

***Jesus is Better***  
**God Stands Ready to Help**

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / Dec. 23, 2018*

**I. The Wonder of Christmas Begins in the Old Testament Where It Promises that Jesus Would Be Born**

The Old Testament is filled with dozens and dozens of prophecies that were predicting the birth of Jesus centuries before He was born. The prophecies were saying things that had never been said before.

**Isaiah 9:6** “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

**II. The Wonder of Christmas Explodes in the New Testament as It Explains Who Jesus Is and How He Solves Our Biggest Problem – the Sin Problem that Separates Us from a Holy God**

The entire New Testament explains Jesus, but the book of Hebrews uses the word ‘better’ 13 times as it describes how Jesus is a better High Priest who offered a better sacrifice so that we now have a better hope. See **Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**.

**A. Jesus Has Compassion on Us Because He Became Like Us When He Took on Flesh**

Jesus knows what it’s like to be human, to struggle, to suffer, to feel lonely and alienated, and to bump right up against the ugliness and brokenness of sin that’s all around us in our world.

**Hebrews 4:15** “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.”

Jesus knows the battle of temptation better than we do because He fought it all the way to the end and defeated the monster of temptation and sin every time! He is more than able to help us in everything that we face.

**B. Jesus Became the Very Source of Salvation for Us When He Died on the Cross in Our Place**

**Hebrews 5:9** “... He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.”

Jesus had to become our source of salvation. He knew He was headed to the cross where He would bear the punishment for all our sins.

**Hebrews 5:7** "... Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence."

**Matthew 26:39** "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not My will but Yours be done."

The cup Jesus talks about represents God's justice and wrath against sin. Jesus stepped into our place and drank that cup of wrath dry for us on the cross so that we can be forgiven.

He's the only way you can be made right with God, because there's no other person who could do what He's done.

The salvation Jesus provides can be yours if you believe He is who He says He is and put your trust in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus because he paid the debt for your sins on the cross. His perfect righteousness will become yours in the sight of God.