

The Supremacy of Christ: In Revelation Heb 1:1-4:13

**HEBREWS: THE “BETTER” LIFE
4:13FF – GREAT HIGH PRIEST**

The message so far...

- **JESUS: III. Better than the Moses (3:1-9)**
 - 2nd Warning - Consider Jesus, faithful as a Son
 - Vs.6 - Hold FAST!!! Confidence, boast of Glory
 - Hardened Hearts – Stop TODAY!!! vs. anger of God!
 - Evil, Unbelieving Hearts – see the Living God
 - If we hold fast (see vs 6) (aor. act) – the choice is ours
 - Strive to enter rest!!! (11)

The Word of God!

- Not sermons, blogs, take-aways...
 - Nothing else can and will bring us into HIS REST
- Things about this WORD:
 - Living – zao, alive, quick, breathe (Jn 10:10)
 - Active – energizes, effectual, powerful
 - Sharper – tomoteros, 1x, to cut as if by one stroke
 - Piercing, dividing, judging thoughts and intentions

His Great Desire

- OF THE HEART!!!! This is God's goal!!!
 - To get at the unbelieving, evil that makes us hard
 - Like a surgeon releasing the puss in a wound.
 - The WORD will reach into the inner most part of us...
- 13 – open and laid bare (*trachelizo*, 1x)
 - This phrase is used of a sacrifice being slit open
 - Nothing is hidden from HIS SIGHT
 - The Great and Perfect Revelation of the WORD, JESUS!

Who did these sacrifices...

- Next division – 4:17-7:28 - Our Mediator
 - When you think of a priest, what comes to mind?
 - What was the ministry of the Levitical priesthood?
 - What were the requirements of being this servant?
 - Who was the greatest High Priest?

Sympathetic High Priest (4:14-16)

◎ Great statements:

- The FACT of our High Priest – since we have...
- GREAT NEWS...high priests of the day...

◎ Passed thru the heavens (1:3; 2:17; 3:1)

- As the priest passed thru the holy place...
- But the ark was not in Jerusalem!
- Jesus was and enters the presence!

Sympathetic High Priest

- ⦿ Not the Ark, the very Throne of God itself
- ⦿ Deity of the Son
 - Note: The identity is not in question... JESUS
- ⦿ Our response: hold fast our confession
 - *krateo* – cling tenaciously, grasp, retain, seize, hold – to have power, be master of

Hold fast...

⦿ Or drift away! (2:1)

- Confession – *homologia* – ‘same word’, profess
- Say what the WORD said and says...
- The person of Jesus as revealed in YOU!

⦿ But not alone! Jesus is:

1. *sumpatheo* – compassion, feeling as another
 - Christ has experienced anything we face
 - Our weaknesses are familiar to Him...

THE Touched High Priest

2. Victor over temptation

- He faced it all and WON! Without sin...
- He won the battle in the character & nature

3. We can draw near the throne (come boldly)

- Keep coming, make daily use of Him

4. Find mercy! (*eleos*) for our sins

5. Find grace! (*charis*) for our needs

Qualifications

- ⦿ But, is Jesus qualified? Not Levi? Not Aaron?
- ⦿ Jesus meets all requirements of men & God
 1. High priest must be taken from men (5:1)
 - In order to intercede, he must be human
 - This is in keeping with His “touchability”
 - Leads us in things of God – prayer, worship

Qualifications (cont'd)

2. Offers gifts and sacrifices for sin
 - Unless sins are dealt with, we cannot follow Him
 - But He is able to offer the ultimate sacrifice
 - Also gifts of thanksgiving and praise
 - All worship and relationship flow thru Jesus

Qualifications (cont'd)

3. High Priest must deal gently (5:2)

- *metriopatheo* – 1x; one who is not unduly disturbed by the errors, faults, sins of others, but bears them gently – dealing with passions, errors
- Ignorant – *agnoeo*, to not understand, disregard
- Misguided – *planao*, wander, led astray, roam
- Remembering and aware of weaknesses in all
- Who needs a High Priest who does not

Qualifications (cont'd)

3. High Priest must deal gently (5:2) (Cont'd)
 - Who needs a High Priest who doesn't understand?
 - We must never undervalue what Jesus knows in becoming flesh and also sin for us...
 - Most High Priests were superior and untouchable
 - We need Jesus!!!

Qualifications

4. Offer sacrifices: for us and himself (5:3)
 - High priest had to cleanse himself and others
 - The focus here is on identification with sinners
 - Most High Priests avoided and looked down on
 - There is always need for self examination
 - Gal 6:1; 1Co 11:31,32; 1Jn 1:9

Gal 6:1 ¶ Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; [each one] looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

1Cor 11:31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.
32 But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Qualifications

5. Not self appointed (5:4)

- Called by God, even as Aaron was
- God must call those He want to serve
- Not a profession, but a calling to ministry
- Jn 15:16; 2Co 5:20; 1Ti 1:12; Ac 26:16; Jn 17:18

John 15:16 "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and [that] your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

2Cor 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

1Ti 1:12 ¶ I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service,

Acts 26:16 'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;

John 17:8 for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received [them] and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.