

The Book of Hebrews is written to display the Majesty, the Superiority... the absolute Preeminence of the Lord Jesus Christ... Superior to all people, to all angels and to all creation. He is the Creator of everything and everything was created for Him.

He is lifted up as exalted over every part of Judaism... He is superior to everything of the Old Covenant... He is the fulfillment of every type and symbol; He is the light and substance to whom every form and shadow pointed. He is the key to understanding all the Old Covenant and all the Old Testament. The Jews had accepted and embraced all of the form and ritual of Judaism but then rejected the reality and fulfillment when He came.

We do not know who the author of this book is and that is by design from the Holy Spirit. This book, more than any other is written to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, God planned that no human author, gaining glory and admiration would stand in the way. By keeping the author of this book anonymous, God was ensuring that all praise and honor in this very important part of the Bible would go to none other than the Lord Jesus Christ, the true author of all Scripture... the Word of God and the focal point of this entire book... our Great High Priest and Lamb of God.

The writer is proving to Hebrews that all of their Scripture... all the Old Testament points to and is fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul wrote, 'For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins **according to the Scriptures**,⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day **according to the Scriptures**.' 1 Cor 15:3 When Paul wrote, 'according to the Scriptures,' He meant, according to the Old Testament... everything about the coming Messiah was all prophesied and shown in the types and symbols of the Old Testament. He also wrote, 'When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.' 1 Cor 13:11 Again, he was talking about the Old Testament and Judaism... the Old Covenant.

Paul also wrote, 'Now I say *that* the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all,² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father.³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.⁴ But when ***the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.***' Gal 4:1

Prophecy, as well as the types and symbols in ritual, is how God revealed Himself to the Hebrews through Judaism. Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22 clearly prophesy the sacrificial redemptive death of the Messiah and His crucifixion... Both prophecies were fulfilled completely by the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaiah said He would be born of a virgin; Micah said He would be born in Bethlehem. These were words in prophecies fulfilled by Christ but there were also many pictures and symbols fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ. A spotless lamb was sacrificed, its blood poured out for forgiveness of sin... Jesus Christ came as the Lamb of God. Blood was sprinkled once a year on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant which symbolized the Throne of God among men, and God would accept that sacrifice of a spotless lamb for the forgiveness of sins of the people from the past year. This was fulfilled by the Blood of the Lamb of God, shed once for all, accepted by God for the full forgiveness of all who would believe and put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work on the Cross.

When we were children in school, beginning in Kindergarten, we were taught progressively, little by little, step by step... first we heard stories, and then we played with colored blocks having symbols and pictures on them. Then we learned the different letters and numbers and finally we could spell c-a-t and we understood that 1+1=2.

Like children taught with colored blocks having pictures and letters on them. Finally, in the fullness of time all the pictures on the blocks came together... a high priest, a lamb, shed blood, different feasts, the rock, the bread of life etc. They could all be fit together, like a puzzle... and the letters on the blocks clearly spelled out a name and a title: **The Lord Jesus Christ, Messiah, Great High Priest, King of kings and Lord of lords.**

He is the Lord of two Worlds, two kingdoms... one is at peace and in harmony with its King... the other is in turmoil and rebellion against its King, bowing instead to a usurper... an angel, Lucifer... Satan. Very soon, the Lord Jesus

Christ will return and take back, by force, this rebellious world. He will force it into complete submission and rule it with a Rod of Iron for 1000 years. He will demand complete obedience.

All the Universe is eagerly waiting for the Wedding of the Messiah after we, the true Church, His Bride, join Him at the Rapture and it's waiting for the Coronation of the Messiah, when He finally takes His rightful place on the throne of all the Universe while we, as His bride at His side, rule and reign with Him, first for 1000 years and then forever over His recreated ***New Heavens and New Earth***.

That is the time when He will have finally reconciled all things to Himself, all things to God. That is when we will see the fulfillment of all God's plan for His glory and our redemption... the culmination of all His eternal work... the ***Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the World***.

Chapter 2 verse 5: 'For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.'

