"BORN TO DIE"

Hebrews 2:9
12/20/92

"But we see Jesus" - (through eyes of faith - cp. I Peter 1:8)

"Made a little lower" -

"Little" - for a short time (inn comparison to eternity, 33 years was a very short time)

"Lower" - Though He is *"better than angels"* (Heb. 1:4), Christ by coming to earth and becoming man, took upon Himself human limitations that angels don't have (He became subject to hunger, thirst, weariness, etc.)

Phil. 2:6 - Though Jesus was "*in the form of God, He considered it not robbery to be equal . . ."*

"For the suffering of death" - Angels, being spirit beings do not die. Jesus became man so that He could suffer pain and death.

"Christ was made for **a little while lower than the angels** so that He could become a man. He became a man so that He could die. He came to die because His death, and only His death, could accomplish man's salvation. Those tiny hands fashioned by the Holy Spirit in Mary's womb were made to take two great nails. Those little feet were made to climb a hill and be nailed to a cross. That sacred head was made to wear a crown of thorns, and that tender body wrapped in swaddling clothes was made to be pierced by a spear. For this Christ came to earth. His death was the furthest thing from an accident. And, despite the malignant evil that crucified Him, His death was the furthest thing from a tragedy. It was God's ultimate plan for His Son and His ultimate gift for mankind." (MacArthur, p. 63)

This death was not tragedy or accident but part of God's divine plan.

"Crowned with glory and honor" -

--Though He wore the diadem of King of kings and Lord of lords;
--Though He shared the same glory as God the Father and the Holy Spirit;
--Though He was honored by angels, and all of creation declared His glory and honor,

Yet, He was made incarnate, to die.

"By the grace of God" - Grace refers to the unmerited, undeserved kindness and favor of God.

G od's
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Man did not deserve Christ to come and die. If it were deserved, it would not be grace (Eph. 2:8-9)

"Taste death" - a euphemism describing how He fully experienced death.

All of our iniquity was laid upon Him, and at that moment, His fellowship with the Father was severed as He became a curse for us. He experienced the spiritual horrors that preceded His death and then literally died to ransom mankind.

"For" - In the place of; He became our scape goat; our substitutionary Lamb

"For every man" - Not for a select few, but that all men could be saved, Jesus died for sins of the entire world (I Jn. 2:2)

His death is sufficient for all, but is only efficient for those who believe.

CONCLUSION:

"What will you do with Jesus?"