

# HEBREWS 2 vs 4

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This letter began with: **God**...Who at various times and in many ways spoke to the fathers in the prophets, Who in these last days spoke to us in His Son...whom He appointed heir of all things, by whom He also made the worlds...who is the express image... the very character of His person... who took his seat at the right of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels... those exalted citizens of eternity... and who obtained a more excellent name than them.

Now, we read...

<sup>4</sup> **God also bearing them witness** / this one Greek word is: **sunepimartureo**... used once in scripture. This word lets us know God Himself... actively participates in His Good News; this word literally means: **sun** = **to join** + **lepi** = **over** and **above**; add to it: **martureo** often translated: **witness** or testimony... but, obviously, it is the word for **martyr**; yet when it comes to God, it seems the scholars don't know how to express His participation being martyred. How about? **Giving His all; putting His life on the line.**



Here in this word, we learn...

**God also joining... over and above; in added giving... putting His life on the line** / because God is not an absentee on-looker. We read... **He did not spare His own Son** -- **Romans 8:32** which lets us know God is not cheap; He did not haggle the price down. Moreover we read: God is always willing to honor His word to His own hurt. -- **Psalm 15**; **God** who is Spirit; who always works in spirit and truth; and as the Creative Father He is... He threw in all His resources:

**both signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles** / **semeion**; miraculous events, and awesome, supernatural occurrences; obviously not caused by human hands; and **teras**; spectacular happenings in the heavens...demonstrating His remarkable power; and all sorts of miracles including healings... as well as various demonstrations of His power,

**and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will** / enabling His people to speak and perform works beyond the ordinary; as He chose; as it pleased Him.

<sup>5</sup> **For to the angels, He did not subject the world to come, concerning what we speak.**

And the writer to the book of Hebrews... returns our minds to focus on the superiority of the Son.

<sup>6</sup> **But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that You are mindful of him?** / the writer is inspired to recall... **Psalm 8: 4-6** to underscore his point, **What is man?** in Hebrew: what is enosh... also a form of Enos, the son of Seth... who walked with God; found in the Lucan lineage of Jesus; in Greek: what is anthropos... meaning: human

**or the son of man that You visit him?** / in Hebrew: the ben of Adam; in Greek: the huioi of anthropos. So in Hebrew, the choice of words is more colorful; perhaps, wondering: what is man, even the son of the blessed man's lineage? Or the son of fallen Adam's race? It's a question causing many to wonder.

**What is man?** / honestly, don't worry about the answer. The writer seems to push us to ask: which man is he talking about? A good man? A bad man? A lying, cheating, hypocritical man? Or another man? And in our asking... we find an error that includes our tendency to look out for: me, myself and I and how I fit in.

**Psalm 8** is truly a messianic psalm; and speaks of the terrible incident when Jesus entered Jerusalem with great acclamation... and the hard-headed religious leaders of His day – who had 1000 years to get ready; and they didn't even recognize the Psalm being fulfilled in their ears... as they told Jesus [to silence the little children singing His praises](#). – **Psalm:2**. You know, those with enough sense might get our eyes off ourselves; and on the One who is best portrayed by this Psalm. Read it in context with this book of Hebrews... and the question is not confusing at all.

**O Lord our Lord, how excellent is Your Name in all the earth! Who has set Your Glory above the heavens** / well, who is set above the heavens other than the One who is the express image, and character of God... who first spoke through the prophets, but in the last days spoke to us through His Son.

**<sup>7</sup> You made Him a little lower than the angels;**

**You crowned Him with glory and honor, and set Him over the works of Your hands** / Paul says, we are His workmanship:

**<sup>8</sup> You put all... in subjection under His feet** / the writer to the Hebrews, is putting the future in the past... as if almighty God has accomplished this subjection... knowing that when God speaks; we can count on His word... it is as good as done!

**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.**

**<sup>9</sup> But we see Jesus** / with our own eyes, we pay attention and perceive, **who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death** / something we learn later in this letter to the Hebrews... for a body...that was prepared for Him from the foundation of the world,

**crowned with glory and honor; that He... by the grace of God should taste death for all** / He should know all the humiliation and bitterness of death, substituting for all.

**<sup>10</sup> For it became him** / it was fitting and proper for him, **for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory,** / to bring many sons and daughters to completion through Christ Jesus in his humanity;

**to make perfect the Captain of their salvation through sufferings.**

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**<sup>11</sup> For both He who sanctifies / He who makes holy... who sets apart for God's purposes, and those who are sanctified / those who are made holy... and are set apart for God's purposes,**

**are all of one /** which is exactly what Jesus prayed, the night He was betrayed, and went and gave His life for the world.

And this sanctifying process is no mysterious hocus pocus activity. We read: **Father, sanctify them in Your word; Your word is truth** -- John 17,

**for this cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers,**

**<sup>12</sup> saying, I will declare Your name to My brothers /** the Name that makes holy... which He told his disciples about particularly... when they pray... **in the midst of the congregation I will sing praise to You /** which is exactly what the psalmist prophesied would happen after He cried: **My God, My God... why had You forsaken me?** -- Psalm 22.

**<sup>13</sup> And again, I will put My trust in Him.**

**And again, Behold I and the children which God has given me /** other familiar verses the writer is inspired to reference: **Isaiah 8:18.**

**<sup>14</sup> Since then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood /** koinoneo; participating, sharing in common. It is where we get our word for: coin; those who have a human and not an angelic nature,

**He Himself likewise also took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the devil /** and render him powerless, the Lord God in the garden spoke of the seed of the woman being bruised, while the head of the serpent would be crushed. And though the contest was fierce...the One with the bruised heel triumphed.... over the one with a crushed head – **Genesis 3;**

**<sup>15</sup> and deliver those who through fear of death, were all their lifetime enslaved.**

**<sup>16</sup> For truly He did not take the nature of angels;**

**but He took on Him** the seed of Abraham / **epilambanetai**...this word suggests... **He reached down** to pick up fallen mankind; He came to their help... something He did not do for the fallen angels.

**<sup>17</sup> Therefore He had to be made like His brothers in all things /** in every aspect of His life; His being, His soul, His rank and His character, it was fit and proper,

**to become a merciful and faithful high priest /** merciful, the word is: **eleemon**... used one other time in the New Testament. When Jesus said: **Blessed are the merciful** for they will receive mercy -- **Matthew 5.** And faithful, the word is **pistos**; **without faith it is impossible to please God.**

it fit Him to become a merciful and faithful high priest, in things pertaining to God, to propitiate for the sins of the people / *hilaskomai*; this action word in the middle voice, meaning it is done for the benefit of the individual doing the action. There are two parts to the same coin: first of all, to validate that God the Father who spoke good words, is right in all His judgments; and at the same time, to satisfy and pay the price for a penalty we could never pay in a million years. This word appears one more time in scripture when someone simply prayed, saying: [God, be merciful to me a sinner](#) -- Luke 18:13.

<sup>18</sup> For since He himself being tested, has suffered,

He has the power to help them who are tested.

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