

CONQUERING DEATH

Why Jesus Had to Be a Man

August 7, 2005

Hebrews 2:5-18

Philippians 2:5-8 - Jesus, though like God, (spirit) humbled himself and took upon himself the form of a servant in the likeness of man and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross

Reasons for Jesus' incarnation:

- No higher nor lower nature than man's, that had sinned could suffer for the sin of man to satisfy the justice of God and bring man up to a place of hope again.
- It was suitable by divine wisdom and justice through the program of grace for him to become human.
- He became man because he had to die. Angels are immortal and cannot die. And the sacrifices of animals could not serve as a real legal substitute for man.
- The devil was the first sinner and the first tempter to sin, and sin was the cause of death. Satan draws men into sin, thereby it may be said that he has the "power of death". But Christ has destroyed his power to keep men under spiritual death.
- *Psalm 68:18; Psalm 16:10; Ephesians 4:8-11* - Before Christ ascended, he descended into hell and when he ascended he took a body of captives to heaven and gave the five fold ministry to the church – apostles, pastors, prophets, evangelist and teachers.
- *Matthew 27:50-53* - As soon as Jesus cried aloud and gave up the ghost – the veil in the temple was split, earth quake, rock split and graves were opened – all immediately after Jesus entered hell, paradise where the saved dead went.
He went down with power and came up with all power.
- **Because he became one of us, he became a merciful and faithful high priest in all things pertaining to GOD and was able to reconcile us back to the Father.**