

# Orphans of the Living

By Edgar A. Guest That they haven't time to listen to a little child's affairs.

We think of orphans only as little girls and lads,  
 Who haven't any mothers and who haven't any dads.  
 They are grouped with other children and in groups they're put to bed  
 With some stranger paid to listen while their little prayers are said.  
 All the grown-ups look with pity on such lonely children small  
 And declare to be an orphan is the saddest fate of all.  
 But sometime I look about me and with sorrow hang my head  
 As I gaze on something sadder than the orphans of the dead.  
 Far more pitiful and tragic as the long days come and go  
 Are the orphans of the parents they're not allowed to know.  
 They're orphans of the living, left alone to romp and play.  
 From their fathers and their mothers by ambition shut away.  
 They have fathers who are busy and so weighted down with cares

They have mothers who imagine life could give them, if it would,  
 Something richer, something better than the joys of motherhood.  
 So their children learn from strangers, and by stranger's hands are fed,  
 And the nurse, for so much money, nightly tucks them into bed.  
 Lord, I would not grow so busy that I cannot drop my task  
 To answer every question which that child of mine may ask.  
 Let me never serve ambition here so selfishly, I pray,  
 That I cannot stop to listen to the things my children have to say.  
 For whatever cares beset them, let them know I'm standing by.  
 I don't want to make them orphans till the day I come to die



<b>Sun PM</b> College Singing and Devo. at the Humphrey's	<b>Tuesday</b> Truth Seekers in Room 2310 in Student Center	<b>Wed 10 AM</b> Parenting Class -Lesson 6 at the Rouse's	<b>Friday 7-9</b> Studies in Philippians at Building	<b>Saturday 10 AM -2:30 PM</b> Studies in Philippians at Building
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Sick			
Richard Wood (Melanie Smith's Uncle)	Eli Williams (Friend of Sarah Norman)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	Bill Rhodes (Toni Herd's Uncle)	Philip Locke (Jeremiah Johnson's Uncle)
Josie Keith (Friend of Heath Fowler)	Grandparents of Mary Ann Roberts	Easton Alexander (Phillip Box's cousin's baby)	Jerry Sandlin (Megan Lee's Grandfather)
Gaylord Huffman (Jennifer Daniel's Grandfather)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Erlene Davis (Walker Davis' mother)	Mary Smith (Nathan Smith's Grandmother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Dave Brown (Friend of the Lanier's)	Dale Herd (William Herd's brother)	Larry Alexander (Friend of Phillip Box)
Marty and Aubrey Meeks, Russell Dickerson (Toni Herd's Nephews)	Betty Bradford	Ann Robinson (Sharon Bailey's Mom)	Debra Lowe (Toni Herd's Friend)

- ### January Birthdays
- 1 - David Ogle
  - 2 - Chuck Hunt
  - 4 - Phillip Box
  - 5 - Rusty Weldon
  - 6 - Erica Seymore
  - 6 - Daniel Rogers
  - 7 - Hunter Collins
  - 11 - Shepherd Hall
  - 11 - Spencer Hall
  - 14- Roy Liu
  - 18 - Scott Vaughn
  - 21 - Jacob Jerkins
  - 23 - Conner Godwin
  - 24 - Melanie Daves
  - 25 - Caleb Daniels
  - 28 - Clay Jones
  - 31 - Jennifer Daniels

### News and Notes

- We welcome our students back! Be sure to check bulletin board in classroom.
- Tim Morton has safely returned home to Ann and the girls!
- This weekend there will be a series of studies on Philippians led by our students and others All are invited!
- Our meeting with Buddy Payne will be Jan 22-25.
- Let's continue to remember our expectant mother, Candy Long, in our prayers.
- The College Singing and devotional will be tonight at the Humphrey's. Blake Edwards will be teaching! Maps will be in the foyer.



## He Became Like You

By Phil Roberts



### Thoughts to Ponder

Christ is God shining through the personality of a man, and shining unhindered. His sacred humanity does not veil His divine beauty in any degree.