When we ended last time, the writer was warning his unsaved listeners to not neglect what they knew to be true... that salvation is only through the Lord Jesus Christ and that Judgment is coming. Now he references the coming Millennial Kingdom, over which Christ will ***rule with a rod of iron***, while we rule and reign with Him forever.

'Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" Rev 11:17

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Rev 20:6 (and then forever)

Angels will not be rulers in Christ's Millennial Kingdom... in the 'World to come.' The Lord Jesus Christ will rule supreme and we will rule and reign with Him. The world will be different... people will be different... animals, the wild kingdom, will be different... and government will be different.

The world will have been almost destroyed during the Tribulation as God will pour out His wrath and judgment on the world that has rejected Him and crucified His Son... but it will immediately begin to renew and replenish itself under the personal, perfect rule of Jesus Christ, the One Who created it.

All of the people who go into His Millennial Kingdom, those who live through the Tribulation and have turned to Christ and trusted in Him ***will all be believers***... every one. At the beginning of the Millennium there will be no false, fake Christians... everyone will be a true believer. All who rejected Christ, all who received the Mark of the Beast will have been killed by Jesus Christ at His return at Armageddon.

There will be no wild animals hunting humans or each other.

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,
The leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
The calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
And a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
Their young ones shall lie down together;
And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole,
And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den.

⁹They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,
For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
As the waters cover the sea. Isaiah 11:6

Every part of the Earth will be ruled righteously by Jesus Christ Himself Who will demand complete obedience and subjection to every law... and we, in our glorified eternal bodies will rule and reign with him, under Him, in complete righteousness.

This world... now... He has allowed it to '*be in subjection to angels.*' He calls Lucifer 'the god of this world,' and the 'prince of the power of the air.' But soon it will all change.

Verse 6-8: But one testified in a certain place, saying:

“What is man that You are mindful of him,
Or the son of man that You take care of him?

⁷You have made him a little lower than the angels;

You have crowned him with glory and honor,

And set him over the works of Your hands.

⁸You have put all things in subjection under his feet.”

For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing *that is* not put under him. But now we do not **yet** see all things put under him.

The '**one who testified**' here is **David in Psalm 8:**

When I consider **Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,**

The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,

⁴What is man that You are mindful of him,

And the son of man that You visit him?

⁵For You have made him a little lower than the angels,

And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶You have **made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands;**

You have put **all things under his feet...**'

When he says man and 'son of man' he means mankind... not Jesus Christ. This 'man' and 'son of man' is visited by God... Jesus Christ is the One Who does the 'visiting.' Then, a little later, he says that Jesus Christ also was made, for a short time, a little lower than the angels.

The point he and David are making is, 'Why would God care for man... why would He care... why would He ever put man in charge over His Creation?' Then, a few verses later, he will give the greatest proof of God's love, that the Lord Jesus Christ would choose to be born as one of us and die for us.

This is one of those 'clues' God gives us in encouraging us to **use our imaginations**, like when He tells us to '**Set our minds on the things above** and not on the things of the Earth.' Col 3:2 and that **we cannot even imagine what He has in store for those who love Him**. Do you see what David is saying here, prophetically? He says that **the Heavens, the moon and stars are the works of God's fingers and then he says that He made man to eventually have dominion over the works of His hands and that He would put all things under 'man's feet**. He has to be speaking prophetically of the future because obviously man didn't have dominion over all things at the time of David's writing. In fact, man had lost his right to rule over creation.

The writer, here in Hebrews, is speaking of the '**recovery**' of Man's '**forfeited destiny, to an even greater destiny.**'

When God created man, He gave him dominion, authority to rule over all the Earth. When Adam and Eve sinned, they forfeited their right to rule. David prophetically speaks of not only the recovery of dominion over the Earth, but he specifically lists the rest of the Universe... the Heavens, the moon and the stars.

Nothing in God's Word is mistaken or by accident. Every word, every letter, every accent mark has purpose and meaning. Jesus said, 'Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle (accent marks on Hebrew letters) will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.' Matt 5:18

What David prophesied has not yet been fulfilled, but is surely coming, and the writer of Hebrews punctuates that reality.

