

## God's dilemma

As we should know, God couldn't "turn a blind eye" to humanity's wickedness without lowering his own stan-dard. So He faced a dilemma here - if man sinned, then man (and man alone) must bear the penalty for his sin, which is death.

And we know God's solution - taking upon himself our *humanity* and also our penalty, making himself available as our substitute.

Now comes the surprise twist in this historic event. When Satan engineered the death of God's Son on a roman cross, he thought he had defeated God's purposes. He didn't know God's plan of providing himself as a *human* substitute so as to become the world's Saviour.

"None of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." 1 Corinthians 2.8.

After Christ's resurrection, could Satan discredit what God had done? He tried. He stirred up so-called Gnostics who denied, not that Jesus Christ was God, but rejected his *humanity*, seeing him more like a heavenly ghost!

The apostle John, who spent three years in close contact with the Christ, stresses that God indeed "became flesh and dwelt among us." John 1.14.

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**The reason why Christ chose the hard way of the cross was, among other things, because he saw beyond it.**

**Ken Packer**