

God Manifest In The Flesh

3) Restoring the Crown

'For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. 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? You 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. You 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. 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'

(Heb.2:5-9)

- ✓ **When God created mankind, he crowned him with glory and honour**
- ✓ **Glory = the moral image of God**
- ✓ **Honour = dominion over all the earth**
- ✓ **God's purpose was to glorify Himself in the righteous rule of humanity over creation**
- ✓ **But Adam lost the crown. The moral image of God was destroyed and the rulership of earth was forfeited**
- ✓ **The result is that this present world is now ruled by angels**

The chief of these angels is Satan

**He is called the god of this world,
the prince of this world,
and
the ruler of this world**

'For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places'
(Eph.6:12)

- ✓ **God never intended this world to be ruled by angels, but by humans. But we don't see all things put under us, but we see Jesus**
- ✓ **As Adam brought ruin through disobedience, so Jesus restores all through obedience as a man**
- ✓ **We now have a foretaste of glory and honour**
- ✓ **Glory: We are being changed from glory to glory. Christ in us is the hope of glory. *'...and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us'* (Rom.8:17-18)**
- ✓ **Honour: We reign in life through Jesus Christ. We are training For reigning**

'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' (Heb.2:10)

All that happened in the incarnation and the atonement that we might be crowned with glory and honour was fitting for the moral character of God and the need of mankind

Jesus brings many sons to glory, i.e. glorification

He has become our merciful and faithful High Priest to ensure the work is completed

No angel could have done this. Even God, apart from the incarnation, could not have done this

**At the transfiguration of Jesus the veil hiding
His glory was temporarily drawn back**

In His kingdom nothing will hide His glory

***'Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun
in the kingdom of their Father'
(Matt.13:43)***

***'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'
(1 John 3:2)***

'For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one...'
(Heb.2:11a)

Just as we were one with Adam and shared his sin, so we are one with Christ and share in His righteousness

We have a new identity

'For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ... you are all one in Christ Jesus'
(Gal.3:27-28)

'...for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You". And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me"'

(Heb.2:11b-13)

Jesus never called His disciples 'brethren' until after the resurrection. He calls us 'brethren' because God now calls us sons

He does not call everyone brethren. Only those whom He is sanctifying

**Knowing our weaknesses, trials, etc. perfectly
He is not ashamed to call us brethren**

***'Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same...'* (Heb.2:14a)**

- ✓ **Note how we became His brethren. We 'partook' (*koinonia*) in flesh and blood. But He 'shared' (*metecho*) in flesh and blood – took hold of something which is not naturally His**
- ✓ **The difference is that we came out of humanity; He came into it**
- ✓ **He eternally existed as the Son of God, but added humanity to His Person**
- ✓ **If he was born of a man He would have had his beginning at birth. But, already existing He entered into humanity through the virgin birth**
- ✓ **Also, in doing so He could come in the *likeness* of sinful flesh, yet be without sin**

'...that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage' (Heb.2:14b-15)

**In 2:9 we read that He *tasted* death
He was not detained by its power
He defeated death by His resurrection**

'...whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it' (Acts 2:24)

Through His death He brought to naught him that had the power of death and then released from bondage those who were in fear of death

“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ’

(1 Cor.15:55-57)

Death is a result of sin, so in order to defeat both He had to identify with both

In removing the sting of death, death itself is overcome

He *tasted* it for everyone, i.e. in their place, so they may not be held by it

For the unbeliever death is an awful thing

But we ('us', those being sanctified) are delivered from the fear of death because He fulfilled the law, died for our sin and rose again

We might die, but death has been turned to our advantage, (Phil.1:21,23)

The grave could not hold Him, and it will not hold us, Rev.1:17-18

***'For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but
He does give aid to the seed of Abraham'
(Heb.2:16)***

The term translated 'give aid' literally means to take hold of. He does not take hold of angels for the purpose of helping them, but He does take hold, seize, catch us for that purpose

**The Devil and his angels fell before mankind.
But God has no plan of redemption for
the fallen angels**

But to us He says, 'I have got you!'

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'Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people'
(Heb.2:17)

The great purpose in Christ being manifest in the flesh was to reconcile us to God by making propitiation for us

He could not redeem what He did not become

As our high priest He is now the One who represents us and that is why we are secure

***'For in that He Himself has suffered,
being tempted, He is able to aid those who
are tempted'
(Heb.2:18)***

**As high priest He not only purges our sin, but
also helps those who are being tempted**

**He had to enter into our world in order to
sympathize with us**

'Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 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. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need'

(Heb.4:14-16)

***'God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory'
(Col.1:27)***