HEBREWS: CHRIST IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018

The Liberator Hebrews 2:14-18 October 12, 2017

I. Jesus shares our humanity to liberate us from the Devil's tyranny.

- :14a A. The necessity of Jesus' incarnation.
 - 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, ...
- :14b B. The purpose of Jesus' incarnation.

...that through death...

- :14c-15 C. The outcomes of Jesus' death.
 - 1. To destroy and conquer the Devil. cf. I John 3:8 ...he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,
 - 2. To deliver us from the fear of death.

 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

II. Jesus shares our humanity to help us in temptation.

:16 A. The recipients of His help.

cf. Galatians 3:29

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

- :17-18 B. The outcomes of His help.
 - 1. For Jesus

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, ...

2. For us

...to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

a. Removal of God's wrath by sacrifice. cf. Luke 18:14

"God loved the objects of His wrath so much that He gave His own Son to the end that He by His blood should make provision for the removal of His wrath. It was Christ's so to deal with the wrath that the loved would no longer be the objects of wrath, and love would achieve its aim of making the children of wrath the children of God's good pleasure."

- John Murray, *The Atonement*

- b. Rescue for the tempted.
 - "Temptation is a seduction to sin that diverts us from communion with God and the obedience He requires."

 John Owen

"Temptation is always an alternative to discipleship. It is an invitation to be "self-made, deriving one's knowledge, satisfactions and values from the created world in defiance of the Creator."

- Derek Kidner

III. Conclusion

- A. We have a real and mighty enemy in the Devil who seeks to work us woe.
- B. We have an all-sufficient, sympathizing Savior who promises to save and help us.
- C. Getting home to heaven with faithfulness to Jesus Christ as our crowning achievement is a great legacy worth pursuing.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why was it necessary for Christ to be made like us? According to Hebrews 2:14-18, what reasons have to do with us and what reasons have to do with Jesus?
- 2. Why do you think people have such a fear of death? How does Jesus and His gospel release us from the fear of death (cf. 1 Peter 1:3-4)?
- 3. In everyday terms, what does it mean and not mean that Jesus disarms the devil (vv. 14-16) How does Jesus disarm the devil?
- 4. In what ways does Jesus fulfill the role of high priest? See Hebrews 4:15-16; 7:26-28; 9:11-14
- 5. How would you counsel a young believer facing temptation to abandon his faith? How does knowing the merciful heart of Jesus help you deal with temptation?

Going Deeper

- 1. With what were the original Hebrew Christians being tempted? How are we like them?
- 2. Look up the word "propitiation." What does it mean?
 Why do you think the notion of God's wrath being satisfied is so unpopular today even in the church?