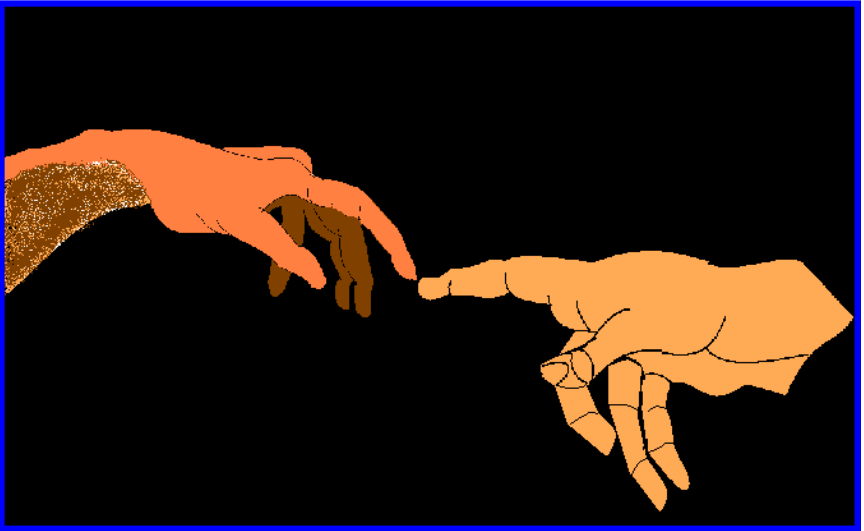


Jesus Feels US



By

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Jesus Feels Us

Surely he hath borne our grief's and carried our sorrows: Isaiah 53:4a

For some in our society it is difficult to grasp how a God who resides in heaven can identify with the every day experiences of mere humans. God never has to pay bills, He never gets hungry, He never gets sick, and He doesn't have hardheaded kids or nosey neighbors that get on his nerves. Their mind set is "How can a God like that relate to us or how can we relate to him. Does this God really care what happens to us?"

I realize that that is a mouth full. But I have lived long enough to know that there really are people in this world with that attitude and perspective. In fact there may be some in this congregation today. So the question is where do we go from here?

Well, first of all, Let me state for the record that **Jesus Feels Us**. He feels our pains, our aches and our sorrows. Jesus sees, Jesus knows and Jesus cares. For those who think that God can't understand us or relate to the human condition, let

me refer you to our scripture text for today: “Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows”. How, you ask, is this possible? We are taught in the gospel of John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. God, in the person of His Son Jesus, became flesh, became human and in that human form, he encountered the same fleshly experiences that all the rest of humanity experiences. Don’t think that he was not tempted, for that was the devil’s sole mission to try to trip Jesus up. Jesus had gone into the wilderness to fast and pray for forty days and forty nights in preparation of his ministry and at the end of his preparation period the devil began to tempt Him. You have not eaten for forty day and forty nights you must be hungry, “If thou be the son of God, command that these stones be made bread. The devil appealed to his flesh, but Jesus answered and said ,”*It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone,*

but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”

So then the devil took him into Jerusalem and sat him on one of the high walls in the temple and said to him. “If thou be the Son of God, cast thy self down: for it is written, He shall give His Angels charge concerning thee and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at anytime thou dash thy foot against a stone. The devil appealed to his ego, to his ideas of his own self worth, but again, Jesus responded, *“It is written again, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”*

So finally the devil took Jesus high up on a mountain top and showed him the kingdoms of the world and all their glory and said to him “all these thing I will give to you if you will fall down and worship me. The devil appealed to his need for power, and Jesus said *“Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and Him only shalt thou serve.*

As humans we experience desires of our flesh, we get hungry, so much so until sometimes we will do

crazy things to satisfy our hunger. One man was so hungry he gave up his birthright. One of my Childhood friends that I grew up with was killed over a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Jesus knew what it was like to be hungry. **Jesus Feels Us** when we are hungry. That's why He is our Bread when we are hungry, our water in dry places. Again I say **Jesus Feels Us!**

We humans sometimes suffer from inflated ideas of our own importance. My grandmother would say "you are getting too big for your britches." You think you are more important than you really are. You are a legend in your own mind. You become so "I" minded that you are no earthly good. Jesus' ego was tempted. **Jesus Feels US** when we are thus tempted. Peter thought that he was too good to commune with those that in his eyes were less than up to his standards. God showed him in a dream that whatever he cleansed was clean in deed. Paul felt he could be all the he could be if the thorn in his flesh could be removed, but The Lord told him His

Grace was sufficient in spite of his thorn. **Jesus Feels Us** and fills us with his Grace.

It is only natural that we as humans find strength in numbers and when our enemies encamp around us the more numbers the better. He, who possesses the biggest stick or controls the greatest numbers or rules over the most, is usually the one to be revered. **Jesus Feel US** when we are tempted to make might make right. Jesus over came this temptation just as he did the others and he would have us know that when we are thus tempted remember that It is not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of Hosts. Zechariah 4:6

Jesus Feels Us!

Listen my brothers and sisters there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that yea are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. **Jesus Feels Us!**

That's why Jesus says come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, And I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto you souls. **Jesus Feels Us!**

Jesus has been there and done that. He not only has been tempted like us, but he has suffered like us and for us as well.

“For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground: he hath no form or comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. **Jesus Feels Us!**

With every thorn on his crown that cut into his brow,
Jesus Feels Us! With every nail that was riveted
into his hands and feet, **Jesus Feels Us!**

With the sword that pierced him in the side **Jesus
Feels Us!**

That's why I can be troubled on every side and not
distressed, perplexed but not in despair, persecuted
but not forsaken, cast down but not destroyed
because **Jesus Feels Us!**