We have been made, for now, a little lower than the angels. Angels have supernatural powers, they are not subject to death and they have access to Heaven. In Christ, as born again believers we are still subject to physical death, unless we make it to the Rapture... but we do have access to the Throne of God... we are actually seated with Christ

in Heavenly places now... but we do not yet have supernatural powers... something to look forward to. Remember, John wrote, '**Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.**'³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.' 1 John 3:3

We do not yet see everything put under 'Man's' feet... we do not yet see man ruling over the works of God's hands. But we will... we will rule and reign over His Universe with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Man was created to rule over God's Creation; that was his destiny. He forfeited his place through willful disobedience and sin. The Lord Jesus Christ, who came in human flesh and chose to pay our penalty, is the only hope for man's recovery of his lost destiny. Thanks to Him and His finished work on the Cross, we will rule and reign with Him forever... as if Adam and Eve had never sinned at all... but how much the greater glory, honor, praise and worship will God receive from us and angels forever because of how He planned it all and accomplished it all... all by Himself.

Verse 9: But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. (so we wouldn't ever have to)

In order for man to be restored to dominion over God's Creation, it was necessary for His Son, for a short time, to voluntarily inhabit a physical human body, **a little lower than the angels**, that He would complete God's eternal plan of glorifying Himself and redeeming for Himself His own people... those He chose and elected before the foundation of the World... Israel: a people for God the Father, the Church: a bride for His Son and people from every tribe and tongue to fill the Earth for 1000 years and beyond.

The Lord Jesus Christ was born into a human body so that He would willingly be crucified as the perfect sacrifice, taking our place, to once and for all destroy sin and death in His own people forever.

God has crowned Him with glory and honor. Paul wrote, 'Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.'⁸ 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.⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.' Phil 2:5

It was God's great Grace toward us that allowed our sin and our death to be taken by Jesus Christ. He tasted death for us that we would never have to.

Even if we do die physically, **it will be nothing**... we won't even know that anything will have happened. When He died, Jesus Christ went to Sheol... the place of the dead... not Hell, not even to Hades, the bad side where the *rich man* was, while *Lazarus* was in Paradise, the good side... Jesus Christ went to Paradise to gather to Himself all of the Old Testament Saints who had died and He took them back to Heaven with Him. We won't even go to that place which is now empty. If we die physically before the Rapture... we will simply blink... close our eyes for a moment and open them in the presence of the Lord. Death has no power over us at all. Some of us won't even close our eyes... we will see the spiritual realm around us and just enter right in.

How many times have you heard of a Christian who is about to die... they look up in wonder at the things they see... then their soul and spirit simply slips out of their physical shell and they enter into the full presence of the Lord. That happened with an aunt of mine... Mom was with her... she looked up in wonder and said, 'Oh June... it's so beautiful!' And then she simply slipped out of her old, used up physical body and was gone.

Jesus Christ conquered sin and death for us.

Verse 10: For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation **perfect through sufferings**.

It was right, proper, fitting... necessary for God to cause the Lord Jesus Christ to go through His terrible ordeal of suffering. And this is not the same 'suffer' as when Jesus says, 'Suffer the little children to come to Me...' That word means, **permit them to come to me... 'patiently put up with'** Here... it really means what we think of when we hear suffer... pain... agony... misery... wondering if it will ever end. And how do we know that God caused His suffering... Isaiah said, 'And **the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**' God did it. God, the Father chose to cause His own suffering in causing the suffering of His Son... because of His love for us... not only was God the Son willing to do that for us... but God the Father was willing also to do that for us. Like a father who says, 'this is going to hurt me more than it hurts you.' It was really true. Not only did He do it 'for' us but He also did it 'because' of us.

Each year at Passover, a father was to bring a lamb for sacrifice to cover his family's sin. A godly man would set aside and bring the very best lamb, perhaps the only lamb they had... born and raised for just that purpose. You know how a family loves a puppy... even more so a lamb... they're so soft, sweet and cuddly. It was painful, especially for the children to give it up to death and to know that it had died because of their sin. That's how His Lamb, Jesus was to God, the Father. From His birth He was precious to Mary and Joseph but even more so to God, His Father.

