

Communion Meditation

Hebrews 2:17-18

Hebrews 1-2

Part One: the superiority of the Son over the angels (Heb. 1:1-2:4)

Part Two: the solidarity of the Son with man, not angels (Heb. 2:5-18)

¹⁴ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

¹⁵ and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

¹⁶ For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham.

¹⁷ Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

¹⁸ For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

(Hebrews 2:14-18)

Jesus our High Priest

➤ Old Testament Background

- the priests were representatives of the people before God; they made atonement for the people
- the high priest, once a year, made atonement by sprinkling blood on the mercy seat (behind the veil)



Jesus our High Priest

➤ Old Testament Background



Jesus our High Priest

- "merciful" – as a man who suffered, He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses
- "faithful" – as our representative, He is faithful to God in his priestly ministry

Jesus our High Priest

1. His work of atonement

- Jesus removed the wrath of God that was against us because of our sin (*propitiation*)
- Jesus' death for us was the perfect means of making propitiation for our sin

Jesus our High Priest

1. His work of atonement

- by His atoning death Jesus has gained permanent access for us into the very presence of God (cf. Heb. 10:19)

Jesus our High Priest

2. His ongoing work of intercession

- Jesus prays for and aids us in our testing in order to save us forever (cf. Heb. 7:25)
- Jesus is uniquely qualified to aid us in our testing because He Himself was tested in His sufferings