

**I. Introduction and review.**

**II. God the Son had to become one of us. v. 14a,17a**

**A. At a point in history the eternal God the Son became a man. Col. 2:9 John 1:1,14**

- 1. He is fully human in every respect. v. 17a**
- 2. Yet he does not have our sinful nature. 4:15 II Co. 5:21 Rom. 8:3**
- 3. He had to be fully human in order to truly represent us, His children. 2:13**

**B. It is important that we have an accurate understanding of the incarnation.**

- 1. He is (and remains) 100% God. John 20:28 Col. 2:9 Phil. 2:5-8**
- 2. He is 100% man (forever). Gal. 4:4**
- 3. His two natures are not intermingled or confused.**
- 4. The mystery of the incarnation is great. Dt. 29:29**

**III. Christ came to be our Champion Who conquers our oppressor and sets us free. v. 14-15**

**A. Christ's work is the climax of the cosmic duel between God and Satan. Gen. 3:15**

- 1. Our first representative lost our dominion to Satan, resulting in our being enslaved under death. Gen. 3:1f I Jo. 5:19 Rom. 5:12 John 12:31 17:15**
- 2. In what sense did the devil have power over death?**
  - a. The devil does not have sovereign power over the lives of human beings. Dt. 32:39 Rev. 1:18 Job 1-2 Gen. 2:17 I Ki. 2:6 Mt. 10:28 Rev. 1;18**
  - b. The devil caused the entry of death into creation. Jo. 8:44**
  - c. The devil is employed by God in judgments of death. I Co. 10:10 5:5 Ps. 78:49**
- 3. God promised one born of a woman who would crush the serpent's head. Ge. 3:15 Isa. 7:14 9:6-7 Luke 2:11 Gal. 4:4**
- 4. Christ has come as the second and last representative man to destroy Satan. 2:10 Isa. 42:13 49:24-26 I Sam. 17:1f**
- 5. He did this at great cost to Himself: by death He conquered death. 2:9 Gen. 3:15**

**B. Through His victory our enemy is defeated, freeing us from bondage. v. 14b-15**

- 1. In what sense has the devil been rendered powerless (destroyed)? v. 14b I Pe. 5:8-9 I John 3:8 Jo. 12:31-32 Col. 2:15 Luke 13:16**
- 2. Is Satan bound? Luke 11:21-22 Isa. 49:24-26 Rev. 20:2**
- 3. Before death terrorized us. v. 15a Heb. 9:27**
- 4. Christ has removed the sting of death. I Co. 15:54-57,24-26 II Tim. 1:10**
- 5. Now, for the believer, death is gain. Phil. 1:21 Rom. 8:31f**
- 6. We can resist Satan who will be crushed by God under our feet. Ro. 16:20 Js. 4:7**

**IV. Christ came to be our High Priest to help us in our greatest need. v. 16-18**

**A. He is our great High Priest. v. 17a 8:1 I Sam. 2:35**

- 1. A priest performs mediation between God and man.**
- 2. In order to represent us, He had to be one of us. 5:1**
- 3. He is merciful towards us. 4:15-5:10 Luke 8:13 I Jo. 4:10 5:6,8,10**
- 4. He is faithful to God the Father. 3:1-4:14 10:7-9**
- 5. Our High Priest helps us in two important ways. v. 16 8:9 Je. 31:31-32 Mt. 14:31**

**B. Our High Priest has made propitiation for our sins. v. 17b Rom. 3:25 I Jo. 2:2 4:10**

1. Because of our sin and guilt we are unfit to enter God's presence. Rom. 3:23
2. He accomplishes what the Old Covenant sacrifices only symbolized. 10:4-7
3. He stood in our place turning away God's wrath. 2:9 7:27 9:27 10:31 II Co. 5:21
  
4. How is He qualified to represent us?
  - a. He had to be a man to die in the place of men. Mt. 1:21
  - b. He had to be sinless in order to bear the sins of others. 7:26 I Pe. 1:18-19
  - c. He had to be God to pay an infinite price for many.
5. He makes propitiation for the sins of His *people*. v. 17b 2:9 4:9 11:25 Titus 2:14
  
- C. Our High Priest helps those who are tempted. v. 18 4:15 7:25 Rom. 8:34
  1. He has been tempted in every way: hunger, thirst, rejection, grief, family conflict, bereavement, fear, betrayal, desertion, slander, physical abuse, and death  
John 4:6-7 11:35 12:27 13:21 14:9 Mt. 4:2 14:10-13 26:14-16,56,69-75 27:26-44  
Isa. 53:2-3 Mark 3:31 14:33 Luke 22:44 23:46 Mt. Ps. 41:9 I Pe. 2:22-23
  2. He has been tempted to the fullest extent. Mt. 4:1f 26:36f John 6:14
  3. The essence of temptation is that you are enticed to do what seems to be the easy thing by putting your will above God's.
  4. Because Jesus has experienced the full power of temptation and suffering, he is able to sympathize and help us when we are tempted. 12:2
  5. Look to Him for help. 4:15-16 Mt. 14:31 Isa. 41:10,13 Psalm 23 I Co. 10:13
  6. How does He help you? 7:25 4:15,12 10:24-25 12:12 Mt. 11:28f Rom. 8:34
  7. Your suffering temptation equips you to help others. II Co. 1:3-7
  
- D. Whom does Jesus, our High Priest, help (represent)? v. 16
  1. Not angels. *Last mention: theme of section.*
  2. Not all men without exception. 2:9 John 17:9 10:11:26-28
  3. But only the seed (children) of Abraham. Ex. 28:29
  4. Who is a child of Abraham? John 8:39 Ga. 3:6,16,29 Ro. 9:7 4:11 John 1:12-13

## V. Concluding applications.

- A. What is the reason for the season?
- B. The incarnation is not merely an abstract theological concept. It has important ramifications for real life.

## Discussion questions

1. What, if anything, is wrong with the following statements?
  - a. Jesus Christ is half man and half God.
  - b. Jesus just appeared to be a man, but really he was just God.
  - c. Jesus Christ has a human body, but God's soul.
  - d. To err (sin) is human.
  - e. Now that He is in heaven, God the Son is no longer a man.
  - f. God the Father died on the cross for our sins.
  - g. Christ's divine nature is eternal.
2. Why did God the Son become man?
3. How did Jesus defeat the devil?
4. What effect does Jesus' conquest of the devil have on our lives?
5. Is there a sense in which we can say Satan is bound? Explain.
6. In what ways does Jesus function as our High Priest?
7. What does propitiation mean?
8. Why is Jesus best qualified and able to help us when we are tempted?
9. How does He help us when we are tempted?