

Jesus, our GREAT High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Main Point: Because Jesus is our Great High Priest, we can have confidence to draw near and persevere.

I. A Transcendent Savior (vs. 14)

A Great High Priest who:

1. Has passed through the heavens
2. Is the Son of God

Therefore, we are to:

- Hold fast our confession & persevere

II. An Immanent Savior (One who is near/inherent – vs. 15)

A Great High Priest who:

1. Is able to sympathize
2. Yet without sin

And the result is:

- We can with confidence draw near to the throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need (vs. 16)

Quotes:

“This empathy, however, extends beyond the sharing of feelings (i.e., compassion), and includes the element of active help towards those who suffer. Here in v. 15 the stress falls on the capacity of the exalted high priest to help those who are helpless.” – P.T. O’Brien

“A silly idea is current that good people do not know what temptation means. This is an obvious lie. Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is. After all, you find out the strength of the German army by fighting against it, not by giving in. You find out the strength of a wind by trying to walk against it, not by lying down. A man who gives in to temptation after five minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later. That is why bad people, in one sense, know very little about badness. They have lived a sheltered life by always giving in. We never find out the strength of the evil impulse inside us until we try to fight it: and Christ, because He was the only man who never yielded to temptation, is also the only man who knows to the full what temptation means” -- C.S. Lewis.

“Jesus knew depths and pains we can never know, precisely because he did not sin! No human was ever tempted like Jesus was! "Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted" -- R. Kent Hughes.