

Hebrews 2:5b-9

Hebrews 2:5b (NOTES)

- However, God the Father has already subjected everything under His Son's feet, and that as a man and the firstborn of creation. When He comes for us who have come after Him in restored honor and glory and dominion, we will sit at His right hand, and all things will be restored in subjection under man's (our) feet as well. Ephesians 1:20-23

Hebrews 2:6 (NOTES)

- "What is man ... " - This and the following two verses refer to ordinary human beings. Christ does not come into the text until verse 9. *Son of man* is a reference to men born of humanity, descendants of Adam, nothing more. Ezekiel the prophet is referred to as "son of man" 93 times. The word *man* in Ezekiel is *Adam*, son of Adam. Just a normal human being. Ezekiel was in the Babylonian Captivity (from the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Solomon's temple in 586 BC to the rebuilding and dedication of the second temple in 516 BC when Cyrus the Great, King of Persia, conquered Babylon). The priesthood, the nation, Judaism had all ceased to exist. Ezekiel was just an ordinary man. Ezekiel 2:1

Hebrews 2:7 (NOTES)

- "FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS" - This is a matter of rank. Adam was made lower than the angels because he was made from the "dust of the ground," confined to the earth, while angels were continually in God's presence and moved between the physical realm and the spiritual realm. But, Adam, and thus, man's rank will change for those adopted into God's family for they will be sinless, holy, and glorified when Christ returns. At that time, we will be higher in rank than the angels as co-heirs and co-rulers with Christ, as explained above. Genesis 2:7
- "THOU HAST CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR" - When God had completed the creation of the universe, including the first human beings, Adam and Eve, He declared His work, very good. In their sinless state, they were crowned with honor and glory. But, through their sin, their honor and glory were lost. Genesis 1:26-28, 31
- "AND HAST APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF THY HANDS" - He gave them dominion over the earth. Thus, they were set over the creative works of God's hands. Genesis 1:26-28
- Today, man is not exercising the dominion over the creation that God gave him. But, when Christ came as a man, He exercised dominion over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, and the beasts in the field. Jesus restored man's dominion, He being a man. Matthew 17:24-27, Luke 5:1-11, John 21:1-11, Luke 22:34, 60, Mark 1:12-13, 11:1-7

Hebrews 2:8 (NOTES)

- "THOU HAST PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET ... But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him." - The created physical world was placed in subjection to Adam, but not the created spiritual world. Eve succumbed to Satan's schemes when she was tempted with the forbidden fruit, and Adam joined her in her sin. In doing so, they rebelled against God and subjected themselves to the power and authority of the god of this world - Satan. John 12:31, 14:30, 16:33, 2Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 2:2, 6:12

Hebrews 2:9 (NOTES)

- "Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor" - Jesus earned a special glory and honor for His submission to the Father in enduring the cross. Not so much the physical pain of the Roman method of capital punishment - crucifixion - and as well not to make little of or dismiss His sufferings as without value, for what Jesus endured in His scourging and crucifixion was perhaps the worst form of execution ever invented. But, the separation from God for having become sin for us was His greatest cost for our redemption. 2Corinthians 5:21, Mark 15:34, Psalm 22:1-21, Isaiah 53:11, Genesis 42:21
- Man lost the honor and glory we had when Adam sinned. Jesus, the last Adam, restored honor and glory to man by gaining it for Himself, a man. 1Corinthians 15:45
- "that" - *that* is a very important word, and it is the key to this verse. That = So that! Because Jesus suffered obedient, willful death and was glorified by God for doing so, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for the rest of us. He died voluntarily "so that" we would not have to die involuntarily. John 10:17-18
- "by the grace of God" - Meaning that all these things that Jesus has done for us in restoring to man our honor and glory and in restoring to man our dominion, He has done by God's grace toward us, who deserved none of it. Moreover, God didn't have to apply the death of Jesus as payment against our sin debt. He did all of it out of His loving-kindness. This is true grace.
- "He might taste death for everyone" - Angels don't die physically. Neither do they have a physical body that could die, but, though they are spirit, they can't die. Those who rejected Satan's rebellion will live on in eternity. Those who joined Satan in his rebellion will spend eternity in hell with him, and there will be no death for them. If they cannot die, angels could never have died for us. Only Jesus could do that for us. Ezekiel 28:13-16, Revelation 12:4, 9, Matthew 25:41