

“Who Shall Deliver Me?”
Romans 7:24-25

Introduction:

1. For The Last Couple Of Sundays:
 - We Have Been Looking At:
 - What Our Flesh Is Like:
 - According To God’s Description Of It:
 - Especially - After The Fall!
2. And - It Is Not:
 - A Pretty Picture - Because:
 - Sin Has Infected Every Part:
 - Of Our Human Nature!
 - Even To The Point:
 - That It Has Become One Of The Main Spiritual Enemies:
 - That War Against Our Souls!
 - Which Is Why The Apostle Peter:
 - Wrote In 1 Peter 2:11:
 - “Dearly beloved, I beseech [you] as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul!”
3. Well - The Apostle Paul:
 - Also Understood The Nature:
 - Of His Flesh:
 - When He Wrote His Letter To:
 - The Church In Rome!
 - So - To Begin Tonight:
 - Let’s Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To Romans 7 - And:
 - Verse 24 - Where After Paul Describes His Spiritual Struggle:
 - Within - Its Like He Threw Up His Hands To Exclaim:
 - “O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?”
4. And - Truly:
 - This Would Be & Should Be:
 - Our Own Reaction To Our Flesh:
 - If We Really Understood Just How:
 - Depraved It Is - And Just How:
 - Depraved We Are:
 - In Our Fallen, Human Nature!
 - But - As We Briefly Considered:
 - In Our First Message On The Flesh:
 - The Apostle Paul Answers His Own Question:
 - In Nearly The Same Breath!
 - And - In 7:25a:
 - He Reminds Himself:
 - “I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”
5. And - As It Was For Paul:
 - So It Is For Us!
 - It Is Only:
 - “Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!”
 - That We Can Have Any Kind Of:
 - Victory Over Our Flesh!
 - And So - The First & Foremost Way:
 - To Even Hope For Victory:
 - Over The Enemy Within Us:
 - We Must Depend On:
 - Our Deliverer!
 - On The Lord Jesus Christ Himself!
6. And So - Tonight:
 - We Are Going To See How:

- Jesus Took On Flesh Of His Own:
 - So That He Might Deliver Us:
 - From Our Own Flesh:
 - As We Depend Completely:
 - On Him!
- So - When You Struggle:
 - With Your Flesh:
 - And Feel The Same Way:
 - That Paul Describes Here In Romans 7:
 - You Can Depend On Jesus:
 - First - Because In His Own Flesh:

1. *He Descended To Us!*

- So That He Might Reach Us & Deliver Us:
 - From Our Flesh!
 - And - We Can See This In:
 - 1 Timothy 3:16 - Where Paul Describes The Incarnation Of Jesus:
 - In Terms Of A Mystery!
 - “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory!”
 - So - The Beginning Of The “Mystery Of Godliness” - In Which:
 - Sinners Can Become Saints - And:
 - In Which:
 - The Unjust Can Be Justified In God’s Sight!
 - The Beginning Of This Mystery:
 - Is That - “God Was Manifest In The Flesh!”
 - Which Means That God Revealed Himself To Man:
 - In The Flesh Of Man!
 - As Thomas Watson Once Wrote:
 - “In The Creation, Man Was Made In God's Image; In The Incarnation, God Was Made In Man's Image!”
 - And - This Is What Happened:
 - When Jesus - The Creator Of Man:
 - Was Born Of A Virgin:
 - And Took On The Nature Of His Own Creation - As A Man!
- And So - When Jesus Descended:
 - Into This World:
 - In The Flesh:
 - He Could Be:
 - Seen & Heard & Felt:
 - By Others!
 - This Is The Record That We Have:
 - In The Gospels!
 - Where Countless Witnesses:
 - Shout Forth Their Testimonies!
 - About The Works:
 - The Saw Jesus Do!
 - About The Words:
 - They Hard Jesus Say! And:
 - About The Wonders:
 - They Felt Jesus Accomplish:
 - To Their Flesh!
 - Because - Through Jesus - In His Own Flesh:
 - “The blind received their sight, and the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, and the deaf heard, the dead were raised up, and the poor had the gospel preached to them!”
(Matthew 11:5)
 - But - Not Only Could Jesus:
 - Be Seen & Heard & Felt:
 - By Others - Because He “Was Manifest In The Flesh!”

