

A Consistent Hope: Enter in.

HVFC

September 21, 2025

Jesus is Better Series

Hebrews 10:19-22

Today is the day the Lord has made, and a new day is a new beginning, a chance to wipe the slate clean and muster new strength and focus to meet the day head on. God does that for us; every sunrise brings new mercies and renewed encouragement to seek out our heavenly father.

Last week we looked at the powerful truths found in Hebrews 10:11-18. This section is a transitional paragraph. We noted how as the writer is wrapping up what Jesus has just done, they are all in the past tense form. We looked at the perfected work of Jesus, stating that the verb form tells us that this work is done and completed by one person, and also the process of sanctification, which according to the verb form tells us that it is a work that is being done to us, not that we do ourselves. And this puts us in a position of tension, where we are living in these “opposing realities”—saved but still growing, perfected yet being refined—and the importance of daily surrender to God's will.

And this brings us to the place where we should ask, well what do I do now? We have commented several times that one of the main themes of these last two chapters has been how we access God.

I read something this week that I believe will have a lot of influence over my thoughts and messages as we finish out the book of Hebrews.

The quote was this, and the book has a couple authors so I don't know who said it, but they said.

“Without exception, all the New Testament writers link doctrine with deeds.”

With that in mind as we continue in Hebrews, we now step into what this new covenant life looks like, not only in theology but in how we approach God, live with purpose, and reflect Christ in our community.

Turn with me to Hebrews 10, and we will start in verse 19.

Hebrews 10:19-22

19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,

20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

21 and having a High Priest over the house of God,

22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

NKJV

Let's Pray.

I must say I have been looking forward to these last few chapters to preach from. Having covered all of the obscure and difficult examples from the OT, including Melchizedek and the temple imagery, we are now in more familiar territory.

And as I read the rest of this chapter, the writer sets up a beautiful 3- or 4-part sermon set.

Remember the writer is writing to exhort and encourage them to not go back to the Old Covenant way of life. Jesus has come and ended that covenant and has begun

a new covenant. The inefficacy of the rituals, traditions and sacrifices are on full display in the light of Jesus Christ.

My mind thinks in pictures and the picture that came to my mind when comparing the Old Covenant to the new Covenant is this.

The OC would be like a horse drawn wagon compared to our most advanced spaceship of the New Covenant. Only the horse is dead, and the wagon wheels are broken.

And yet still there are those today that choose their own rituals, traditions, and forms of sacrifice that have the same effectiveness of the dead horse and wagon with broken wheels.

So the writer begins in verse 19 to the end of this chapter telling us what our response should be to this new covenant that Jesus offers us. To receive the blessings of this new covenant we must Enter in, Hold Fast, Keep near, and Press on.

And we will look at these over the next 3 or 4 weeks.

So let's "Enter in" to our message today.

Hebrews 10:19

Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,
NKJV

Give me a minute to set this up.

We are told to Enter in and we are given the how, the what, and the why.

Enter in boldly, enter in to the Holy of Holies, Enter in by the blood of Jesus.

Now imagine with me for a minute, you and I are Jews, and our whole lives we have lived by the law and the prophets. Every year we have come to Jerusalem and

watched the High Priest with fear and terror, and a rope tied to his leg encase he was struck down, enter into the Holy of Holies to offer the blood on the mercy seat.

And now we are being told, hey you and I can enter God's presence with confidence and boldness.

Imagine trying to wrap your mind around that.

If you will remember Hebrews 4:16 says that we can come boldly before the throne of grace...

And boldness in 10:19 is the same Greek word in 4:16 boldly.

Boldness is translated as frank confidence.

Before Jesus entered heaven, we didn't have access to the Throne of Grace to obtain the forgiveness we needed. We could not offer a perfect sacrifice to bring perfect forgiveness; therefore we did not have access to God.

In the Old Testament, with very few exceptions, man approached God from a place of fear and dread.

Exodus 19:21-22

21 Then the Lord told Moses, "Go back down and warn the people not to break through the boundaries to see the Lord, or they will die.

22 Even the priests who regularly come near to the Lord must purify themselves so that the Lord does not break out and destroy them."

NLT

Jesus has by his blood provided the ability to access God with confidence.

No longer is God only accessible once a year, now we are exhorted to boldly and continually enter into God's presence.

We can now enter into the Holiest place, God's throne room, by the blood of Jesus with confidence.

As we enter with confidence, we must also enter in with thanksgiving.

Hebrews 10:20

By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place.

NLT

You may be wondering why I went with Thanksgiving, since it isn't mentioned in this passage.

This passage points to the extreme cost that gave me the ability to enter into God's presence.

And if you do a search through scripture, entering into God's must be accompanied by thanksgiving.

And why shouldn't it be. You and I offered nothing for our salvation. God through the obedience of Jesus' death has given us the gift of salvation.

