

never be saved, but fallen men and women can be saved!

C. *To become a sympathetic priest (vv. 17–18).*

This is the third reason Christ took on Himself a human body. God knew that His children would need a sympathetic priest to help them in their weaknesses. He permitted His Son to suffer; and through this suffering, He equipped Him for His priestly ministry (v. 10). Christ's person needed no perfecting, since He is God; but as the God-Man, He endured suffering to prepare Himself to meet our needs. He was made flesh at Bethlehem (John 1:14); He was "made like unto His brethren" during His earthly life; and He was "made sin" at the cross (2 Cor. 5:21). Now He is a merciful and faithful High Priest; we can depend on Him! He is able to succor us when we come to Him for aid. The word *succor* means "to run when called for" and was used of physicians. Christ runs to our aid when we call Him!

This section completes the argument for the superiority of Christ over the angels. The writer has shown that Christ is superior in His person and work and in the name the Father has given Him "above every name." The conclusion is clear: since Christ is superior, we must heed His Word and obey it. We must beware of drifting through neglect.

Wiersbe, Warren W. *Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the New Testament*, p 679, p 680, p 681.

Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books, 1997.

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Freedom From A Lifetime of Bondage Hebrews 2:14–18

→ Hebrews 2:14–18

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

→ Message Notes: A Real Power - Death, verse 14

Satan can't kill, Job 2:4-6

Satan brings sin, which brings death, Romans 6:23; 3:23

→ Job 2:4–6

So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.

But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he *is* in your hand, but spare his life."

→ Romans 6:23

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

→ Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

➔ **Message Notes: A Real Fear - Death, verse 15b**

We are afraid of death or dying: it is the ultimate unknown

Fear involves torment, 1 John 4:18

Fear creates bondage

- for some, it is a fixation on death
- for others, it is a fixation on life

➔ **1 John 4:18**

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

➔ **Message Notes: A Real Deliverance - Salvation**

Jesus shared in life & death to break the power of death, verse 14

Jesus shared in life & death to make propitiation, verse 17

- Propitiation defined "offering a sacrifice to remove our guilt before God and reconcile us to God", 1 John 2:2
- He did this by shedding His blood, Romans 3:25

- He did this because He loves us, 1 John 4:10

Jesus shared in life & death to provide comfort to us, verse 18

- He knows what it is to feel temptation
- He knows what it is to feel pain
- He knows what it is to feel fear

➔ **1 John 2:2**

And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

➔ **Romans 3:25**

whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

➔ **1 John 4:10**

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

➔ **An Explanation (2:5–18)**

The writer's argument in chapter 1 that Jesus is better than the angels has raised a new question: "How could Jesus be better when He had a human body? Are not the angels better than He because they had no human bodies to limit them?" This question is answered with an explanation of why Jesus took upon Himself a body of flesh.

A. *To be the Last Adam (vv. 5–13).*

B. *To defeat the devil (vv. 14–16).*

Death and the fear of death were the consequences of Adam's sin ([Gen. 2:17; 3:10](#)). The fear of death has been Satan's strongest weapon. Satan does not have "the power of death" absolutely, since, as we see in Job's case, Satan could do nothing without God's permission ([Job 1–2](#)). The word for power in v. 14 means "might" rather than "authority." Satan has might over sinners and darkness ([Luke 22:53](#)), but Christ has delivered saints from the power of darkness ([Col. 1:12–13](#)). Satan seized this "might of death" to get control over God's creatures; but by His death on the cross, Christ "made inoperative" (destroyed) this power and thus delivered those who were in bondage because of the fear of death. Christ had to have a human body in order to die and thus defeat Satan. See also [1 John 3:8](#). In v. 16 the writer makes it clear that Christ did not take on Himself the nature of angels, but rather the seed of Abraham. In other words, Christ did not become an angel; He became a man, a Jew. He did not die for angels; He died for humans. Fallen angels can

➔ **Hebrews 2:1–4**

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,

how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*,

God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

N	A	A	N	G	E	L	S
B	E	B	G	G	I	V	E
H	R	R	M	B	M	D	G
M	G	A	H	V	E	R	A
R	B	H	H	T	A	E	D
G	E	A	P	A	E	I	N
R	R	M	G	I	N	R	O
D	E	S	D	O	O	L	B
T	H	I	N	G	S	T	G
ABRAHAM	ANGELS	BLOOD					
BONDAGE	BRETHREN	DEATH					
GIVE	TEMPTED	THINGS					

➔ **Hebrews 2:14–18**