

Hebrews 2:14-18

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Introduction: GPS to the family reunion... incarnation, death, resurrection, ministry from the right hand of majesty

1. Incarnation

- a. God calls us children. Jesus calls us His brethren.
- b. He needed to suffer first to go ahead of us.
- c. He needed flesh and blood in order to die.
- d. Application. This is one of the reasons that the Lord's Supper is so important for you: Come. Prepared. Remember. Respond.
- e. Application. Familiarity that breeds reverence.

2. Death

- a. The devil and his works had to be destroyed (cf. 1Jn 3)
- b. The devil's great power is death. Death's great power is fear. Fear keeps people as slaves. How? Because of real guilt and real wrath.
- c. Jesus' death was not (like suffering) a shared experience with us. It was a substitutionary experience for us.
 - i. Totally of His free will because of love, v16
 - ii. Totally effective, with no contribution from us. Propitiation. Full atonement. Wrath obliteration. v17.
 - iii. Application. Now we say, "Where is your sting, death? Where is your victory, grave?" But you can only say this if you come only in what Christ has done.

3. Resurrection ministry

- a. Sanctification (cf. v11). We have to be made holy to see the Lord.
- b. Sympathy. He helps us (v18). By His suffering and death, He has earned the right from God's justice. By His suffering, He has sweetened the experience by sharing it. By His suffering, He has earned your confidence as someone who has been there.
- c. Application: treasure and pursue holiness.
- d. Application: prioritize seeking His face over facebook, and prayer requests over friend requests

Conclusion: all of this should drive us all the more to worship. Christ has lost none of the glory of His person to do this for us. He has only added glory as our Mediator. Let us be like Thomas, and fall at His feet crying, My Lord, and My God.