C. We get the full "son of man" picture when we begin grouping the Old Testament passages with the New Testament according to their subject.

### THE MINISTRY OF THE SON OF MAN

The Son of Man in the Old Testament

#### <u>His Ministry Necessitated</u> Typical scattered uses of "son of man"

- All references in Numbers, Job, Psalms (except 8:4), Isaiah, Daniel 8:17 speak to the utter weakness and transitory frailty of men in general in contrast to God Himself, or even angels.
- Num. 23:19 "...that he should lie, neither the son of man that he should repent...
- Job 25:6 "...that is a worm and the son of man which is a worm..."
- Isaiah 51:12 "...thou shalt die and the son of man which shall be made as grass..."

  No dignity, untrustworthy, as grass. (Cf. Jas.)

#### Related Son of Man References Linked in the New Testament

## The generic use of the term "son of man" not Linked in the N.T. This is primarily an O.T. phrase, although the plural form is used twice in Mark 3:28 and in Eph. 3:5.

[As an aside: With one exception (Stephen in Acts 7:56) Jesus Christ Himself is the only One who elevates this term from a general description of all men to the specific description of Himself.]

# This is the center spread of the handout.

We'll enlarge each section as we touch on it.

#### **His Ministry Anticipated**

#### The "son of man" in Ezekiel

 Ezekiel - \*God's special name for Ezekiel, stressing suffering or future glory. In this manner, he is representative of his genre as representing mankind. \*Over 90 times!

BTW: Gabriel calls Daniel "son of man" one time.

#### Examples: "Son of man....

- 3:1 ..I will send thee...
- ...unto the house of Israel / Jerusalem, 20:27...s
- ...unto the *nations:* 25:2, ...Tyre, 28:21, ...Edom, 29:2, ...Pharaoh, Egypt, Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon, etc...
- <u>Dominant themes</u>: Coming Judgment and Coming Restoration and rule.

#### Linked to the Son of man in the Gospels

- Gospels Christ, speaking of Himself *in the tone of Ezekie*l with the recurring theme of suffering/resurrection. (80x in gospels!)
- Notice these Matthew verses in particular: 9:6, 12:8, 13:41, 16:27 & 28, 19:28, 24:27, 30, 37, 39,44; 25:13, 31; 26:64.
- <u>Dominant themes</u>: His suffering, death, and resurrection, judgment and the coming regeneration ALL speak to His *authority*.

Q: So, WHY is this Christ's favorite name for Himself?

#### **His Ministry Elevated**

#### The Son of Man Psalm 8:3-6

This is a pillar passage! It is one of the pilings upon which the book of Hebrews rests!

3-6 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

#### Salient Questions:

Q: What was the Psalmist viewing when he described the status of the son of man?

A: (1) The Lord has been mindful of man, (2) has visited him, (3) has made him a little lower than the angels, (4) has crowned him with glory and honor, (5) has made him to have <u>dominion</u> over the works of His hands and (6) has put all things under his feet.

Q: Has this happened? Yes or no?

#### Linked to the Son of Man and Interpreted in Heb. 1 & 2

#### Listen to the instructor's overview of chapters 1 and 2.

- In what way was the ministry of Christ affirmed by a higher <u>authority</u> than the law's affirmation?
- In what way does the ministry of the Son have a higher purpose?
- · What will be unique about the angel class in the world to come?
- How will the Psalmists question and declaration be finally and completely fulfilled?

Q: What theme links Psalm 8 with Hebrews 1 & 2?

#### **His Ministry Consummated**

#### The Son of Man in Daniel 7:9-14

This is the second pillar passage! It sets the stage for the entire book of Revelation!

From 13,14: I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, ...And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

#### Salient Questions:

**Q:** Who is the <u>Son of man</u> and who is the Ancient of Days, and exactly what is being *given* to the <u>Son of Man</u> in Daniel's vision?

**A**: In Daniel's vision the term <u>son of man</u> will be elevated to one Person, who will be representative of all sons of men and given *dominion*.

#### Linked and Interpreted in Revelation 1, 4 & 5

- (Rev. 1) Who is the Son of Man, how is He attired and why?
- (Rev. 4) Does this passage relate to any other passage in the Bible?
- (Ezek. 1:10 and Rev. 4:7) What do these faces represent?
- (Rev. 5) What is the Son of Man doing?
- (Rev 5) Why is He qualified to do it?

#### Q: What theme links Daniel 7 and Revelation 1, 4 & 5