One of the most fundamental facts of the gospel is that Jesus suffered and died for our sins, not as a god, but as a man. He was indeed the Son of God, but he surrendered the glories and privileges that belonged to that position that he might become like us. He "made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:7-8).

Jesus became like you in his liability to temptation. He was "in all points tempted like as we are" (Heb. 4:15). It was not just a matter of the three temptations in the wilderness. Jesus was subjected to the same daily frustrations and temptations we are all subject to, including those that related to his human body of flesh.

liability to human infirmities. He became hungry (Matt. 21:18); thirsty (Jn. 4:7); and weary after a hard day's work (Lk. 8:23). The importance of these things is underscored by the fact that Jesus refused to use his power as the Son of God to escape any of them. He would not even turn the stones to bread after forty days and nights without food (Matt. 4:2-4). To do so would have amounted to a forsaking of his mission—to suffer and die on the same terms we do.

His becoming like us was not just a matter of taking on the physical appearance of a man. As the writer of Hebrews says, "In all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:17). Consider the following ways in which Jesus became like you:

1. Jesus became like you in his

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**Do You Have a Bible Question?**  
 Call (334) 734-2133 or  
 E-mail:  
 LarryRouse@aubeacon.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES	
Sunday	
Bible Class	9:30 AM
Worship	10:20 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday	
Bible Classes	7:00 PM

Ask about our home Bible Study Groups!

Larry Rouse  
 Evangelist and Editor

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here on earth. Though Jesus is frequently said to have perceived the thoughts of those with whom he was speaking, this was often more a result of his perfect understanding of human nature than of miraculous power (**Jn. 2:25**). At other times he clearly asked questions because he did not know the answer (**Mk. 6:28; 9:21**). Moreover, we are specifically told that in his childhood he grew in knowledge (**Lk. 2:40, 52**). He had to learn the word of God just as you did. And that makes his perfect obedience to that word all the more significant.

3. Jesus became like you in his dependence on others. From his childhood he learned to depend on his parents for food, shelter, and clothing. And there was undoubtedly a mutual dependence between him and his disciples, at least in material things. But ultimately he experienced what all of us learn sooner or later—that others will fail you. All those on whom he might have depended failed Jesus at the end.

4. Jesus became like you in loneliness. Certainly there were times when Jesus felt the pangs of loneliness even in the midst of his disciples (**Lk. 9:58**). But those times were nothing to compare with the loneliness he must have felt as he hung there on the cross crying "My God, My God, Why hast thou forsaken me?" (**Matt. 27:46**).

5. Jesus became like you in his liability to temptation. He was "in all points tempted like as we are" (**Heb. 4:15**). It was not just a matter of the three temptations in the wilderness. Jesus was subjected to the same daily frustrations and temptations we are all subject to, including those that related to his human body of flesh. But there can be little doubt that the greatest temptation with which he was confronted was that of forsaking his mis-

sion. Indeed, the strongest rebuke he ever gave to one of his disciples was when Peter said he should not go to Jerusalem and die. "Get thee behind me, Satan," was Jesus' reply (**Matt. 16:23**).

6. Jesus became like you in that he was required to be obedient to others while here on this earth. He was even required to be obedient to people who were greatly inferior to him. As a child he was required to be obedient to his parents (**Lk. 2:51**). As a man he was required to be subject to civil governments. And above all his whole life was one of obedience to his heavenly Father (**Heb. 5:8**).

7. Jesus became like you in that he could communicate with his Father in heaven only through the medium of prayer. And he found need to pray often and long (**Lk. 6:12**).

8. Finally, Jesus became like you in that he had to walk by faith and not by sight while here on earth. The writer of Hebrews cites this fact to prove that Jesus became one with us (**Heb. 2:13**). Jesus, he said, had to put his trust in God just as we do. Indeed, what a sacrifice it was for Jesus to leave the security of heaven for the uncertainty of a life separated from his Father. He had left the certainty of sight in heaven. Only his faith could sustain him while he was here.