That sacrifice was not cheap.

It is a sad truth that humanity can have such a low value of life.

Jesus speaking to the Jews in John 8 tells us why sinful man disregards life.

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth

NKJV

With many still wrestling with the death of Charlie and all the comments and nastiness that has come out. A clear line has been drawn that exposes people's value of life.

Life was man's first gift from God, he breathed the breath of life into Adam, and man was created. It was his intention that man should never experience death. Sin and death are married; they are one flesh. You don't have one without the other.

And we all know how God hates sin, but guess what?

God hates death just as much, yet He was willing that his Son be killed, and his blood offered so that I could enter into His presence.

That alone should cause a geyser of thanksgiving to pour out every time I boldly come in God.

Psalm 100:3-4

3 Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

NKJV

Also remember that Jesus now sits at the right hand of God making intercession for each of us, another reason to daily enter his courts with thanksgiving and praise.

We can enter in to God's presence with confidence, and with thanksgiving, but to truly please God we must enter in a sincere heart of faith.

Hebrews 10:21-22

21 And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house,

22 let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

NLT

With each scripture the writer is beginning to define how we respond to the gift of forgiveness and the parameters to access his presence. And before we get to the end of chapter 10 we will have some hard and difficult passages to swallow.

We are to enter in, with confidence by the blood of Jesus, with thanksgiving, understanding the price that was paid to gain access, and now with sincerity of heart.

I didn't point them out, but each one is looking back to a point the writer has made previously.

At some point in most of the sermons lately we have mentioned our relationship to God is a matter of the heart. And here again the writer puts his finger on this issue.

I believe the writer is looking back to Hebrews 4:12-13,

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

We have this invitation to come into God's presence, but we must come with a sincere heart. There is no fake it till you make it with God. He can see the intention, the catalyst, the reason for wanting to be in his presence.

Lucifer was in God's presence, but the intents of his heart became known to God, the pride and selfish desires, and it caused him to be thrown from heaven, like a star falling. And don't think it would be any different for us.

Scripture teaches that many will say Lord I did this, I did that, and so on, but God will reply depart from me, for your heart was not known to me. You offered lip service but never surrendered your will to the Lordship of Jesus. Your conscience was not cleansed with the sprinkled blood of Jesus, nor was your body washed by the pure water.

On the other side there will be those whose hearts were known by God because they surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus and through obedience to God's word they acted like Jesus and obeyed his commandments. And he will say to them, well done good and faithful servant. Your conscience has been cleansed and your body washed.

I want to take a second and explain this part of scripture.

Hebrews 10:22

For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

NLT

It is my belief that if you have been around church much at all, you understand that we find atonement or forgiveness for our sin by the blood of Jesus. We talked about this in July, how the life of the body is in the blood. And sin which brings death, required that life be shed, or blood be shed for forgiveness. Jesus came to bring forgiveness for sinners by going to the cross and shedding his blood for my sin.

And when I place my faith or belief in his shed blood, I can be forgiven for my sin.

The gospel in simple truth.

But what about this next part?

Our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Now most commentaries say that it represents baptism, however I teach and believe that baptism has no part of our salvation. If it did the thief on the cross could not be saved. Nor could scripture claim that salvation is based on faith alone.

Salvation is based on faith, not faith and baptism.

So I looked up the word washed and parsed the verb out.

Washed is a verb: perfect passive participle masculine plural nominative.

Meaning it is an action that has been completed, with lasting effects.

While trying to read and understand what is being said here, the Holy Spirit dropped a verse into my mind.

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

NKJV

Last week we learned that Christ has Perfected those who are being sanctified. Here it is the blood of Jesus that cleanses our conscience and washed our body with the pure water of his word.

Sanctification is the process by which we are made perfect.

Ephesians teaches that we are sanctified (being made holy internally) and cleansed (the body, our deeds, externally) by God's word.

When we read the word of God it gets inside us and God begins with the heart.

But it doesn't stop there. As our hearts and mind begin to enter into the presence of God it begins to change our body. The way we talk, the way we live, our habits, the choices of music we listen to, the movies we watch, what comes out of our mouths. I was speaking to a friend the other day and he told me he used to cuss so bad it would make a sailor blush, but when he got saved, God washed that away and he doesn't cuss anymore.

I am closing.

Remember I opened up with a quote.

"Without exception, all the New Testament writers link doctrine with deeds."

And as the writer finishes this book, we are going to see more and more the correlation between our beliefs and our deeds.

We have all heard the saying, actions speak louder than words.

Yet many Christians dismiss themselves from this critic.

As you read Hebrews 10 and 11, which will be covered for the next couple months, let the words of Jesus ring in your ears.

Luke 6:46

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"

NKJV

What is the use of saying we love Jesus with our mouth if it is not evident in our lives. Our response to the gospel is one of body, soul and mind.

Let's pray.