

HEBREWS 2:14-18



Jesus is the victory and help we need

Jesus removes the power of the devil and death by His death (2:14-15)

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things,

- ❖ Chapter 1 teaches the eternal deity of God the Son, Jesus Christ
 - ❖ Chapter 2 communicates the full humanity of Jesus and the connection He shares with His people
 - ❖ In humble condescension, Jesus becomes completely like the flesh and blood humanity He came to save
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- ❖ The saving mission of Jesus, clothed in humanity, puts the glory of God's grace on display
 - ❖ John 1:14
 - ❖ For Jesus to save His children, He had to become like His children
 - ❖ Philippians 2:5–8
 - ❖ Jesus willingly accepted human weaknesses and mortality to fulfill the saving purposes of the redemptive plan of God
 - ❖ The Son of God becoming a perfect human sacrifice of atonement was the only way and the perfect way
 - ❖ Don't feel important; be thankful!
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that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

- ❖ The payment of the sinless life of Jesus is made to satisfy the demand of God for righteousness
 - ❖ The devil deceived Eve, which led Adam to choose to disobey the direct instruction of the Lord not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
 - ❖ In Adam, we all die and are conceived as sinners
 - ❖ Psalm 51:5
 - ❖ The fall brought all men and women under the rule and reign of sin and the devil
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- ❖ Jesus willingly takes on flesh and blood so that He can offer Himself as the sinless Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
 - ❖ The devil is destroyed (removed from power, brought to an end) by the sacrificial death of Jesus
 - ❖ The price of redemption is paid by the death of Jesus to satisfy God's justice
 - ❖ Those who trust in the work of their Savior are freed from the controlling power of the enemy of God and righteousness
 - ❖ Death and darkness are the domain of the devil and the evil angels
 - ❖ Through His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus is the conquering King for all those abiding in Him by faith
 - ❖ Colossians 2:13-15
 - ❖ In the victory that is ours through Jesus, we are empowered to trust and obey
 - ❖ Romans 6:12-14
 - ❖ Jesus brings the rule and reign of sin and Satan to an end
 - ❖ We are to live like we believe it and advance by means of the gospel of the kingdom
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¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

- ❖ Divine accountability is connected to the fear of death
 - ❖ The earthbound gratification of nerve endings becomes the primary way to deaden oneself to the fear of death
 - ❖ Deadening oneself to the fear of death becomes the ever-tightening shackles to the reign of death in human life
 - ❖ Paul declares that such a mindset makes sense if Jesus isn't our victory over death
 - ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:32
 - ❖ Those who belong to Jesus have no need to fear death
 - ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:54–57
 - ❖ May the grace of our Lord enable us to live well and to die well
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Jesus is a high priest who suffered and helps His suffering people (2:16-18)

¹⁶ *For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.*

- ❖ The writer of Hebrews returns to dealing with their misguided thoughts about the prominence of angels
 - ❖ Angels are not the focus of the help Jesus provides
 - ❖ Jesus became human because humans are the focus of His help
 - ❖ *“he helps the offspring of Abraham”* – People become children of Abraham, not by bloodlines, but by faith in Jesus
 - ❖ Romans 9:7–8
 - ❖ Galatians 3:7
 - ❖ Galatians 3:29
 - ❖ Jesus is there to help (take hold of, grasp and sustain) those who are His children by faith
 - ❖ Thinking there are bloodline benefits is erroneous
 - ❖ Thinking that angels are more the focus of the Lord is erroneous
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Jesus is a high priest who suffered and helps His suffering people (2:16-18)

¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

- ❖ To help His children, Jesus needed to become completely like them
 - ❖ “merciful” - Knowing what His children experience as humans puts Him in a place where He can be compassionate as He alleviates the misery they experience
 - ❖ Being a faithful high priest means that He represents us to God completely and flawlessly
 - ❖ By making propitiation, Jesus knows how our sinfulness stirs the righteous wrath of God and how His work cleanses our sins and appeases God’s wrath
 - ❖ Hebrews 10:31
 - ❖ Jesus appeasing God’s righteous wrath is a merciful thing that only He can do
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Jesus is a high priest who suffered and helps His suffering people (2:16-18)

¹⁸ For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

- ❖ Sadly, we can pout and feel sorry for ourselves feeling that no one, including the Lord, can relate to what we're going through
 - ❖ In fact, Jesus suffered in ways as a righteous man to which we can never relate
 - ❖ Jesus knows suffering and He understands what we are going through
 - ❖ Jesus knows temptation and how to deal with it effectively
 - ❖ Jesus does, and He stands fast on the bank of truth to pull you from despair and defeat
 - ❖ Galatians 2:20
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Questions to Consider

- ❖ How is the humble condescension of Jesus a blessing to you? How is it an example for you?
 - ❖ In what ways is understanding the victory of Jesus over the devil and his power over death helpful?
 - ❖ Why is living well important to dying well?
 - ❖ Why is it important to remember that Jesus knows suffering and can understand what you are going through?
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