Yes, he became like us in all things—in all things but sin, that is (**Heb. 4:15**). He suffered and died for us on our terms—not his. And why did he do it? The answer is simple. He became like you so that you might become like him "in all things"—even that you might be without sin through the blood of his sacrifice. But let us always remember that being conformed to the image of Christ does not mean that we will escape the hardships of human existence. He suffered for us. And if we would be perfectly conformed to his image, we might be prepared to suffer with him (**I Pet. 2:21**).



## A Wholesome Respect for Temptation

By Paul Earnhart

In **1 Corinthians 10:13**, the apostle Paul, having warned his readers of the real danger of falling away from Christ, gives a word of encouragement: "But God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

We need to know two things about temptation - that it is a serious and dangerous business not to be toyed with, and yet it is not impossible to resist and defeat it if we act wisely. Temptation is not sin. The sinless Son of God was tempted (**Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:21-22**). But temptation is a serious occasion for sin and playing with it is an invitation to disaster.

In **Proverbs 7**, Solomon describes a foolish young man who is seduced by a woman of easy virtue. One could almost feel sorry for this naive youth who is completely overwhelmed by the knowing charm of a wily seductress, save for one fact. Solomon says that he was "a young man devoid of understanding, passing along the street near her corner; and he took the path to her house." He was not on her street accidentally, and he did not go near her house by chance. This young man was titillating himself with temptation, putting himself squarely in its way and daring it to take him. He was much like the young boy who, having been warned by his father not to swim in a certain stream, came home one day trying to conceal his wet swimsuit. "Why did you disobey me?" His father asked him. "I didn't mean to, but I was suddenly tempted," the boy said. "But why did you have your swimsuit with you?" the father continued. "Oh," the boy answered, "I took it along just in case I was tempted."

The Lord has promised a way of escape from every temptation, every trial - a way to endure it. But there will be no escape for those who approach sin's invitation with interest rather than with fear. Satan, Peter says, goes about "like a roaring lion" seeking someone to devour (**1 Peter 5:8**). It makes no sense to put your head in the lion's mouth. Young people do this by hanging around the drug crowd or militant adolescent rebels. Husbands and wives do it by developing a too easy and carefree relationship with friends of the opposite sex. Preachers do it by carelessly counseling women alone and in private. Christians vulnerable to covetousness do it by collecting too many "things" and gathering associates and friends whose whole world revolves around money.

It's a dangerous thing to hold long conversations with the Devil like Eve did. One is apt to find himself in the position of Lewis Carroll's owl:

*"I passed by his garden and marked with one eye  
How the Owl and the Panther were sharing a pie;  
The Panther took pie-crust, and gravy and meat,  
While the Owl had the dish as its share of the treat.  
When the pie was all finished, the Owl, as a boon,  
Was kindly permitted to pocket the spoon;  
While the Panther received knife and fork with a growl  
And concluded the banquet by eating the Owl."*

Better we take young Joseph's example and run from the presence of temptation as fast as our legs can carry us. "Flee sexual immorality," warns Paul in **1 Corinthians 6:18**. "Flee from idolatry," he urges in **1 Corinthians 10:14**. "Flee youthful lusts," he says in **Timothy 2:22**. So, when sin comes asking for a conference, it is time to run, not to hang around and think about it. Running from temptation is running for your life.

But the flight from temptation must be more than a running from sin. It must be a running to God. When Satan conspires to seduce us, we need, like frightened children, to seek our Father's side. There is no idea, which inhabits the Psalms so much as God's certain care of His people. "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear..." (**46:1-2**) "How precious is thy lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge under the shadow of thy wing" (**36:7**). "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of Jehovah, He is my refuge and my fortress; My God in whom I trust" (**91:1-2**).

God is sure refuge from temptation because He "cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempteth no man" (**James 1:13**). God is a certain haven from Satan's alluring lies because in Christ all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden (**Colossians 2:3**). It is in the certainty of His Father's word that our Savior took refuge when meeting in the wilderness the fierce onslaught of the Devil. We should be so wise.

