

From Slavery to Family

Hebrews 2:10-18 (NIV)

10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. 11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.[a] 12 He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;

in the assembly I will sing your praises.”[b]

13 And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”[c]

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”[d]

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. 16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. 17 For this reason he had to be made like them,[e] fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

-You ARE Sons & Daughters of God

-Jesus is your older brother; you're part of the same family

-Jesus is singing your praises; He can't (doesn't want to) stop talking about you; He's so proud of you

-God stooped down to our level and became flesh and blood in the form of His one & only Son, Jesus.

-He experienced a physical death so you and I would have the opportunity to experience a Spiritual life, and an eternal one at that!

-He broke not only every "chain" but also the power of hell, sin & death when he died in our place.

-It was at that moment in eternity, if you will, that we became sons and daughters; no longer slaves to sin fearing death but now sons & daughters made righteous and holy only, because of our big brother Jesus.

-Jesus wasn't only tempted...He suffered when He was tempted. You ever feel that way? Like temptation is one thing but this sure feels like flat out torture? Yeah, we all have...but so did Jesus. And because of that reason He is able to come to our rescue in our time of need!

-How do I come to Jesus? How do I approach Him who is perfect? Who can come into His presence? Matthew 11 speaks directly to those questions:

Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)

28 Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

-There is equal access for all to come to Jesus.

-Are we going to God in our strength or our weakness; on just our good days or our bad ones as well?

-How many of us feel so weighed down by the yoke of this world; the cares, concerns, worries, questions, doubts, fears, etc.? Are we like slaves, controlled by fear, people to please, bills to pay, standards to meet, jobs to do...and the list goes on and on?

-Jesus in essence says, "Come As You Are," come just as you are.

-Isn't it time you traded your heavy yoke of slavery for a light yoke of family and found rest from the rat race?

-God is forever in the redeeming business; He's forever in the restoring business. He's the same yesterday, today and forever and He wants to take what the enemy has meant for evil in your life and turn it into something good. He wants to pick up the broken pieces of your life and put them back together. He wants you to move out of being in that same place day after day as you are a slave to sin and thus living your life in fear and insecurity and He wants to restore to you the joy of your salvation, welcome you back to the family as a son or daughter and throw a party for you every day as He sings your praises in Heaven, waiting for an eternity spent together.