

Hebrew 2:9-18

“Why God became man”

Why did God have to become man?

Why did He have to suffer and die?

- big stumbling block for the Jews
- Acts 17:2— “He reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and rise from the dead”
- 1 Corinthians 1:22— Christ crucified, a stumbling block for the Jews and folly to the Gentiles”

To be/become our:

1. Substitute (9)

- “taste death for everyone”
 - Grace
 - Went into death and came out the other side

2. Salvation-Author (10)

- “Fitting”
 - He for whom and by all things exist
 - Everything exists for the glory of God
- “in bringing many sons to glory”
 - Goal of the incarnation
 - Salvation wasn’t merely just saving from sin but saving to God
- founder = pioneer
 - Someone who blazed a trail for others to follow
 - Built a city for others to live
 - Lead mountain climber who sets the ropes and hooks
 - Makes a way/path
 - Psalm 24— he brought flesh into glory so we could go with Him
- “perfect through suffering”
 - Not that he wasn’t perfect but gives the image of tested and proven
 - He came and was faithful where we fail
 - He fulfilled where we couldn’t

3. Sanctifier (11-13)

- sanctify = set apart for work
 - One source = His work
- sons= brothers= children
 - Psalm 22:22
 - Isaiah 8:7-11
 - Jesus never referred to his disciples as brothers until after the resurrection
 - John 20:17— “..go to my brothers and tell them I am ascending to my Father”
 - We aren’t born naturally children of God, yet in salvation we are brought into the family.
 - And not step-children, but children of God.. Christ is our elder brother

4. Satan conqueror (14-15)

- partook in the same things
 - He took on something not natural to Him so He can put on us something that is not natural to us

- through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death
 - He has a better weapon
 - The devil's weapon is death, His is eternal life
 - Through death and out the other side
 - *Genesis 3:15— "he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel"*
 - *Colossians 2:15— "He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame"*
 - *1 John 3:8 — "the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil"*
- to deliver
 - The gospel promises that death doesn't get the final word
 - We've been set free from that bondage, and received the spirit of adoption

5. Sympathizer (16-18)

- "he had to be made"
- Every respect — temptation, weariness, hunger, etc
- A priest represents people before God
 - He now represents us because he was made to be like us
- Propitiation — satisfied God's wrath
 - Absorbed in a couple hours what lost sinners will experience for eternity
 - He can sympathize because he has dealt with our sin
- he is able to help those who are tempted
 - We can never say that He doesn't understand
 - He has experienced suffering, temptation, rejection, grief, pain, disappointment, and death
 - *Hebrews 4:15— "for we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin"*
 - I can sympathize with you but I can't save you
- "offspring of Abraham"
 - *Galatians 3:29— "and if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise"*

Small Group Discussion:

1. **How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?**
2. **Why was it necessary for Jesus to become truly human and suffer death?** How does *Hebrews 2:9* help us understand the purpose of Christ's incarnation and death?
3. ***Hebrews* says Jesus is our Substitute, Salvation-Author, and Sanctifier.** What does each of these truths mean, and how should knowing that Jesus died *for us* and is making us holy affect the way we live?
4. **How did Jesus defeat Satan and deliver us from the fear of death (vv. 14–15)?** What fears, anxieties, or struggles can arise from the fear of death, and how does the gospel give us freedom from those fears?
5. **Verse 18 says Jesus is able to help those who are being tempted because He Himself suffered when tempted.** How does knowing that Jesus understands our suffering and temptation change the way you respond when you are struggling? How can you practically draw near to Him in those moments?