

# *Destined to Reign!*

**Hebrews 2:5-9**

East Berlin Community Church

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March 16, 2025

## Introduction

- “What do I want to do when I grow up? What am I destined to be?”
- The struggle with feeling like I am not doing what I am destined to do in life.

## *Destined to Reign!*

### **A. Our Destiny Detailed: To Reign Over Creation and the World.**

- Hebrews 2:5--*“For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.”*
- 1. Our rule will be over the “world to come”.**
    - a. Refers to the “inhabited earth”
    - b. A-millennialists-- no future earthly kingdom, but Jesus Christ is reigning now in heaven.
    - c. The present world is going to be significantly changed.
      - Zechariah 14:10-11-- *“, “All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin’s Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king’s winepresses. The people dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.”*
    - d. **The “world to come” is Christ’s Millennial kingdom here on earth.**
  - 2. Our rule over creation was God’s design from the beginning.**
    - Hebrews 2:6-8-- *“But one testified in a certain place, saying: ‘What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You take care of him? You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet.’ 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.”*
    - a. Quoting from Psalm 8, man was originally made *“lower than the angels”*.
    - b. The one *“who was made lower than the angels”* was given *“glory and honor”*.
    - c. **Man was given dominion over all of God’s creation.**
      - Genesis 1:26-30-- *“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ And God said, ‘See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food’; and it was so. “*

d. **Everything in the created world was under the control of man.**

- Hebrews 2:8b-- *“For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him.”*

**B. Our Destiny Ruined: Restricted as a result of Adam’s Sin**

- Hebrews 2:8c-- *“But now we do not yet see all things put under him.”*

**1. Man lost control over creation as a result of Adam’s sin.**

- Genesis 3:16-- *“I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”*
- Genesis 3:17-19-- *“Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: ‘Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.’”*
- Genesis 3:22-23-- *“Then the LORD God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever’ — therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.”*

**2. Satan and his fallen angels have usurp authority over the created world**

- John 12:31-- *“prince of this world”*
- Ephesians 6:12-- *“rulers, authorities, powers of darkness, spiritual forces of wickedness”*
- 1 John 5:19b-- *“The whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.”*

**3. Man does not control the natural world, but rather the natural world controls man!**

**C. Our Destiny Restored: “We see Jesus!”**

- Hebrews 2:9-- *“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”*

**1. Jesus regains what Adam lost! He regains dominion over the earth!**

**a. Jesus Christ was “made a little lower than the angels”.**

- Philippians 2:6-8-- *“who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”*

**b. Jesus tasted death for “every man”.**

- Hebrews 2:9b-- *“He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”*
- 1 John 2:2-- *“He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”*

**c. Jesus’ sacrifice is sufficient to save all, but efficient only for those who believe.**

**d. Jesus Christ is now crowned with glory and honor!**

- Philippians 2:9-11-- *“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 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 2:9-11) We now see Jesus “crowned with glory and honor”*

2. **Jesus Christ now reigns in heaven over the heavenly kingdom**
  - a. **Christ's restored dominion over the earth cannot be exercised now in "this present world".**
    - 1) Not "**dominion theology**"-- the belief that the church will establish Christ's kingdom here on earth by progressively taking back the territory now occupied by Satan and his forces.
    - 2) Not "**liberation theology**"-- the belief that the church is to establish the kingdom of Christ through changing the social structure of society, liberating people from oppression, and redistributing wealth so that there is equality and justice.
  - b. **The "present world" is controlled by the four great Gentile kingdoms that will arise.-- Daniel 7**
3. **Jesus Christ will reign here on earth in the "world to come".**
  - Daniel 7:13-14-- *"One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."*
4. **Jesus Christ will share this kingdom with you and I, his "saints".**
  - Daniel 7:18-- *"But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever."*
  - Daniel 7:27-- *"Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all shall serve and obey Him."*
  - Revelation 20:6c-- *"they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."*
5. **The created world will be liberated from the curse and bondage in the "world to come".**
  - Romans 8:19-21-- *"The earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."*
6. **Until our destiny is restored and realized, we live by keeping our eyes on Jesus!**