

Two Ways To Live

Week 4: The Love

*Because of his love, God sent his son into the world: the man Jesus Christ.
Jesus always lived under God's rule.
Yet by dying in our place he took our punishment and brought forgiveness.*

Introduction

We now get to look into the good news after having studied the bad news of our willful rebellion and God's just judgment. The question that we must ask is this: How can rebel sinners stand before a holy, righteous, and just God who must punish sin? The answer is that God himself, as Jesus, became our substitute, lived as we ought to have and was punished in our place so that he could be just and the justifier of the ungodly (Rom. 3:26; 4:5).

Study Questions

1. Read Hebrews 2:5-9. What is being put into subjection and to whom? Though we do not see this now, who do we see? What does the author tell us about him? Why do we see him like this?

Read Hebrews 2:10-18. These verses help us to understand the benefits, importance, and necessity of the incarnation that the author touched on in vv. 5-9. Who is Jesus identified with (vv.10-13)? What did he partake of (v. 14)? Why? What did he accomplish? How? For who? Why did he have to be made like his brothers (v. 17)? How does this benefit us (v. 18)?

Application: How should we expect Jesus to help us when we are tempted?

2. Read Romans 5:6-8. These verses serve to highlight the love of God in Christ's death as our hope by contrasting it with the way we love. How are we described in these verses (see also v. 10)? What is human love like? What is God's love like? How do we know that God loves us? How is this different than the way we know God's love as described in verse 5?

Read Romans 5:9-11. These verses include two arguments from the greater to the lesser (vv.9-10) and the heartfelt rejoicing that occurs as a result (v. 11). What argument does Paul make in verse 9? What argument does Paul make in verse 10?

Application: What causes the absence of rejoicing or boasting in the lives of Christians?