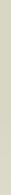


HEBREWS

A BETTER HOPE



SUPPLEMENTAL VERSES

Gen 1:26-28

John 3:16

Gen 3:17-19 & verse 23

John 14:6

1 Cor 15:27-28

1 John 3:8

Eph 1:22

John 8:51-53

Is 6: 1-8

1 Cor 15: 54-57

Rom 6:23

Heb 4:15

Psalms 8

JESUS MADE LIKE HIS BROTHERS

One of the great mysteries of Scripture is discussed in this chapter:

Jesus Christ both God *and Man! Wholly God & wholly man!*

In Chapter 1 the author wants the reader to understand that Jesus Christ is fully God! He is the creator of all things, the sustainer of all things, He is eternal, and He is currently ruling and reigning at the right Hand of God the Father!

How is it possible that the God of the Universe would take off the robes of heaven and put skin on, become a man...walk among us...and experience all the things of life that we experience?

Think of it for a minute...he didn't just become a man...but he started out life on earth the same as you and me...as a baby. He experienced poopy diapers, hunger, thirst, temptation, pain, suffering, and even death.

This is perhaps one of the greatest mysteries ever and it is hard for us to wrap our minds around it. In Chapter 2, the author of Hebrews is going to give us 4 reasons why Jesus had to become a man.

4 REASONS WHY JESUS BECAME A MAN

While there are probably other reasons that Jesus had to become a man...the author is going to point out 4 reasons for us to consider.

1. Jesus became a man to fulfill man's original destiny
2. Jesus became a man to restore our Unity with God
3. Jesus became a man to destroy death & its power(spiritual death)
4. Jesus became a man so that he could be a merciful, sympathetic, High Priest

WHAT WAS MAN'S ORIGINAL DESTINY?

Let's read Hebrews 2: 5- 18

Verse 5: The author finishes his thoughts about Jesus being above the angels that he was discussing in Chapter 1.

It is not the angels that he has subjected the world to come...It is not the angels that God has subjected his creation to.

Man was originally given the role to rule over(have dominion) over the earth.

Gen: 1:26-28 Let us make man in our image and let them rule over the fish, the birds, the livestock, over all of the earth.

What happened to man's destiny as ruler over the earth? It was marred by the Fall.

Gen 3: 17 -19 verse 23. Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden and became workers.

EVERYTHING UNDER HIS FEET

Verses 6 – 8 are a quote from Psalm 8

The author of Hebrews quotes these verses and applies them to Jesus. As the Son of God in human form, man's destiny of ruling the world will be realized in the Person of Jesus Christ.

The phrase “put everything under his feet” denotes “dominion” and ruling over those things that man was originally supposed to “rule over”...ie the works of God's hands, flocks and herds, beasts of the field, birds of the air, fish of the sea.

Paul makes reference to this as well in 1 Cor 15: 27-28 Paul quotes psalm 8 For he has put everything under His feet.

Paul makes another reference to this as well in Eph 1:22 God has placed all things under his feet and appointed Him head over everything for the church

EVERYTHING UNDER HIS FEET

Initially God's plan was for Adam and Eve to have dominion "rule over" his creation. He had placed everything under their feet. However, because they rebelled against God, they lost their place in creation as ones who would "rule over"

Hence the verse "at present we do not see everything subject to him(man)"...but we see Jesus.

Because Jesus became a man & was totally sinless we see Jesus with everything subjected to him...He is crowned with glory and honor...He is ruling and reigning. Everything is under His feet.

Jesus' humanity allowed him to reclaim man's destiny.

Everything is now under His feet!

HIS HUMANITY BRINGS UNITY WITH GOD

Jesus had to become a man so that he could die and pay the penalty for sin.

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden, God told them that they would surely die if they ate from the tree of knowledge. That death wasn't just a physical death...but it was a spiritual separation from God.

Why is this necessary?

God is Holy...He is so Holy...that sin cannot come into His Presence.

There is a picture of this in Isaiah 6:1-8

God's righteousness and justice demands payment for sin. This is what the old testament sacrificial system was all about. When there is sin...there is death...something dies. Romans 6:23 for the wages of sin is death

JESUS' DEATH WAS PAYMENT FOR SIN

Wages literally means “what you earn”

Verse 9: The author of Hebrews says that it was by God's grace that Jesus tasted death for everyone.

On one hand God is Holy and cannot allow sin into His Presence. On the other hand...He loves us so much that He does not want us to be separated from Him for all eternity. By His great love for us and His amazing grace, He sent His son Jesus to pay the penalty for a sin which is death.

John: 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only son.

