

Our Sympathetic Sovereign

Hebrews 2:14-18

3:14-16

Intro

Remember the Wizard of Oz? An unsympathetic wizard indeed! Sometimes we can feel like this about God.

Vast and cosmic but unconcerned with little old me.

But we don't get this from the Bible!

- The Creation
- God's sustaining graces
- The nation Israel

And, yet, the New Testament and specifically Hebrews gives us an even greater confidence in God's sympathy.

That of Christmas . . . the Incarnation

The incarnation did not make God sympathetic but it served as our ultimate affirmation as God experienced our humanity.

Heb. 2:14 What God will save God must become in order to render Satan powerless and . . .

v. 15 . . . to free us from death and slavery to sin.

v. 16 He could not become merely angelic as He did not come to save angels.

v. 17 But human in all ways
to be our priest and offer propitiation for our sins in the sacrifice of Himself.

v. 18 And He is able to be our sympathetic priest
and come to our aid when we are tested and weak.

Heb. 4:14 We are to hold fast to our confession when it's tough
and our High Priest can help us.

v. 15 Because, though He is in heaven He has been one of us
tempted in all we have but without sin.

– “Not my will but Thine be done” –

v. 16 Thus I can draw near with confidence.
His mighty throne is one of grace
and help
in my time of need.

But remember . . .

1. God is not a genie giving instant relief.
2. He grants us “patient enduring” (2 Cor. 1:6).
3. Continue to pour out your heart.
4. Then TRUST God.
5. Know that “He knows me ... loves me.”
6. He has never failed me.
7. He is not through with me (Phil. 1:6).
8. He is sovereign. “All things . . . work together . . . for good . . . “
9. “You shape as much as relieve.” I Pet. 5:10
Luke 22:31-32
I Peter 1:6
10. I will not despise “the discipline of God” (Heb. 12:11).
11. Rest in the word, obey all before me, be pruned.
12. Sing and glory of the unchangeable glorious things un affected by my suffering.
13. Look beyond this life (2 Cor. 4:17-18).
14. “Prove” your faith (I Pet. 1:7).
15. Walk one more step. This is endurance.
16. “The same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world . . .” (I Pet. 1:9)
17. Christ is here with me.
18. . . . and He feels and cares.

Conclusion