

The Ultimate Rescue Mission

Hebrews 2:14-18

We wouldn't have written it this way...

"It could not have been done unless man paid what was owing to God for sin. But the debt was so great that, while man alone owed it, only God could pay it, so that the same person must be both man and God. Thus it was necessary for God to take manhood into the unity of his person, so that he who in his own nature ought to pay and could not should be in a person who could." Anselm of Canterbury, *Why God Became Man?*

Remaining what He was, He became what He was not...

Three distinct characteristics of Christ in this passage that reveal our Rescuer:

1. **Destroyer of Death and the Devil** – *delivering those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery*
(see 1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

Q: Do you fear death? Are you afraid of dying?

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark...

2. **Propitiation for our sins** – *merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God*
(see 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10)

"Saved from What?"

A price to be paid...

3. **Embodied Suffering Servant** – *able to help those being tempted*
(see Hebrews 4:14-16)

Never alone even in the darkest night...

*Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart....*

*Come to earth to taste our sadness,
he whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness,
our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.*