

# ***Jesus Suffered and Sympathizes with Us***

***International Bible Lesson***

**Hebrews 4:14-5:14**

**Sunday, January 18, 2015**

**L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.**

*“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Hebrews 5:8-9—KJV).*

*“Although Jesus was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him” (Hebrews 5:8-9—NRSV).*

By the way He lived in the world, Jesus became the perfect sacrifice for our sins and the perfect high priest in heaven for us. In human flesh and with a real human nature, the Son of God passed through tests, trials, and temptations that challenge people daily; therefore, Jesus understands and sympathizes with us in every trouble we experience. Though we have failed many tests and have sinned, Jesus never failed and He knows how to help us through everything we face in this life. Moreover, because Jesus never sinned, He qualified himself to take upon himself the punishment we deserve for our sins in order to give us eternal life. His heavenly Father did not spare Jesus the suffering we endure in this world, nor did He spare Him from temptations during His suffering. Our trials and temptations to sin feel more severe when we are also suffering from sickness, slander, bereavement, or persecution. By passing through earthly trials mentally and physically in the worst of times, Jesus learned obedience as we do; but He joyfully passed through all of His sufferings and trials perfectly so He could qualify as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. His experiences also gave Him a perfect understanding of what people go through on earth; so, after Jesus rose from the dead He became our perfect high priest in heaven. Today, Jesus still hears our prayers, helps us in our troubles, shows us the way through our trials and temptations, and opens the gates of heaven so we can follow Him throughout eternity. – L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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