

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship | Christ Supreme in All Things
December 4, 2022 | “Our Great High Priest” | **Hebrews 4:14-16**

1) Jesus is our Great High Priest, therefore

_____ (4:16)

2) Jesus sympathizes with us, therefore

_____ (4:17)

3) Jesus offers us help, therefore

_____ (4:18)

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How are Jesus’s humanity and deity emphasized in this passage? How is Jesus like us as humans? How is he unlike us? Why do we want a high priest who is like us? Why do we want (need!) a high priest who is unlike us?

The author of Hebrews says that Jesus was tempted “in every respect” like we are. Does that mean that every specific temptation you’ve experienced was experienced by Jesus? Give some examples of how Jesus was tempted in the Bible. How can we be confident that he never sinned? Why is Jesus’s sinlessness essential to our salvation?

GET PERSONAL

The author of Hebrews presents a difference between temptation and sin in this passage. What is that difference? Give an example of a time when you were tempted, but you did not sin. How did you escape that temptation? How does God help us to avoid sin in our moments of temptation? When we do sin, how does that affect our relationship with God?

What does it mean to approach the throne of grace with confidence? What throne is the author speaking about? Why don’t we need a priest, a pastor, or a friend to intercede for us before the Lord?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Take a moment to consider your prayer life. Do you approach Jesus and his throne of grace with confidence? Are you quick to communicate your failures to the Lord and ask for his help? Do you confidently believe that he is ready and able to help you?

The author of Hebrews tells us, “let us hold fast our confession” (4:14). What exactly is “our confession”? Is this confession something that we can be quiet about (i.e. can Christians be silent and secretive about their faith)?

ADVANCED QUESTION

It is clear from this passage and others that Jesus was legitimately tempted while on earth. But theologians disagree on whether or not Jesus was constitutionally able to sin. Could Jesus have sinned in the wilderness when Satan tempted him, or is it impossible for the Son to do that? The teaching that Jesus was unable to sin is referred to as the doctrine of impeccability. Consider the following two articles, and then decide whether or not to affirm this doctrine (please be mindful that this is not a cardinal doctrine of the church):

- 1) www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/theological-primer-impeccability/
- 2) www.desiringgod.org/articles/could-jesus-have-sinned