

Jesus the Greatest High Priest

January 15, 2023
Hebrews 4:14-16

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Intro:

- Theme of Hebrews: Jesus is Better!
- Most believers struggle with persevering & prayer
- Luther: *"after terrifying us, the apostle now comforts us"*

Since Jesus is our Great High Priest who has passed through the heavens we must hold fast to our confession

- Modern minds don't grasp concept of the high priest
- Jews understood importance of the Day of Atonement^{Lev16}
- Jesus is NOT just another high priest
- Jesus passed through the heavens – real atonement which restored fellowship between God and His people^{Heb7:27}
- Note our Responsibility: let us hold fast our confession!
- Jesus is our Great High Priest – our Redeemer, our Savior!

Jesus is our sympathetic and sinless Great High Priest

- We are being shown the wonder and the compassion of the Gospel – Jesus is our Great High Priest
- He is the heir^{1:2} of all things; He is the one through whom God made the world^{1:2}; He is the radiance of God's glory^{1:3}; He is the exact representation of God's nature^{1:3}; He is the upholder of all things by the word of His power^{1:3}; He is a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek^{5:6,10}; He passed through the heavens^{4:14}; He lived in sinless perfection better than the angels^{4:15}; He has endured suffering^{2:9} although He was a Son.
- THIS is the Jesus who sympathizes with you and redeemed you!
- He was tempted in all ways... He gets us!
- This was Jesus who fellowshiped with Father from eternity... In Garden^{Mt26:39,42} and on Cross^{Mt27:46}
- So Jesus understands you and can sympathize with you!

Since Jesus is our sympathetic and sinless high priest we must draw near to the throne of Grace (Pray at all times)

- This is the SO WHAT! The wonder of the Gospel
- Think of the old covenant – separation Ex 19:24; Uzzah touched Ark & died^{2Sam6:6}
- But WE are being told to WITH CONFIDENCE DRAW NEAR!
- Why? Because of Jesus our Great High Priest
- Think about what that should do for your prayer life!
 - Pray without ceasing^{1Th5:17}
- GOSPEL: faith in Jesus' work on your behalf that makes you acceptable before God! Don't forget that Confession of Truth
- Your Great High Priest sympathizes with your weaknesses...
- Therefore in CONFIDENCE, CONTINUALLY draw near and pray without ceasing so that you might receive mercy and find God's grace every day (your time of need)!

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