

## Hebrews 7.26

### Higher Than the Heavens

Christ Jesus, as our High Priest, is seated at the right hand of the Father; waiting for the time when He will return to receive His own unto Himself... He fought His way through to that place of honor by the faithful completion of His mission here. It is the place of honor that belongs only to Him and it is a place of exaltation. It is the completion, the capstone, of His time here on earth. It is the reward of His perfect obedience unto the Father... This place of honor speaks much to us about who He is and who He has always been; but it also speaks to us of the work He completed and the promises He made to us, both IN and BY that work.

#### I. HE WAS MADE LOWER

- A. The fact of the incarnation reminds us that Jesus is eternal. He was God before the incarnation, He was God during the incarnation and He is God for all eternity continuing after the incarnation. Jesus Christ is God made flesh.

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

*(John 1:1-3, 14, NKJV)*

B. He left heaven to fulfill the purpose of God.

**Hebrews 2.5-9**

**Philippians 2.5-11**

C. He descended to the lower parts of the earth...

**Ephesians 4.7-10**

D. He has been made, exalted, "higher than the heavens..." He was not raised so that He could be a priest, rather He was raised because AS our priest, He must fulfill the role in the heavenly places.

E. Thus He was raised

1. In state and condition
2. In place

## **II. HE IS EXALTED ABOVE ALL**

A. He is above the angels

*“having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.” (Hebrews 1:4, NKJV)*

B. He is above the principalities

*“far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,” (Ephesians 1:21–22, NKJV)*

*“that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:10–11, NKJV)*

C. He is above all things save God (since He is God)

**1Corinthians 15.20-28**

### **III. HE IS IN HEAVEN WITH THE FATHER**

A. Seated at the right hand

B. He is in the majesty of Glory which surpasses all having passed through the heavens

*“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.” (Hebrews 4:14–15, NKJV)*

- C. Though the heavens cannot contain Him, yet they must receive Him -

*“whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.” (Acts 3:21, NKJV)*

- D. Since He is no longer on the earth, He is no longer subject to its demands

- E. This is our benefit, for He could not have fulfilled His duty had He remained here...

### **Hebrews 8.1-6**

## **IV. HE IS ABLE TO FULFILL ALL**

- A. With all believers at all times in all places

*“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.””*

*(Matthew 18:20, NKJV)*

- B. The giving of the Spirit

*“Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.” (John 16:7, NKJV)*

C. The completion of the sacrifice

*“For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” (Hebrews 9:24–26, NKJV)*

D. The offering at the real altar of God

E. Preparing a place for His own

*““Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” (John 14:1–3, NKJV)*

F. Returning to receive us unto Himself

*“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”*

*(1Thessalonians 4:16–17, NKJV)*

## **V. PURPOSE AND FOCUS**

A. Christ was never conflicted about where his loyalties lay,

...He was God's man

...on God's mission

...in God's strength

...for God's glory.

B. He always knew what the aim was.

1. He knew where He was going

*““But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’”*

*(John 16:5, NKJV)*

2. While He was here, He was doing the work of the Father

*“Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of*

*Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.” (John 5:19–21, NKJV)*

3. Remember that life IS this relationship

*“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”” (Deuteronomy 30:19–20, NKJV)*

*“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”  
(John 17:3, NKJV)*

4. He knew that He was not at home here
  - a. Though He loved His people, He longed for His Father
  - b. He longed for His home

c. He lived out His life in a manner that was worthy of the home He left and would return to...

C. He calls us to live with the same focus

### **Colossians 3.1-7**

*“To them 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.”*

*(Colossians 1:27, NKJV)*

*“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

*Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.” (1Peter 2:9–12, NKJV)*

D. He has been exalted and in Him YOU are exalted. When He returns, you will be exalted WITH and IN Him

## E. Therefore... Walk worthy

### 1. Of your calling

*“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”*

*(Ephesians 4:1–3, NKJV)*

### 2. Of the Gospel

*“Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,”* (Philippians 1:27, NKJV)

### 3. Of your Lord

*“For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”*

*(Colossians 1:9–10, NKJV)*