

Let Us Hold Fast Our Confession and Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace
Kingdom of Priests Series
Sunday, February 19, 2023
Senior Pastor, Dr. Janet Cook

Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Let us “hold fast” to these truths:

We have a Great High Priest

Hebrews 4:14 **Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.**

- The word passed means “to come or go through”

Aaron’s Earthly Tabernacle:

1. The Most Holy Place – the Second Veil
2. The Holy Place – The first veil or Door of the Tabernacle
3. The Outer Court – The Door of the Court, or the Gate

Christ’s Heavenly Tabernacle:

1. The Most Holy Place – the third heaven and presence of God
2. The Holy Place – The planetary heaven
3. The outer Court – The atmospheric heaven

“As the Apostle, He came from God for us, to us. As High Priest, He returns to God for us, from us. Thus, it means, if Jesus Christ is our Great High Heavenly Priest, then all earthly priesthood must be abandoned. All earthly sacrifices, ministrations, Temple, ceremonies, and oblations have been abolished and abandoned by God Himself in this Church dispensation. This is forever. All is transferred to a heavenly sanctuary and heavenly order.” *Kevin Conner*

Greatness of Christ's Sacrifice

Hebrews 9:23-24 Therefore, it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. **For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;**

Jesus Intercedes for Us

Romans 8:34 It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

[Because Jesus has done all of this for us] "Let us hold fast our confession."

Jesus is Touched with the Feeling of Our Infirmities

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

- The weaknesses of our human nature

Jesus Suffered When He was Tempted

Hebrews 2:17-18 For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, **He is able to help those who are being tempted.**

Having a temptation is not sin, but yielding to temptation is sin.

James 1:12-13 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

James 1:14-15 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

1. Each one is tempted
2. When he is drawn away by his own desires [lust]
3. And enticed

4. When desire [lust] is conceived
5. It gives birth to sin
6. When sin is full-grown it brings forth death

Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- To come boldly is to come with freedom, frankness, without a sense of shame, fearlessly and in confidence.
- "Mercy" is NOT getting what we DO deserve! Mercy is opposite to judgement.
- "Grace" is getting what we DON'T deserve! Grace is the opposite to law.

Jesus Offered One Sacrifice for Sins Forever

Hebrews 10:12-13 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

- We can "come boldly" because He has conquered death our behalf.

Acts 2:24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because **it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.**

1 Corinthians 15: 55-57 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)

The Lord is Longsuffering

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.