

TEXT- Hebrews 2:5-18

INTRO- We must not return back to the old ways because in Christ we have much more!

We must not forget who Christ is!

He is God incarnate. The Creator of the universe. The Ancient of days

VIII. An Explanation Heb 2:5-18

The writer's argument in **Heb 1:1-14** that Jesus is better than the "How could Jesus be better when He had a human body? Are not the angels better than He because they had no human bodies to limit them?" This question is answered with an explanation of why Jesus took upon Himself a body of flesh. Angels are "mighty in strength, fulfilling His word, hearkening unto the voice of His word" **Psa 103:20** *Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.*

Angels ministered unto Christ in His earthly life; at the tomb an angel descended from heaven, rolled away the stone; and angels sat "one at the head, and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain."

Andrew Murray's definition is: "That world to which the psalm (Ps. 8) looks forward, the Kingdom of the Messiah, the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth."

A. To be the Last Adam Heb 2:5-13.

Nowhere in the Bible does God promise the angels that they will rule in the world to come. God gave Adam the rule over all the earth **Gen 1:26-31**.

Psa 8:4-6 *What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? 5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:*

God made man a little lower than the angels or, literally, "for a little while lower than God." Sin came into the human race and robbed Adam of his earthly dominion. He ceased being a king and became a slave. That is why **Heb 2:8** says, "But now, we see not yet all things put under him"

What do we see? "We see Jesus!" He is the Last Adam who, by His death and resurrection, undid all the ruin Adam caused when he disobeyed God.

1 Co 15:47 *The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.*

Php 2:5-11 *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he*

humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

In becoming man, the Son of God entered fully into man's limitations.

Jesus, "being wearied with His journey," sat by Jacob's well, in John 4.

"He Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion--" after a long day's preaching

Men crowned Him with thorns on earth, but now He has been crowned with glory and honor; **2 Pe 1:17** *For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

There is now a new family in the world: Christ is bringing many sons to glory. Adam, through his sin, plunged his descendants into sin and death; Christ now changes Adam's children into the children of God. He is the "captain" of our salvation, the one who blazes the trail that we might follow. We are His brethren, for we are all of one family, having become partakers of His divine nature and set apart unto God through His death **Heb 10:10** *By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

B. To defeat the devil Heb 2:14-16.

Death and the fear of death were the consequences of Adam's sin **Gen 2:17; Gen 3:10**. The fear of death has been Satan's strongest weapon. Satan does not have "the power of death" absolutely, since, as we see in Job's case, Satan could do nothing without God's permission **Job 1-2**.

The word for power in **Heb 2:14** means "might" rather than "authority."

Satan has might over sinners and darkness **Luke 22:53**,

but Christ has delivered saints from the power of darkness **Col 1:12-13**.

Satan seized this "might of death" to get control over God's creatures; but by His death on the cross, Christ "made inoperative" (destroyed) this power and thus delivered those who were in bondage because of the fear of death.

Christ had to have a human body in order to die and thus defeat Satan.

C. To become a sympathetic priest Heb 2:17-18.

This is the third reason Christ took on Himself a human body. God knew that His children would need a priest to intercede for them in their weaknesses. He permitted His Son to suffer; and through this suffering, He equipped Him for His priestly ministry **Heb 2:10**.

Christ's person needed no perfecting, since He is God; but as the God-Man,

He endured suffering to prepare Himself to meet our needs.

He was made flesh at Bethlehem **John 1:14**; He was “made like unto His brethren” during His earthly life; and He was “made sin” at the cross **2 Co 5:21**. Now He is a merciful and faithful High Priest; we can depend on Him!

He is able to succor us when we come to Him for aid.

The writer has shown that Christ is superior in His person and work and in the name the Father has given Him “above every name.” The conclusion is clear: since Christ is superior, we must heed His Word and obey it. We must beware of drifting through neglect.

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