

## PLEASED TO DWELL: WHY THE INCARNATION MATTERS

GALATIANS 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

#### **APPLICATION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Make sure you are looking into the Bible itself so that your observations, interpretations, and applications are from the text. The questions below are meant to be a tool to help get into God's Word, but don't feel bound to them or make getting through all of them a concern.

- 1 Look at the surrounding verses. What is the context of this passage?
- **2** What observations can you make from this passage? What are some key words or phrases that stand out?
- **3** What does this passage teach us about the purpose of the incarnation?
- **4** According to this passage, why does the incarnation matter?
- **5** In light of this passage, what are some implications for how we ought to live as Christians?
- **6** What difference does it make that we are no longer slaves but instead have been adopted as sons and daughters? How should this affect the way that we live?
- **7** In light of this passage, what are some ways that you can praise God and pray for your fellow believers?

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HEBREWS 4:14-5:2

<sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

<sup>1</sup>For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

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- 1 Look at the surrounding verses. What is the context of this passage?
- **2** What observations can you make from this passage? What are some key words or phrases that stand out?
- **3** What does this passage teach us about the purpose of having a human priest?
- **4** According to this passage, why does the incarnation matter?
- **5** In light of this passage, what are some implications for how we ought to live as Christians?
- **6** Knowing that Jesus is a sympathetic priest, how should Christians view their own sin?
- **7** In light of this passage, what are some ways that you can praise God and pray for your fellow believers?

#### PLEASED TO DWELL: WHY THE INCARNATION MATTERS HEBREWS 9:11–15

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. <sup>15</sup> Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

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Make sure you are looking into the Bible itself so that your observations, interpretations, and applications are from the text. The questions below are meant to be a tool to help get into God's Word, but don't feel bound to them or make getting through all of them a concern.

- 1 Look at the surrounding verses. What is the context of this passage?
- **2** What observations can you make from this passage? What are some key words or phrases that stand out?
- **3** What does this passage teach us about the purpose of Jesus' death?
- **4** According to this passage, why does the incarnation matter?
- **5** In light of this passage, what are some implications for how we ought to live as Christians?
- **6** Knowing that Jesus' sacrifice was once for all, why do you think so many Christians try to atone for their own sins by doing good works? How does the gospel free us from this?
- **7** In light of this passage, what are some ways that you can praise God and pray for your fellow believers?



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