Gentle & Lowly

EXPLORING THE HEART OF CHRIST



WEEK TWO

THE SYMPATHY OF JESUS

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The Sympathy of Jesus

Hebrews 4:14-16 ESV

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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1. Jesus Is Our Great High Priest

Hebrews 4:14 ESV

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.



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2. Jesus Sympathises With Our Weaknesses Gentle & Lowly

Hebrews 4:15 ESV

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.



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"Sympathize" here is not cool and detached pity. It is a depth of felt solidarity such as is echoed in our own lives most closely only as parents to children...In our pain, Jesus is pained; in our suffering, he feels the suffering as his own even though it isn't – not that his invincible deity is threatened, but in the sense that his heart is feelingly drawn into our distress....Not only can he alone pull us out of the hole of sin; he alone desires to climb in and bear our burdens."

DANE ORTLUND

If we are to be drawn from jaded, anxious thoughts of God and a love for sin, we need such a knowledge of Christ.

MICHAEL REEVES

3. Jesus Reigns From A Throne Of Grace

Hebrews 4:16 ESV

¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.



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"...Your very sins move him to pity more than to anger...Christ takes part with you, and is so far from being provoked against you, as all his anger is turned upon your sin to ruin it."

THOMAS GOODWIN