

“For a Little While Lower Than the Angels”
Hebrews 2:9

The Jewish people were aware that God had spoken throughout their honored history as a nation through the prophets in many unique ways (1:1), including through the ministry of angels. We who live in these last days are also aware of the significant role angels had in the events surrounding the birth of Christ. After opening his epistle with a definitive statement about the identity and mission of Jesus (1:2-3), the writer of Hebrews devotes considerable space and adds numerous Old Testament references (2:4-2:8) to describe how Jesus is superior to angels in every way. The writer of Hebrews then describes, however, our Lord’s incarnation as a time when “Jesus was made for a little while lower than the angels” (2:7, 9). In our brief time on this Christmas morning, we will highlight three reasons as to why it was necessary for our Lord to lower Himself to come in this way.

1. He came by the grace of God to taste death for everyone. (2:9).
2. He came to free us from the enslaving fear of death (2:14-15).
3. He came that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest (2:17-18; 4:14-16).