- When Jesus Descended:
 - Into This World:
 - He Could Also:
 - See & Hear & Feel:
 - In Himself Through His Own Human Flesh!
 - Just Think Of How Jesus Used:
 - His Own Human Senses:
 - When He Lived In This World!
 - How Many Times:
 - Did Jesus See:
 - With His Own Eyes Of Flesh:
 - Multitudes Of People:
 - Coming To Him:
 - For Help & Healing!
 - How Many Times:
 - Did Jesus See:
 - With His Own Ears Of Flesh:
 - The Expressions Of People's Belief & Unbelief In Him!
 - And - How Many Times:
 - Did Jesus Feel:
 - With Own Heart Of Flesh:
 - To The Point That It Even Made Him Weep!
- As John Gill Once Described It:
 - Jesus Possessed - "The Whole Human Nature, Consisting Of A True Body, And A Reasonable Soul!"
 - And So - Jesus Experienced:
 - The Struggles Of Flesh:
 - As We Do!
 - And So - In His Own Flesh:
 - Jesus Experienced Real Sorrow!
 - And Emotional Pain!
 - He Was The "Man Of Sorrows" Who Was "Acquainted With Grief!" (Isaiah 53:3)
 - In His Own Flesh:
 - Jesus Experienced Real Suffering:
 - And Physical Pangs & Pain!
 - In Life - He Hungered:
 - Just Like We Do!
 - And - In Death - He Thirsted:
 - As Well!
 - In His Own Flesh:
 - Jesus Experienced Real Seduction:
 - And Temptation To Sin!
 - And By The Devil - The Tempter Himself!
 - However - Even Though Jesus Experienced:
 - All These Struggles Of The Flesh:
 - And Even More:
 - He Did Not Experience:
 - Sin In His Flesh!
 - And - This Is Made Clear:
 - In Hebrews 4:15b - Because:
 - Even Though Jesus Was "In All Points Tempted Like As We Are!"
 - Yet - He Remained - "Without Sin!"
 - And - What Was The Point Of All This?
 - Why Did Jesus - As God:
 - Manifest Himself:
 - In The Flesh?
 - Hebrews 4:15a - "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities!"
 - So Jesus Is Now Able **To** Be Touched With The Feeling Of Our Infirmities!

- He Is Able To Sympathize With Us And To Save Us From Our Flesh!

- And - In Doing So:

- He Makes It Possible:

- For Us To Live In Our Flesh:

- According To God's Original Design!

- Even As Paul Expressed It:

- In Galatians 2:20 - "The Life Which I Now Live In The Flesh, I Live By The Faith Of The Son Of God, Who Loved Me, And Gave Himself For Me!"

- And So - Now:

- When You Struggle With Your Flesh:

- Depend On Jesus To Deliver You!

- Because He Descended In His Own Flesh - In Order To:

- Reach Us In Our Fallen Flesh!

- But Then - Second:

- When You Struggle With Your Flesh:

- You Can Depend On Jesus:

- Because In His Own Flesh:

2. ***He Died For Us!***

- So That He Might Reconcile Us & Deliver Us:

- From Our Flesh!

- And - We Can See This In:

- Hebrews 2:14-15 - "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; / And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage!"

- Now - We Saw This Morning:

- From John 12 - And Jesus' Message:

- To The Greeks Who Wanted To Meet Him:

- That He Was Born To Die!

- So That - His Life Was All About His Death!

- But - Just Look At What:

- Jesus Accomplishes:

- Through His Death:

- For Those Who Believe & Trust In Him!

- First - Through His Own Death:

- In The Flesh - Jesus:

- Destroyed The Devil!

- The Very One Who Had:

- "The Power Of Death" - And Is Able To Keep So Many:

- Under Bondage!

- And - In Order For Jesus:

- To Destroy The Devil:

- And His Control Over Us:

- He Had To Partake Of Our Own "Flesh And Blood" & Die!

