

## Hebrews 7:26

### Separate From Sinners

When we think of Jesus we are faced with the unexplainable duality of His unique person. We see the blazing fire of His devotion to God and the warm and welcoming glow of His love for the helpless and weak and although, at first glance, the two might seem unrelated, they are in essence two sides of the same substance. We have been considering some of the aspects of His person that are so powerfully laid out here in Hebrews:

He is no sinner Himself - Holy

He was no hater of sinners - Harmless

He was not stained by them - undefiled

Today we continue and come to the place of His separation from us, for He is separate from sinners and must be, yet He remains also connected to us... it is yet another point in which God's mysterious provision cannot be fully grasped. However, there is much that we can understand about the perfection of our High Priest, when we consider that He is separate from sinners.

## I. ALIKE IN SOME WAYS

A. In nature, He was fully human

*“For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,” (Romans 8:3, NKJV)*

*“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”  
(Galatians 4:4, NKJV)*

*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14, NKJV)*

B. But He was in the LIKENESS of sinful flesh alone

*“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21, NKJV)*

1. He had our nature but was free of sin, it was essential that He had our nature or He could not have been our sacrifice.

C. He was like us in fellowship - He did not hold us at arm's length

1. A friend of publicans and sinners

2. He was willing to have concourse with the lowest of the nation
  3. He was approachable
- D. He was human enough to have compassion on us for and in our weakness

*“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:35–36)*

## **II. SEPARATE NATURE**

- A. Fully God
- B. The perfect God-Man
- C. He was always perfectly Himself, there was never any time when Jesus pretended or put on airs
  1. Earnest in prayer

*“Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.” (Luke 6:12, NKJV)*

2. Constant in Mercy

## **Matthew 20.29-34**

### **3. Loving in Rebuke**

*“And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, “Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”” (Mark 8:31–33, NKJV)*

*“When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”” (Luke 22:45–46, NKJV)*

### **4. Obedient in Life**

*“And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” (Luke 22:41–44, NKJV)*

5. Faithful unto death

*“And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8, NKJV)*

6. Trusting in Submission

*“Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.” (John 5:19)*

### **III. SEPARATE DESIRES**

- A. He always loved God more than anything else
- B. He always hated sin more than any passing desire could overcome
- C. He endured the terrible reality of becoming our sin in all its pain and misery and yet not the least part of Him had any communion WITH that sin.

### **IV. SEPARATE BEHAVIOR**

- A. Refused the influence of the wicked
- B. He was unconcerned about their opinions of Him
- C. He was not to be drawn into their fights and cliques

## **Cf Matt 22.15-42**

1. He silenced the Herodians and the Pharisees
  2. He silenced the Sadducees
  3. He silenced the Pharisees themselves
  4. He showed His own superiority to all their understanding and demonstrated His own control over the whole situation and narrative
- B. Was not intimidated by their threats nor their attempts to silence and destroy Him
1. He was the one in charge of when and how He died
  2. According the plan of God and the purpose of God
  3. No authority existed above that of God
- C. He never approved of sin

## **Romans 1.28-32**

- D. He never desired sin, it was repulsive to Him

## **V. SEPARATE RELATIONSHIP TO SIN**

- A. He did not hide sin so as to prevent punishment.

- B. He did not pretend that people were innocent in a misguided attempt to protect them from the consequences of their sin
- C. He did not disregard sin as if it were unimportant
- D. Rather, He covered it in His own blood and bore the burden of satisfying the needed punishment.

*“knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” (1 Peter 1:18–19, NKJV)*

1. Thus, He became the great relief for us FROM our sin
2. He REMOVED our sin
3. He did this THROUGH enduring the punishment on our behalf.

E. He destroyed the power of sin forever and was the ONLY source of our freedom.

1. Sin desires to destroy us,

*“So the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies*

*at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”” (Genesis 4:6–7, NKJV)*

2. Christ died to free us from its grip

*“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:1–2, NKJV)*