Son of man

"Son of man" is a Hebrew idiom that signifies a persons trait, characteristic or destiny in the same way as Judas is known as "The Son of Perdition." John 17:12

The antichrist is described as the "Son of Destruction." 2 Thessalonians 2:3.

"Son of a dog" or "Son of a bitch" and even "Son of a sea-biscuit." describes a blaggard.

The Jewish Encyclopaedia tells us that "Son of man" applies to mankind as a whole and is used to accentuate the difference between the sinfulness of mankind and the sinlessness of God who took upon himself the sins of the world (mankind), becoming the "Son of man" so that even the vilest sinner might be saved.

Sin came into the world through man and it needed man to pay the penalty for that sin. That man was Jesus Christ who became the "Son of man" thereby becoming our "Sin bearer." 1 Peter 2:24.

"He bore our sins in his body on the tree and by his wounds we have been made whole." Isaiah 53:6"

For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" 2 Corinthians 5:21.

As Gleason Archer explains, God had to become one of us in order to redeem us from the guilt and penalty of our sin. "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

God as God could not forgive us for our sins unless our sins were fully paid for; otherwise He would have been a condoner and protector of the violation of His own holy law. It was only as a man that God in Christ could furnish satisfaction sufficient to atone for the sins of mankind; for only a man, a true human being, could properly represent the human race.

At the same time our Redeemer had to be God, for only God could furnish a sacrifice of infinite value, to compensate for the penalty of eternal hell that our sin demands, according to the righteous claims of divine justice. Only God could have devised a way of salvation that made it possible for Him to remain Just and at the same time become the Justifier of the ungodly and instead of sending them to the everlasting perdition they deserved it was the perfect Man who was also infinite God that furnished an effectual sacrifice for all believers of every age.

Note

"Son of man" is spoken of in Daniel and Revelation as the Ancient of Days meaning He has always existed, and beginning with Moses and all the prophets Jesus, the Son of man, explained to his disciples what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. (Luke 24:27)

When Jesus spoke of himself as the "Son of man" it was in the context of Philippians 2:5-11 in which it says "Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God humbled himself and became as man so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.