



PEACE BY *piece* SERIES

WEEK ONE: PROBLEM

The Sacrificial Gift

...and put everything under their feet." In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. 9 But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. 11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. 12 He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises." 13 And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil - 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. 16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. 17 For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. ~Hebrews 2:8-18

Merriam-Webster defines a "sacrifice" as surrender of something for the sake of something else; something given up or lost.

God sent us His son, Jesus, as the ultimate sacrifice. Just for us, He

- was made lower than the angels (vs 9)
- came to Earth
- became human/mortal
- was a baby
- was a teenager
- was an adult
- suffered a humiliating and horrifying death

He not only became the ultimate sacrifice, but He also became our Savior (vs 10), so that we might be able to answer the question, "Who are we in Christ?" He paid the price for our sins and in exchange He gave us His righteousness. Jesus is not ashamed of us and we are called "brothers and sisters." (vs 11) What a wonderful truth that is!

Prayer

Father, thank you for sending your son, Emanuel ("He is with us"). Thank you for sending Him to die on that old rugged cross for all of our sins. Let us desire to have an intimate relationship with you. Thank you that you call us brothers and sisters in Christ. Help us to not take your sacrificial gift for granted. Amen!

