

Flesh and Blood (II)

“Flesh and blood”

- Five times in NT
 - Synecdoche
 - Set of wheels
 - Hired hands
- Implies...
- a. Weakness
 - b. Ignorance
 - c. Dependence on God

I. Flesh and Blood Cannot Reveal God's Will,
Mt.16:17

II. Flesh and Blood Cannot Add To God's Word,
Gal.1:15-19

III. We Do Not Wrestle Against
Flesh and Blood, Eph.6

10-13: combat

10: Person – be strong in Lord... 1:18-20

11a: Panoply – whole armor of God. 6:23

11b: Foe – not mere men; devil...wiles. 4:14

12a: Fight – OT: belt-wrestling

- Greeks: favored sport
- War: hand-to-hand combat. Conflict
- Gn.30:8, Rachel
- Gn.32:24, Jacob

12b: Not against flesh and blood

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12a: Fight – OT: belt-wrestling

12b: Not flesh and blood

13a: **God is always prepared.** 1:3 . . . 19-20

- 1 Sm.17

- 2 Sm.7 [2 Chr.21:4; 22:10]

13b: **able to withstand evil day (5:16)**

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12b: Not flesh and blood

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- Why do some fall? “Flesh & blood thinking”
- 2 Tim.4:10. 2 Chr.32:4

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IV. Jesus Became Flesh
and Blood, Hb.2:14

Deity cannot die, 9...14

- Jesus became man, Ph.2:5-11
- Hb.2:14, **flesh and blood**
 - Satan got his way (Gn.3)
 - It destroyed satan / saved us
- Hb.2:15, if satan murders us, it fulfills our greatest hope [no fear – atonement]
 - Ancients viewed death with horror
 - Tartarus ... Sisyphus ... Tantalus ...
 - Joab

Deity cannot die, 8...14

- Hb.2:16-18, High Priest – blood sacrifice for sins (9:24-28)

‘Had not the Death of death to Death by death his death-blow given, For ever closed were the gate, the gate of life and heaven’

‘A paradox. Jesus suffered and overcame death; the devil, wielding death in his hand, succumbed’ – Bengel

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V. Flesh and Blood Cannot Inherit
Kingdom of Heaven, Hb.2:14

Paul shows that God can give us changed bodies (1 Co.15)

- Flesh and blood cannot inherit kingdom of God = our present earthly bodies (subject to decay) are not capable of enjoying heaven
- Lk.24:37-39, Jesus was no immaterial spirit – bodily resurrection
- Lk.24:49, flesh / bones...

1 Co.15

50: flesh and blood – alive when He comes = present weakness. Corruption = the dead.

51: 'mystery': no details about the change (transformation)

52: moment: 'atom'

52: twinkling of eye

52: last trumpet (14:8) – often awoke armies...

52: changed into glorified body

53: incorruption (not subject to decay) . . .
immortal [deathlessness)

1 Co.15

54-55: death swallowed many...

- Now death is swallowed up in victory
(death is killed...as defeated enemy)
 - Scorpion without sting
- Sin is death's only weapon
- Destroy sin – death is harmless... Ph.1:21

1 Co.15

56-57: victory over sin and death


- Without law, no sin

Death, the last Enemy is no longer a threat.
Passage taunts Death: 'Where is your victory,
so universal, so feared?'

57: Jn.11:11-15

Flesh and blood (50)

1. The mystery, 51
2. The change, 52-53
3. The victory, 54
4. The taunt, 55
5. The sting, 56
6. The thanks, 57
7. The result, 58



Only divine
power could
turn death
into a
blessing

Book title

“The Death of Death in The Death of Christ”

- *Abide With Me*

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
victory?

I triumph still, if Thou abide with me!

- 58: Therefore...

- Be immovable (not static)
- To God, we are not mere statistics