

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study - May 6, 2021

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Title: "Jesus Understands Your Struggles"

Scripture Reference: Hebrews 4:15

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

I. Introduction

A. Some people may seem to think of God as being far removed from human life and concerns. Jesus Christ, the very Son of God, even in His divinity, it did not prevent Him from experiencing our feelings, emotions, temptations, hurt and pain. We must not forget that Jesus was fully God and fully man.

B. It can often be difficult emotionally when you have been hurt, especially when that hurt comes from a friend or a family member. However, we find encouragement in Hebrews 4:15 which says - "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities (i.e., our weaknesses), but was in all points tempted like as we are; yet without sin."

C. This verse emphatically declares that although Jesus was God in the flesh when He walked on this earth, He still faced every temptation you and I face in life. As a result, this verse says that Jesus is "... touched with the feelings of our infirmities"

D. God became man and that man is Jesus Christ. He did so in order to share triumphantly the temptation and the testing and the suffering of men, in order that He might be a sympathetic and understanding High Priest.

II. Exposition [Part I]

A. The phrase "be touched with" comes from the Greek word *sumpatheo*, which means to share an experience with someone or to sympathize with and have compassion for someone.

B. What a comforting thought! Our Lord empathizes with every temptation and struggle you and I face in this life. He identifies and sympathizes with us, and He has compassion for you and me regarding what we're feeling and the situation we are facing.

Jesus has been where you are!

C. He has felt what you feel. He has overcome the temptations you are now trying to overcome and because of His experience, He understands the emotions, frustrations, and temptations you face in life. Yet, he did not sin!

III. Exposition [Part II]

A. There is no need to feel too embarrassed to go to the Savior with the issues we face in life. If anyone can understand what you are going through right now, *it surely is Jesus!*

B. He has been tempted in all points like you, yet He never succumbed to temptation. As a result:

- He understands your dilemma.
- He has experienced your problem.
- He is familiar with disappointment.
- He knows the temptation to get frustrated.
- He sympathizes when you get upset.

C. Jesus never fell into one of Satan's traps, even though He faced the same frustrations we face in life. In fact, if Jesus had not been tempted in every realm that we are tempted, He wouldn't be able to understand us and serve as our Great High Priest.

D. For instance, we can only imagine the frustration Jesus must have felt in the Garden of Gethsemane. He had invested three and a half years of His life into His disciples, and for the first time,

Jesus needed them.

E. Jesus asked three of His disciples to watch with Him (i.e., stay alert, stay awake) during His hour of temptation (see Matthew 26:37-45), as He went a short distance from them to pray.

F. Our Lord came to these disciples and found them asleep (Matt. 26:40-41). It was at this point that Jesus said to Peter - "**What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**"

G. In Matthew 26:43 - Jesus "went away again the second time, and prayed" - "And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy." And for a third time, Jesus came and found the disciples asleep.

H. What if you had been in Jesus' position that night? What if you had given three years of your life to these disciples - but when you asked them to help you for the first time, *they failed you again and again?*

I. It would be normal for a person in this situation to be tempted to become resentful, upset, or even offended. However, Jesus never fell into the trap of ***bitterness, resentment, and unforgiveness.***

J. In fact, even as Jesus hung on the Cross, He prayed for those who had perpetrated this evil on Him, and He said, "... **Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.** ..." (Luke 23:34)

IV. Exposition [Part III]

A. Jesus is on your side and Hebrews 4:16 goes on to promise that when you go to Him for help, you will obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

B. So, the next time you feel tempted to get upset or frustrated with someone, remember the words to this wonderful song: "Lord, I'll hasten to Your Throne." It is there where you will find

strength and encouragement because Our Lord knows exactly what you're going through.

It is once again interactive time. Please complete the biblical passages that follow by filling in the blank spaces. As usual, all passages have been taken from the King James Version (KJV) of the Holy Bible.

"God is our _____ and _____, a very present help in _____."
[Psalm 46:1]

"Therefore I take pleasure in _____, in reproaches, in _____, in _____, in distresses, for Christ's sake: for when I am _____, then am I _____."

[2 Corinthians 12:10]

"I can do _____ through Christ which _____ me."

[Philippians 4:13]

"He that _____ in the secret _____ of the most high shall _____ under the _____ of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my _____ and my _____: My God; in him will I _____."

[Psalm 91:1-2]

"But we have this _____ in _____ vessels, that the _____ of the power may be of God, and not of _____. We are _____ on every side, yet not _____; we are perplexed, but not in _____; _____, but not forsaken; cast down, but not _____;"

[2 Corinthians 4:7-9]

ADDITIONAL INSIGHT

1. I would like to share with you a theological term that is relevant to our study of this lesson. That term is **Impeccability**.
2. **Impeccability** is an attribute (or character trait) applicable only to God (i.e., Jesus Christ). It means that it was impossible for Christ to sin.
3. Consider the following - **The nature of temptation** (James 1:14-15). The temptation that came to Christ was from without. However, for sin to take place, there must be an inner response to the outward temptation.
4. Since Jesus did not possess a sin nature, there was nothing within Him to respond to the temptation. People sin because there is an inner response to the outer temptation.

A QUESTION FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

1. Have you ever thought of the fact that Jesus faced every single temptation that you have ever faced?
 - a. He never yielded to the temptation, but what does it mean to you to know that Jesus faced exactly what you faced? He never had a sinful thought, a sinful act, nor a sinful motive.

What a Great High Priest, Savior, and soon coming King we have in the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ!

I pray that this lesson has encouraged you, and you now know that the Lord knows every struggle that you face, and even though we get weak in our flesh, there is **Victory in Christ Jesus!**

Jude 3
Pastor Austin