



Welcome To Open Bible Hour

Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!

Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews.

If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.

Our website: OpenBibleHour.net



Open Bible Hour Christmas Banquet

Tuesday, December 4, 6:00 p.m.

Wooddale Church, Great Room

Register at the Wooddale Ticket Desk

Beginning Sunday, November 4

\$12.00 / person

Bring a gender-neutral gift to share

(\$5 value)

“5 REASONS JESUS HAD TO BECOME A MAN”

PART 2

Heb. 2:14-18

Nov. 11, 2012

Heb 2:14-18

- 14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,
- 15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.
- 16 For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham.
- 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

5 Reasons Jesus Had to Become a Man:

Jews believe that the Messiah will assume no physical form. God is Eternal, above time. He is Infinite, beyond space. He cannot be born, and cannot die. Saying that God assumes human form makes God small, diminishing both His unity and His divinity.

1. To taste the suffering of death for everyone. (9,10)

9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

Gen 2:17

17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

Rom 6:23

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. To achieve positional righteousness which leads to our practical sanctification. (11-13)

11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

12 saying,

"I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHERN,
IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE."

13 And again,

"I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM."

And again,

"BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."

**Christ never referred to His followers as "brethren" before the cross. Not until after the cross, when they had been imputed with His righteousness.

Heb 10:14-15

14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

3. To defeat Satan and strip him of his power and ability to permanently keep anyone under the power of spiritual death. (14)

14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Implications:

1. Christ had to become like us in flesh & blood in order to die. Angels are not made of flesh & blood and therefore angels don't die.
2. Satan brought sin and death into this world, by getting Adam and Eve to fall, but it was by that same death that would spell his defeat. God turned the tables.
3. Satan cannot overpower, entice, execute judgment over anyone who willingly chooses, by the power of God, to resist him.
4. Satan therefore becomes the instrument in God's hands for endless exaltation and glory throughout eternity.

Theodicy

The defense of God's goodness and omnipotence in view of the existence of evil and suffering in the world.

The world's line of reasoning:

1. God exists.
2. Evil exists.
3. God hates evil.
4. God is all-powerful.

Checkmate – Gotcha!!

Not so fast. The Bible presents an additional crucial, overriding point to the list -

5. God allows the existence of evil, pain, & suffering to demonstrate who He is. So it all is for His glory.

Rom 3:22

25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness,

Rom 5:8

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 9:17

17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND THAT MY NAME MIGHT BE PROCLAIMED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH."

Dan 2:21

21 "It is He who changes the times and the epochs;
He removes kings and establishes kings;

Prov 21:1

21 The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord;
He turns it wherever He wishes.

Rom 9:22-23

22 What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?

23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

1 Tim 1:16

16 so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example.

Luke 1:57-58

57 Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son.

58 Her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they were rejoicing with her.

Ezek 28:22

22 'Thus says the Lord God,

"Behold, I am against you, O Sidon,

And I will be glorified in your midst.

Then they will know that I am the Lord when I execute judgments in her,

And I will manifest My holiness in her.

Eph 1:4-14

- 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 **to the praise of the glory of His grace**, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
- 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
- 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him
- 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him
- 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,
- 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be **to the praise of His glory**.
- 13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,
- 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, **to the praise of His glory**.

4. To free believers from the slavery of the fear of death. (15)

15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

How often do you think about dying and are you afraid to die ?

“All the time. Every time I leave my house I leave everything as how I wanted someone to find it, if I were to die. I even leave a note that they could find.”

“I am!!!! I'm terrified that I have to stop breathing in order for it to even happen.”

“I try not to because its scary - no one knows the real truth on what happens to us after we die. The way I see it for me is - take it easy, don't work to hard, have fun. Like they say, you only live once.”

“Usually at night time. I tend to get depressed at night time and always think about stuff.”

“Usually on a normal week I contemplate it over four times in that week.”

“I'm afraid to die. I wish that I should not die in pain . I should faint first then die.”

If I Should Die

The ratio of people living in this world who will die is 1 to 1. We all have a life fuse that is lit when we are born. At some point it will go out. For some it will be sooner rather than later . . . but everyone's fuse will go out, we just don't know when. We are all terminal. The question then is where will I spend eternity? Let's see what the Bible says.

The Dilemma

The dilemma that faces each of us is simple – God is holy and we are sinful, sinful because we have disobeyed God's law and fall far short of God's perfect standard, and therefore we are separated from God.

The Bible says 3 things about us:

- 1. We all come into this world separated from God.** Romans 6:23 "The wages of sin is death" [spiritual separation from God]. We were born sinners and the proof of that, the Bible says, is that we all die. In fact because of our sin & separation from God we are children of God's wrath, meaning that God's anger is continually toward us. Ephesians 2:3 "and we were by nature children of wrath,"
- 2. We all have sinned** (Romans 3:23) "for all have sinned and fall short of God's standard of perfection", You say -"But really, I don't sin that much" But the Bible says if we would only sin once in our entire life we are as guilty as if we had committed every sin - Why? Because God's standard is absolute perfection. James 2:10 "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all."
- 3. We all will face judgment because of our sin** (Heb. 9:27). "it is appointed unto man once to die and then comes the judgment," The only way you will ever escape God's judgment is by the removal of the penalty for your sin. In John 5:24 Jesus says, "he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and **does not come into judgment**, but has passed out of death into life."

The penalty for your sin is going to have to be paid for – either by you suffering the penalty for your sin for all of eternity, or by you trusting and believing in Christ, that He paid for your sin on the cross by His death . . . but it will have to be paid for.

To make the dilemma even worse - No religion can save you, no church can save you, no ritual or tradition can save you, baptism cannot save you, and you can't save yourself. Only God through His Son Jesus Christ can save you. And that's what the Bible is saying in John 11:25 - **25 Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies."**

In this verse Jesus makes it very clear how you can know for sure when you die that you will go to Heaven and have eternal life. For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." **He** is the one who will raise you from the dead and **He** is the one who can give you eternal life.

This is no ordinary person speaking here, this is the Son of God (John 10:30; 14:9). He proved He was the Son of God by the sinless life He lived (2 Cor. 5:21), the miracles He performed and the prophecies He fulfilled. That is why He could say in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life, **no man** comes to the Father except through me"

So how do we enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ – look at the next phrase – "he who believes in me"? One of the best known Bible verses is John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever **believes in Me** should not perish but have eternal life." It is not enough to know about Christ – to have some kind of intellectual knowledge about Him – but the word "believe" here means to place your 100% trust in Him and what He has done for you.

So I face 2 problems that must be overcome if I am going to receive eternal life and live forever in Heaven. I must be forgiven of my sin, and my life must be credited with a perfection as though I had never sinned.