



Jesus Our Great High Priest

Hebrews 4:14 – 5:10

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Background

The Old Testament Priest's Duties:

- Daily Sacrifice
- Annual Sacrifice
- Continuing Sacrifice






4:14-16

Exhortation and Explanation

- Jesus, our great High Priest, has gone ahead into the presence of God
- Jesus understands our weaknesses because he has been tempted like us
- Jesus makes it possible for us to approach the throne of God
- God's grace and mercy is available to us because of Jesus







5:1-4
Priestly Qualifications

The Priest must ...


- be selected from among men
- be appointed by God
- represent men to God
- offer acceptable gifts and sacrifices






5:5-10
How Jesus Fulfills These Qualifications

- Fully man, and suffered like us
- Chosen: "You are my Son ; today I have become your Father." (Psalm 2:7)
- Represented us – offered up prayers & petitions
- Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was perfect and once for all






5:9-10
What Does This Mean to Us?

Jesus ...

- suffered; was obedient; was made perfect
- has become the source of our eternal salvation
- Priest & King in the order of Melchisedek





SO WHAT?

Jesus ...

- **tempted, but understands**
- **only mediator between us and God**
- **our only entry into God's presence**
- **the source of our eternal salvation**





QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Does Jesus meet your needs in being able to approach God and in feeling that you are accepted by God? Do you find that you can pray easily? Is God approachable to you, or would you rather go to another human being?
2. Try to imagine the extent of the sufferings of Jesus when he was tempted, yet without sin; compare that with our suffering, when we so easily give in. How does this make you feel?
3. Discuss our attitude when we approach the throne of grace. Do we come confidently (yet reverently) as the Hebrews writer exhorts us? Do we come brashly and in an over-familiar way? Are we reluctant to come at all, and thus fail to receive the mercy and grace that God promises?