigning over all God's creation. This passage includes far more than just the earth; it includes the created universe of God as far as man has ever been able to discover it in all the illimitable reaches of space and whatever lies beyond that. **All this is to be put under man's dominion.**

But mankind's authority was **derived authority**, as we were to be subject to God who indwelt us. **Mankind was to be the means by which the invisible God became visible to his creatures.** As long as mankind was subject to the dominion of God within him, he would be able to exercise dominion over all the universe around. **Only when man accepted dominion could he exercise dominion.**

Immediately you want to pay attention the "pronouns", "him" in the writer's commentary in verse 8; take note that they are **NOT capitalized** as that tells you that the "HIM" is not Jesus but rather **mankind**. The writer points out that man was made lower

than the angels for a **LIMITED TIME** so that they could learn what the exercise of that dominion meant. He was given a limited domain: **this earth**, amid all the billions of galaxies of space! He was given a limited physical body that within that limited area mankind could learn the principles by which his dominion could be exercised throughout the universe. This is what the author describes as being “*lower than the angels.*” But the writer goes on to explain that **something happened that changed even this limited dominion on earth when he says**, “*But **NOW** we do not yet see all things put under **him.**” **This is the whole story of human history**: We do not see everything in subjection to mankind. Every time mankind attempts to exercise his dominion, he quickly finds he is no longer able to do so. Throughout the history of humanity, there has been a continual attempt to restate man’s dreams for dominion over the earth. We see this come up in ordinary people who continue the quest to do extraordinary things like going faster, climbing higher, conquering more lands. **We have to explore and regain dominion it’s in our DNA.** The trouble is not for lack of effort; we just can never regain dominion and keep it. Something is broken, damaged as we can not regain this balance. **The history of man is the story of continual unexpected crisis all caused by our attempts to exercise dominion.***

Through out recorded history, people were wrestling with the same moral problems then that we are wrestling with today. **Irrespective of all our amazing technological advancements in the control of certain physical forces to life, we have made absolutely NO progress when it comes to moral relationships.** It’s painfully obvious, mankind has lost their moral compass and more importantly their relationship with God. The Fall of man is the only adequate explanation for this. Even in the

individual life very few people have realized the dreams they began with. This is what Paul said in Romans 8:20 when he wrote, *“the creation was subjected to futility.”*

Vs. 9 Look at this wonderful change to mankind’s **“LOST DESTINY”** as the writer **DELIEVERS THIS AMAZING HOPE**, *“But we see Jesus”*. **With the eyes of faith, we see Jesus already crowned and reigning over the universe, the man, Jesus, fulfilling man's lost destiny.** With incredible clarity in Revelation 5:4-6 John witnesses a scene in heaven that is exactly what the writer of Hebrews has been saying as John says that he, *“wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.” And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain.”* **Jesus, alone has broken through the barrier of mankind’s habitual heritage of failure.** Our fallen flesh that has kept us from being what we want to be! Shakespeare wrote in Macbeth Act 5, scene 5 page 2, **“Life's but...a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, that signifies nothing.”** That is what the author in Hebrews says is what life is apart from Jesus Christ.

Ah but Jesus fulfilled mankind’s qualifications with all our limitations to win back our heritage, our LOST DESTINY. This is what Paul says in Philippians 2:5-8 where he writes, ***“Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”*** Jesus like us, became lower than the angels, taking on flesh and blood,

entering into the human race, becoming part of it, he experienced death. And in so doing took our place. Jesus Christ has come to begin a **new race of men**. That's exactly what Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:17 where he writes, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* That race includes himself and all those who are his, and to that race the promise is that they shall enter into all the fullness God ever intended man to have. In the Philip's translation of Colossians 1:27, Paul put it this way, *"They are those to whom God has planned to give a vision of the full wonder and splendor of his secret plan for the nations. And the secret is simply this: Christ in you! Yes, Christ in you, bringing with him the hope of all the glorious things to come."* This is **The first reason Jesus Christ became a man:** **RECAPTURE OUR LOST DESTINY.** Oh angels are amazing part of God's creation and they cannot die but neither can they save lost souls like us nor can they restore our lost destiny! And which Gospel does this line up with? The Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of the Great King.