

The Recovery of Man's Destiny

Text: Hebrews 2:9-10

Date: 12-12-23

1. Through His death, Jesus Christ restored man's destiny (Heb. 2:9).

When Adam sinned, the consequence was death, a fulfillment of the promise to Adam in Gen 2:17.

Death became the only possible outcome for mankind from then afterwards. Fellowship with God was broken in the garden. Man was kicked out of the garden. Sin doomed and damned us to a Godless eternity. Man would and could not be able to escape the curse upon himself and this world.

Although man's sinful behavior and failure doomed him to death, another Man conquered the curse.

Man's hope, future, destiny, life, and dominion have been recovered by Jesus Christ. Where the first Adam failed, the second Adam succeeded.

When Jesus died, He provided the pathway by which the curse could be removed and those who believe to have their penalty removed.

Three characteristics are exemplified in the death of Christ.

****His Humility**

Jesus Christ became a little lower than the angels so that He could become man. Jesus Christ took on this state of man for a short time for a specific purpose.

He became human flesh to be our substitute.

"It is staggering to realize that the Creator of angels, the Head of angels, the Lord of the angelic hosts, the One worshiped by angels should, for our sakes, for a little time, become **lower than the angels**. That is supreme humility; and it was experienced on our behalf".¹

****His Love**

In order to regain man's lost destiny, Jesus Christ had to go through the suffering of death.

Jesus Christ was the only human who could recover man's lost destiny and overcome the curse because He became curse for us (Gal. 3:13).

Why did Christ suffer for us? It was simply on the account of God's grace and love. We do not deserve salvation; rather we deserve death eternally without God. But God sent His Son and He experienced death in our place.

When Christ died He proved to angels, mankind, demons, everyone and everywhere that God loved sinners (Rom. 5:9). That is grace. That is love.

****His Exaltation**

Once Jesus Christ finished paying for our sins and taking our penalty and punishment upon Himself, He was crowned with glory and honor. Jesus took His rightful place back at the right hand of the throne of God (1:3).

¹ MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1983). *Hebrews* (p. 64). Moody Press.

We have One, a Man who came to this earth to suffer and die to restore the lost dominion and lost relationship to God. Jesus Christ ruled over everything on this earth. He ruled over the fish, the sea, the birds, the wild beasts, and the tame ones. He ruled over man, his sickness, diseases, death, and ultimately over sin. Everything is under His feet (Eph. 1:20-23). Where man lost his crown of glory and honor to sin, Jesus regained it by conquering sin. In the future we will reign with Him in glory and honor in the kingdom. Jesus Christ is worthy of all honor and praise. Jesus went from a little lower to crowned to heights above.

2. **Through His suffering God's masterful plan was fulfilled (Heb. 2:10).**

The writer of Hebrews is saying that it was *fitting, right, suitable, entirely appropriate that God enacted this plan*. God could not turn a blind eye to our sin. Since God is holy, He had to judge our sin and the punishment must fit the crime. But God is also love and He desired that humankind be saved from their sin.

And so it was fitting that the One "for whom and through whom all things exist" (NET) would do two things: Bring many sons to glory and make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

- **Bring many sons to glory**
Jesus Christ temporarily gave up His glory to come to earth to die, and in doing so brought an incalculable number of people into His glory.
- **Make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.**
Jesus Christ is the leader, pioneer, and originator of our salvation. Why? Because He suffered for us. He lived a life of perfect obedience. Heb. 5:8-9; I Pet. 2:21. He was the Perfect One to go through unfathomable suffering so that we might live again. We can have a relationship with God. We can rise again. We can partake in His glory. All because of Christ.

Conclusion

God had a plan, a suitable one that involved His Son. This was the only plan that was consistent with His character and wisdom. When God sent His Son to this world His justice and love met at the cross through the sufferings of His Son. Without the suffering and the cross there would be no glory. Without the suffering and glory then there would be no high priestly work. The cross was part of God's eternal plan and the only plan that could solve man's sinful, desperate situation. And God's plan lasts for eternity!