- And Now - Since:

- Jesus Did This For Us!

- We Can Have Victory Over:

- Our Flesh!

- But Then:

- Second - Through His Own Death:

- In The Flesh - Jesus:

- Delivered His People!

- Even Those Of Us Who:

- Hebrews 2:14 - "Through Fear Of Death Were All Their Lifetime Subject To Bondage!"

- And Now - Since:

- Jesus Did This For Us!

- We Can Have Continuing Victory Over:

- Our Flesh!
- And So - Now:
 - When You Struggle With:
 - The Impulses & Drives Of Your Flesh:
 - You Can Depend On Jesus To Deliver You!
 - Because He Died For You In His Own Flesh - In Order To:
 - Redeem You & Reconcile You With God!
 - But Then - Third:
 - When You Struggle With Your Flesh:
 - You Can Depend On Jesus:
 - Because In His Own Flesh:

3. ***He Displays To Us:***

- His Own Victory Over The Flesh:
 - So That He Might Deliver & Restore Us:
 - From Our Flesh!
- In Hebrews 2:17:
 - We Are Told:
 - “Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto [his] brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things [pertaining] to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people!”
 - This Means That:
 - Jesus Displays Through His Flesh:
 - The Way Of Help:
 - That We Can Have In Our Flesh!
 - And So - The Humility Of Jesus:
 - In Taking On Human Flesh:
 - Reveals His Great Mercy To Us & Compassion!
 - So - When You Struggle With:
 - Your Own Flesh:
 - No Matter What:
 - That Struggle May Look Like!
 - Remember That Jesus Is:
 - Your High Priest:
 - Who Is Ready, Willing, And Able To Help You:
 - Overcome It!
 - Which Is Why Again:
 - In 7:24-25 - Paul Tells Us:
 - “Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death? I Thank God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!”
 - And - He Displays The Help Available To Us:
 - By Taking On The Flesh With Us!
 - And Then - In Colossians 1:21-22:
 - We Are Told:
 - “And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in [your] mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled / In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight!”
 - This Means That:
 - Jesus Displays Through His Flesh:
 - The Way Of Hope:
 - That We Can Have From Our Flesh!
 - The Death Of Jesus:
 - “In The Body Of His Flesh” - As Well As:
 - His Resurrection In That Body:
 - Reveals His Might & Power Do Give Us Hope:
 - When We Struggle With Those Things That Kept Us As Enemies Before God!
 - Which Is - Once Again - Why:
 - Paul Exclaims In Romans 7:24-25:

- "Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death? I Thank God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!"

- Because He Brings Hope For Our Flesh By Taking On His Own Flesh!

- And Now:

- When You Struggle With:

- The Temptations That Appeal To:

- Your Fallen Flesh:

- You Can Depend On Jesus To Deliver You!

- Because He Displays:

- All The Hope & Help That You Need:

- In Order For You To Be Restored!

- Even Through The Struggles Of Your Flesh!

Conclusion:

1. And So - This Is Why:

- Jesus Took On Our Flesh!

- So That - As Thomas Watson Wrote:

- "As Christ Was Made In Our Flesh, Let Us Labor To Be Made In His!"

2. So - Now - In Your Own Struggle:

- Against The Flesh:

- Remember That Jesus:

- Descended To Us In The Flesh:

- So That He Might:

- Reach Us!

- And Now - You Can Go:

- Directly To Him!

- Also - Remember That Jesus:

- Died For Us In The Flesh:

- So That He Might:

- Redeem & Reconcile Us To God!

- And Now - You Can Trust In:

- Him & His Promises:

- To Destroy The Works Of The Devil:

- And Deliver You From His Clutches!

- And Then - Remember That Jesus:

- Displays To Us In The Flesh:

- All The Help & Hope We Need:

- To Overcome Any Struggle:

- We Might Have In & With Our Flesh!

3. So - For Greater Victory:

- Over The Flesh:

- Depend On Jesus:

- To Deliver You!

- So That - When You Wonder:

- As Paul Did - In Romans 7:24-25:

- "Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death?"

- Remember That The Answer:

- Is Still The Same!

- "I Thank God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!"

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