Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Jesus Christ the Perfect and Final Priest – Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – illustration of King Solomon
2. A Perfect Priest
3. A Sympathetic Priest
4. A Substitutionary Priest
5. A Victorious Priest
6. Conclusion – Is Jesus Christ your priest and do you come before the throne of grace with confidence?

Scripture Passages Referenced

- 1 Kings 3:28 - And all Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice.
- Mark 6:48 - And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea.
- Mark 6:51 - And he got in the boat with them, and the wind ceased.
- Hebrews 9:22 - And without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.
- Hebrews 10:4 - For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
- Hebrews 9:14 - how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.
- 1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.
- Hebrews 9:27 - it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.

Discussion Questions

- When you think of a priest, what thoughts immediately come to mind?
- Why do we need a mediator between us and God?
- Why did Jesus Christ have to be perfect in order to be our priest?
- In what sense was Jesus made perfect through learning obedience through suffering?
- What does the author of Hebrews mean by stating that Jesus sympathizes with our weakness?
- How can you find comfort in knowing that Jesus Christ is a sympathetic high priest?
- Why is it necessary for blood to be shed to forgive sins?
- How is the blood that Jesus offers different from the blood of the Old Testament priests?
- What does it mean that Jesus is a substitutionary priest?
- Why is it essential that we affirm Jesus died on the cross to satisfy God the Father's just anger towards sin?
- What can we learn from the fact that all priests, including Jesus, were appointed by God?
- Why can't we be our own priest or pick someone else to be our priest?
- What does it mean that Jesus Christ passed through the heavens?
- How is Jesus Christ a victorious high priest? How is that good news for you?
- Is Jesus Christ your priest? How do you know?
- What are some practical ways that you can hold fast to your confession?
- How are you doing at regularly coming before the throne of grace with confidence?
- From where does our confidence come to approach God's throne of grace?
- What does it mean to receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need?
- How does this passage and sermon help grow your view of our glorious Savior Jesus Christ?
- How does this passage and sermon challenge you to grow to be more like Jesus?