

Psalm 8:4-9

King James Version

Translation 1611

**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:

All sheep and oxen, yea,
and the beasts of the field;
The fowl of the air, and the fish of
the sea, and whatsoever passeth
through the paths of the seas.

O LORD our Lord,
how excellent is
thy name in all the earth!

New Revised Standard Version

Contemporary Translation

**...what are humans
that you are mindful of them,
mortals** that you care for them?

Yet you have made **them** a little lower
than God and crowned
them with glory and honor.

You have given them
dominion over the
works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,

all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air,
and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the
seas.

O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is
your name in all the earth!

The Message

Contemporary Paraphrase

Why do you bother with **us**?
Why take a second look
our way?

Yet **we've** so narrowly missed
being gods,
bright with Eden's dawn light.

You put us
in charge of your
handcrafted world,
repeated to us your
Genesis-charge,
Made us **stewards** of

sheep and cattle,
even animals out in the wild,
Birds flying and fish swimming,
whales singing in the ocean
deeps.

God, brilliant Lord,
your name
echoes around the world.