God gave us a picture of this, His Own heart, when He sent Nathan to confront David after his adulterous union with Bathsheba and subsequent murder of her husband, Uriah: 'Then the LORD sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. ²The rich *man* had exceedingly many flocks and herds. ³But the poor *man* had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You *are* the man! 2 Sam 12. We are all 'the man!' We caused God's Lamb to die.

It was necessary for Jesus Christ to suffer humiliation, pain and death because it was what we deserved for our sin. If He was going to take our punishment... it was necessary for Him to take it all.

He didn't suffer because He deserved to suffer, but because we deserved to suffer. He became our substitute. He suffered in our place, so we wouldn't have to. He created us and He purchased us back from sin and death.

He was made perfect through sufferings. Not that He was ever imperfect... but His human nature was brought to completion... fully perfected through obedience even to the Cross. Heb 5:8 says, 'He was a Son, **yet He learned obedience** by the things which He suffered. ⁹And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.' We were worthy of death because of disobedience. He learned obedience... just as a child, He learned to walk and He learned to speak. Obedience is meaningless when the action and result are positive for us... i.e. 'I command you to pick up that \$100 bill and put it in your pocket. The obedience is much more meaningful if: 'I command you to take a \$100 bill out of your pocket and throw it away.

Why did He do it? Why was He willing to suffer and die? Why was He willing to be obedient? To bring many sons and daughters to glory. Us... He did it to bring us to ultimate glory. Glory is not a place. Glory is not Heaven. That song is wrong theology... 'Just think of waking up in glory-And finding it home! Glory is not a place.

It doesn't mean bringing many sons to Heaven... saving many... Glory, the Greek word, 'doxa' means: 'glorious, honor, praise, splendor, brightness, magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity, grace, exterior brightness... we fail to even begin to understand the depth of what Jesus Christ has done for us and what the Father has planned for us. We will be glorified, magnified and exalted The things we know that Jesus Christ deserves and has... it is also planned for us as fellow-heirs with Him. All through eternity... we will try to give it all back to Jesus Christ but He will continually pour it out on us. We will be glorified as princes and princesses of God... sons and daughters of the King... fellow heirs with His Son. The very fact that we will always know that we don't deserve any of it and that we will continually seek to turn every bit of it back onto the Lord Jesus Christ will just result in that much more glory and honor to Him forever... from us and from angels. That's just the way God has planned it.

Verse 11-12: 'For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, ¹² saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."

The Lord Jesus Christ is the One Who sanctifies us... we are the ones being sanctified. We have become one with Him. We are literally one with Him... it is not something we can understand... but His Word tells us it is so.

The marriage relationship is a picture of our relationship with Christ: 'For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.' Eph 5:30

We are in Him: Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Rom 8:1
Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Cor 5:17

He does not call us servants... He calls us brethren... sons and daughters of God Almighty, fellow heirs with His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Imagine the glory and honor He has planned for us during the Millennium... perhaps just 7 years and a few days from now. We will be His governing officials in His world wide government... ruling over different portions of the entire World... over a growing world population of normal mortal humans, but we will be clothed in eternal, glorified supernatural bodies... bodies like that of the Lord Jesus Christ... angels will not rule over us... angels will be subservient to us. So... imagine angels walking and flying around today... visible and governing the worlds different nations... how would humans view them? We will be even more so... our glory will be greater than that of angels now.

This isn't even something that needs imagination... this is all what God's Word tells us now.

This isn't wishful thinking... this isn't prideful thinking... wanting to be glorified in the eyes of those over whom we hold positions of government... this is just the way it is... this is who we are and who we will be... this is simply God's plan for His Son's bride... the true Church... us.

Verse 13: 'And again: 'I will put My trust in Him.' And again: 'Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.'

What a picture: the Lord Jesus Christ, standing before the Father with all of us gathered around Him... His arms outstretched around us and He is saying... 'Here I am Father with My Bride... all My brothers and sisters whom You chose and gave to Me... the ones for whom I died... every one of them came to Me and I have not lost even one of them... we are all here to be with You forever.'

Jesus Christ said, 'All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.'" John 6:37