



PRESSING ON

TO MATURITY

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

THE PARABLE OF THE LOTTERY TICKET

HEBREWS 2:5-9

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Introduction: After issuing the stern warning about the danger of neglecting God's offer of salvation, the writer of Hebrews returns to his discussion of the difference between angels and human beings. Although sin has temporarily compromised God's original purpose for us and made us inferior to the angels, one day God's purpose for our lives will be realized and we will rule over all of God's creation -- including the angels.

I. **Our Purpose Visualized** (Hebrews 2:5-8)

A. **By Contrast to the Angels** (Hebrews 2:5)

Hebrews 1:13-14 ¹³ "But to which of the angels has He ever said, 'SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR THY FEET?' ¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?"

Hebrews 2:5 "For He did not subject to angels the world to come, concerning which we are speaking."

The Four "Worlds" in the Bible

1. **The world that was**

Genesis 1:26 "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'"

2. **The world that is**

Hebrews 2:8a "THOU HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION..."

3. The world that will be renovated

Isaiah 11:6-9 ⁶ “And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them. ⁷ Also the cow and the bear will graze; their young will lie down together; and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ And the nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”

Isaiah 65:19-20 ¹⁹ “I will also rejoice in Jerusalem, and be glad in My people; and there will no longer be heard in her the voice of weeping and the sound of crying. ²⁰ No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; for the youth will die at the age of one hundred and the one who does not reach the age of one hundred shall be thought accursed.”

4. The world that will be recreated

Revelation 21:1 “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.”

B. **By Quotation from the Psalmist** (Hebrews 2:6-8)

Hebrews 2:6-8 ⁶ “But one has testified somewhere, saying, ‘WHAT IS MAN THAT THOU REMEMBEREST HIM? OR THE SON OF MAN, THAT THOU ART CONCERNED ABOUT HIM? ⁷ THOU HAST MADE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; THOU HAST CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAST APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF THY HANDS; ⁸ THOU HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET.’”

II. **Our Purpose Compromised** (Hebrews 2:8b)

Hebrews 2:8b “...IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET.”

III. Our Purpose **Realized** (Hebrews 2:9)

Hebrews 2:9 “But we do see Him who has been made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.”

1 Corinthians 15:22 “For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all shall be made alive.”

Conclusion