JESUS “TASTED DEATH”

The author of Hebrews says that Jesus “tasted” death.

The Greek word he uses is: “geusetai”. This is a little different than the way we think of taste. We think of taste as putting something in our mouths. But this word means more than that...It gives the idea of completely ingesting. Jesus fully and completely ingested death. He totally experienced it. Full and complete separation from God the Father.

When Jesus cried out on the cross “Eloi Eloi Lama Sabathani” Which means “My God My God why have you forsaken me”...in that moment He experienced total separation from God the Father.

In that moment He was paying the price for the sin of the world, past, present, and future.

MADE PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERING

Verse 10: It was fitting that God should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.

What does this mean? Does it mean that Jesus wasn't perfect?

The Greek word used here is: "teleios" which means complete or fulfilled.

It means that it was the suffering of Christ that completed the work of salvation.

Question:

1. Could salvation have been won from Jesus simply becoming a man?
2. Could salvation have been won from Jesus living a perfect life?

All of those things had to happen...but it was the suffering that completed the work.

When Jesus said, "It is finished". Jesus is remarking that the suffering had been completed, the penalty had been paid...and salvation had been won!

CHRIST'S SUFFERING MAKES US HOLY

Verse 11: Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family.

What does it mean that we are “made holy”?

It means that Jesus washes us, cleanses us and makes us new. He makes us Holy and Righteous and able to come into the Presence of God through faith in Him.

No one comes to the Father except through Jesus! John 14:6

Now...we can boldly come into the Presence of God the Father.

WE ARE FAMILY NOW

Because of Christ's payment for sin, we can now have a relationship with God.

We are now part of His family if we are in Christ.

Story of Blind Town in Africa

So Jesus is not ashamed to call us brothers & sisters 😊

The author quotes Psalm 22:22 & Is 8:18

Jesus suffering makes us Holy and able to stand in God's presence, and now we are not his friends...we are his brothers and sisters. We are His Family.

Jesus Humanity brings us Unity with God

JESUS HUMANITY DELIVERS US FROM DEATH & SATAN'S POWER

Jesus death not only brings us unity with God, but it destroys the one who holds the power of death.

Who was it that first rebelled against God? Satan

What are Satan's objectives? To bring others into this same rebellion and bring them to death as well.

Jesus victory on the cross conquered not only death...but Satan's work in our lives. Sin & slavery to sin...death & the fear of death.

1 John 3: 8 The reason that the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devils work!

John 8: 51 – 53 Jesus says if anyone keeps my word, he will not see death. The Jews say anyone who keeps your word will not “taste death”. Never fully ingest it or experience it. We will not experience separation from God. If you are a believer...if you are absent from the body, you are present with the Lord.

1 Cor 15: 54-57 O death where is thy sting? O grave where is they victory?

CHRIST'S HUMANITY ALLOWS HIM TO BE A MERCIFUL, SYMPATHETIC, HIGH PRIEST

Verse 17 He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful, faithful, High Priest.

What is the role of a Priest? To represent man to God.

Because Jesus was made like us in every way...he was flesh and blood...He thirsted(He cried out on the cross), He wept (for at death of Lazarus), He was hungry(after fasting for 40 days and nights) He got tired (and sat down at the well where he met the woman)...He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses.

Hebrews 4:15 He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses because he has been tempted in every way.

CHRIST'S HUMANITY ALLOWS HIM TO BE A MERCIFUL, SYMPATHETIC, HIGH PRIEST

What is the difference between a “priest” and a “High Priest”

The High Priest had a unique function. Once a year the High Priest would enter the “Holy of Holies” in the Temple.

Only He was allowed to enter the Most Holy Place behind the veil to stand before God.

Having made a sacrifice for himself and the people, he brought the blood into the Holy of Holies and sprinkled it on the mercy seat.

This was done once per year and it was called “The Day of Atonement”.

The author of Hebrews is saying that Jesus is able to be a High Priest because of His Humanity. He is able to carry out this work in a perfect way! In Hebrews Chapter 9 he will go into greater detail concerning this. His point now is simply: Jesus humanity allows him to be a High Priest.

JESUS CHRIST: FULLY GOD...FULLY MAN

1. Jesus became a man to fulfill man's original destiny...everything is now under His feet.
2. Jesus became a man to restore our Unity with God. We are now apart of the family of God...and Jesus calls us brothers.
3. Jesus became a man to destroy death & its power(spiritual death), and Satan's work in our lives.
4. Jesus became a man so that he could be a merciful, sympathetic, High Priest, representing us to God and making perfect atonement for our sin.

Rich Mullins "Boy like Me Man like you"

