

CUR DEUS HOMO

WHY GOD BECAME MAN

The Son's Assumption
Hebrews 2:10-18
December 18, 2022

MAIN POINT: In the incarnation, God the Son came to sanctify and set free his brothers and sisters from the fear of death and death itself through his sufferings; marvel in this!

I. THE SON WHO SUFFERS (Vs. 10)

- Jesus was crowned with glory and honor because of his obedience in suffering a substitutionary death (vv. 9-10), but in order to suffer as the last Adam the Son had to assume a human nature.
 - Through his sufferings, the Son was perfected (or qualified) to be the founder of our salvation (cf. Acts 3:15; 5:31; Heb. 12:2).

II. THE SON WHO SANCTIFIES (Vv. 11-13)

- In the incarnation the Son assumes our human nature, searches us out and suffers as our older Brother, and sanctifies (sets apart as holy) those given to him by God (vv. 11, 13; cf. Isa. 8:17-18).
 - He is not ashamed of his brothers and sisters whom he has redeemed (v. 11), for he has entrusted himself to God while suffering in their place, and now has been raised for their justification and leads them in a chorus of praise to God (v. 12; cf. Ps. 22:22-24).

III. THE SON WHO SAVES (Vv. 14-15)

- If his brothers and sisters were to be redeemed and freed from the one who has the power of death—the devil—the Son had to be made like them, and die a penal substitutionary death as their representative (vv. 14, 17).
 - Through his death and resurrection, the Son takes hold of the keys to death and hades (Rev. 1:18), and sets the captives free (v. 15); death will no longer have the last word (cf. 1 Cor. 15:56).

IV. THE SON WHO SANCTIFIES (Vv. 16-17)

- It was not the nature of angels the Son assumed, but of humans (for he and they are from one [source]); thus, he is able to help Abraham's seed (v. 16; cf. Gal. 3:7-9, 25-29).
 - God the Son assumed a human nature in order to mercifully save us through his own priestly propitiatory (i.e., wrath-appeasing) death (v. 17).

V. THE SON WHO SUFFERS (Vs. 18)

- Both death and the dying process bring temptations toward fear. Take heart, though, for the Son has gone before us, suffered in the face of death, overcame those temptations to fear, brought light into the darkness, and is able to help his brothers and sisters.

Suggested Reading:

The Person of Christ: An Introduction by Stephen Wellum

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Hebrews 2:10-18

1. How would you describe the “fittingness” of the incarnation of the Son and his subsequent sufferings mentioned in our text? In what ways do the Son's sufferings “perfect” him?
2. How does the Son's assumption of a human nature encourage your heart and blow your mind? In what ways does the incarnation display that Jesus delights in his brothers and sisters?
3. Do you find yourself falling into fear when considering death and dying? In what ways? Take some time discussing how Jesus' death and resurrection frees us from our own slavery to fear of death and bondage to the devil.
4. Discuss the relationship between Jesus' priestly work in making propitiation (i.e., wrath-appeasement) for our sins and the removal of our fear and death. How and why are they related?
5. When temptations come, what do you do and to whom do you turn? In your temptations, are you ashamed to turn to Jesus, fearful of what he'll see? Remember, he is not ashamed of his brothers and sisters and he stands ready to help!