

Partakers of Christ

Scripture Reading: Psalm 8:1-9

When considering the greatness of God we can use man as a benchmark. An accurate view of God is unimaginable. We need help. God must disclose Himself. His Spirit communicating with us through nature, conscience and Scripture are essential (Read the first three chapters of Romans). To grapple with the knowledge of the Holy will lead us to a comparison with ourselves. So, Psalm Eight asks the question, “*What is Man?*” We are lower than Him, lower than the angels. Yet, God has put us in charge of managing His creation – well, only part of it. We get carried away with trying to manage everything. But Hebrews 2:6-8 gives us another insight to Psalm 8:4-6. Jesus is the God-Man (John 1:1-3,14; 14:9; Hebrews 1:1-3; I Timothy 3:16; I John 5:20; Titus 2:13). Jesus truly has **all things** put under His feet (Matthew 28:18; Philippians 2:5-11; Ephesians 1:15-23). How shall we know Him? How is it that we are offered a partnership with Him?

Hebrews 2:6-18. Christ Partook of Flesh and Blood

- Hebrews 2:6-8 – Jesus Christ was lowered, so that He could be raised (Psalm 8:4-6).
- Hebrews 2:9-10 – Jesus Christ needed to suffer and die, so that He could redeem us and sanctify us (Galatians 4:4-7).
- Hebrews 2:11-13 – Jesus Christ willingly identifies with us. Those who love and trust Him, He will embrace as family with Him (Psalm 22:22; Matthew 12:50; 28:10; Luke 8:21; John 20:17).
- Hebrews 2:14-15 – Jesus Christ partook of flesh and blood, so that He could die, rise again, and destroy the devil and his power over men (through the fear of death). We are delivered from sin and Satan (Romans 8:1-4; I Corinthians 15:51-58 [cp. Philippians 3:20-21]; Colossians 2:12-15; I John 3:8 cp. Hebrews 10:1-10).
- Hebrews 2:16 – Jesus Christ received a body that had the perfect pedigree to qualify Himself as the promised Messiah. He was the seed of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and David (Romans 1:1-4; Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38).
- Hebrews 2:17-18 – Jesus Christ, by partaking of flesh and blood, became a faithful high priest, our reconciler, our compassionate helper (Hebrews 4:14-16 [Mediator – I Timothy 2:5]; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Colossians 1:19-22 cp. Isaiah 9:6).

Jesus Christ has done this for us. How shall we respond? In our following studies we will consider what it means to **believe in Christ**, to **believe Christ**, to **receive Christ**, and to **become partakers of Christ**.