**It is Finished! – Heb. 2:14 -15**

**Focal Truth: Jesus Christ died to destroy the devil’s power over death & the fearful slavery of death**

Are you afraid of death?

Do you live with a nagging thought about dying?

Did you know that Jesus Christ died on the cross to destroy the power of the devil & death?

1. **Jesus Christ tasted death for everyone – 2:9**

 *we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely Jesus,*

 *because of the suffering of death crowned with glory & honor, so that by the grace*

 *of God He might taste death for everyone*

 a. We see Jesus Christ with our mind through God’s word about the cross

 b. Jesus Christ suffered death & was crowned with glory in resurrection

 c. Jesus Christ experienced death for everyone

 1. He experienced the suffering, pain, agony, aloneness of death

 2. He died for everyone!

 d. Jesus Christ death provides a way for believing sinners to become God’s

 children & brothers & sisters to Jesus Christ

 1. 2:10 – “in bringing many sons to glory…”

 2. 2:11 – “He is not ashamed to call them brethren”

 d. The Day of Atonement for Israel provided one lamb sacrificed for the sins

 of all the people – *Jesus Christ is the final sacrifice for sin for all people*

2. **Jesus Christ died to destroy the devil’s power over death – 2:14**

 *therefore since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also*

 *partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had*

 *the power of death, that is the devil…*

 a. Jesus Christ’s death destroyed the devil’s reign over death

 1. Jesus Christ became flesh subject to death to destroy Satan’s power over death

 2. John 12:31 – Now judgment is upon this world, now the ruler of this world will be cast out

 3. 1 John 3:8 – for the Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy

 the works of the devil

 b. Satan’s power over death is real power over sinners & is destroyed by the

 cross of Christ Jesus

 1. Satan’s power to tempt sinners to sin

 2. Satan’s power to blind the mind to the truth of the gospel

 3. Satan’s power to terrify the mind with guilt for sin

 4. Satan’s power to hold them under his power till they die in sin

 5. Satan desires to take as many sinners to hell with him as he can!

 c. Col. 2:13 -15 – He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all

 our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt …he nailed it

 to the cross. When He disarmed the rulers and authorities. He made a

 public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him

3. **Jesus Christ died to free sinners from the fearful control of death – 2:15**

 *and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their*

 *lives*

 a. The fear of death enslaves sinners in the guilt of their sin

 b. The fear of death controls the mind of sinners

 1. Death is coming some ignore it

 2. Death is coming some deny it

 3. Death is coming some wishfully pretend they can avoid it

 4. Death is coming some live in depression as they face it

 c. Jesus Christ death on the cross frees believing sinners from fear of death

 1. He who believes in Me though he die yet shall he live

4. **Jesus Christ died becoming a merciful & faithful high priest**

 **making the final sacrifice for all sinners – 2:17**

 *therefore He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become*

 *a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation*

 *for the sins of the people*

 a. Jesus Christ became one of us, now in heaven, He is our merciful & faithful

 high priest

 1. He understands and feels what we are feeling

 2. He hears our prayers & praise

 3. He gives help to us in our times of need

 4. He represents us before God

 b. Heb. 4:15 – for we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with

 our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin

**Things to Remember**

1. Jesus Christ suffered physically and emotionally in death for sin

2. Only Jesus Christ knows what it is like to die

3. Satan’s power over death is destroyed by Christ’s death on the cross

4. Believing sinners are freed from the fearful control of death!

**Daily Use**

1. Come to Jesus Christ he will free you from your fears!

2. Trust the Lord Jesus, He will show you mercy

3. Rejoice saved sinners you are free from fear of death!

**Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives – Heb. 2:14 - 15**