

Jesus is the Better High Priest

Hebrews 4:14-5:10

JESUS IS THE BETTER HIGH PRIEST BECAUSE HE IS THE SON OF GOD

- *“Therefore, since we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens—Jesus the Son of God—let us hold fast to our confession.”* (Hebrews 4:14)
- **The earthly high priests like Aaron mentioned in 5:4 were sinful humans as well and needed the very forgiveness they sought for others.**
- *“For every high priest taken from among men is appointed in matters pertaining to God for the people, to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he is also clothed with weakness. 3 Because of this, he must make an offering for his own sins as well as for the people. 4 No one takes this honor on himself; instead, a person is called by God, just as Aaron was.”* (Hebrews 5:1-4)
- **As the Son of God Jesus is final and perfect High Priest representing us before God.**

JESUS UNDERSTANDS OUR STRUGGLES

- *“For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.”* (Hebrews 4:15)
- **The fact that Jesus was tempted in every way and yet had victory over sin, remaining sinless, should encourage us to hold fast to our faith.**
- **Because Jesus experienced temptations just like us, He sees us in our weakest moments, and He is with us enabling us to persevere.**

BECAUSE JESUS IS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST WE CAN BOLDY APPROACH GOD’S THRONE OF GRACE

- *“Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.”* (Hebrews 4:16)
- **Jesus is the greater High Priest who has made atonement for our sins allowing us to boldly come directly to God on our own.**
- **When we humbly and boldly come to God He pours out His mercy and grace upon us.**

AS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF ETERNAL SALVATION

- *“After He was perfected, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him, 10 and He was declared by God a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”* (Heb. 5:9-10)
- **All of the high priests throughout history prior to Jesus had human limitations, but Jesus being perfect in every way was the only adequate Saviour of humanity.**
- **Jesus is not “a high priest” seeking forgiveness from God on our behalf; Jesus is “The HIGH PRIEST” that has paid our sin debt and enables us to now come directly to God for mercy and grace!**

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION

Observation

- What is the **primary** them of Hebrews 4:14-5:10?
- What are the key differences between the Levitical high priests and Jesus, as outlined in Hebrews 5:1–4 and 5:5–10?
- What does this reveal about God's plan for salvation through Christ?

Understanding

- What does it mean to "hold fast to our confession" in Hebrews 4:14, and how can we practically live that out in today's world? (Consider both the content of our faith and the boldness in publicly living it out.)
- In what ways does the superiority of Jesus as High Priest (as the Son of God who "passed through the heavens") impact how we relate to God? How does this reshape your view of prayer, worship, or daily dependence on Him?
- How does Jesus' ability to "sympathize with our weaknesses" (Hebrews 4:15) bring comfort in your own struggles? Does knowing He was tempted in every way help you face temptation differently?
- Why do you think the author of Hebrews emphasizes the boldness with which we should approach God's throne (4:16)? How does this contrast with the Old Testament approach to God's presence, and what does this teach us about grace?
- According to Hebrews 5:9, Jesus is the source of eternal salvation "for all who obey Him." What does obedience to Jesus look like in our lives? How do faith and obedience work together in the Christian life?

Loving Outward:

- Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
- Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
- Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?