

Our Great High Priest

Text: Hebrews 4:14-16, Lev 8-10, 16

Proposition: We must *hold on & draw near* to Jesus because He is our Great High Priest because of what He has done, who He is, how he relates to us, & what He gives.

1. **What He has done:** Jesus is our Great High Priest bc His sacrificial _____ actually accomplished what all other priests could only _____. (v. 14a, Heb 9:11, 23-26)
2. **Who He is:** Jesus is our Great High Priest bc His _____ qualifies him to be our perfect representative & mediator: Fully _____ & Fully _____! (v. 14b)
3. **How He relates:** Jesus is our Great High Priest bc He is perfectly _____, having endured the full force of temptation's power and yet without _____. (v. 15)
4. **What He gives:** Jesus is our Great High priest bc He _____ His people with all that is necessary to persevere in the Christian life: _____ & _____! (v. 16)

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Application Questions:

1. Read Leviticus 8-10 & 16 in order to have a clear understanding of the OT Levitical priesthood.
2. What two main roles were the high priests of the Old Covenant responsible for? How does Jesus fulfill these roles so that the high priest of the Old Covenant is no longer needed?
3. Considering that these early Hebrew Christians were being tempted to go back to formal Judaism, what is the writer of Hebrews motivation in 4:14-16? Do you think he is trying to help his readers overcome *inferior thoughts* and *embarrassing* thoughts about Jesus who died a disgraceful death?
4. What is the significance of the phrase “passed through the heavens” in v. 14? What did Jesus do for us that no other human high priest could do? What foreshadowing did Jesus fulfill? (See Hebrews 8:1-2, 9:11, 23-26)
5. As a High Priest why does it matter that Jesus was both man & God?
6. In what ways can Jesus sympathize with you? When the writer says that Jesus was tempted in “all things” what does that mean? How strong do you think the temptation was for Jesus?
7. How important is it that Jesus was tempted and yet He was without sin?
8. We are commanded to “hold on to” & “draw near” to Jesus in this passage. What is it that Jesus as our Great High Priest promises to provide for us if we do these things?

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