

## Hebrews 7.11

### Granted Boldness

Since the very beginning of mankind, our relationship with God has been a dance of distance. How close to I have to get? How far away can I orbit and still have the hope of heaven? This essential attitude is because of the barrier our sin created, which the Law of God defined... But the hope of the gospel is that the barrier to God's presence has been removed by Grace in the blood of the Lamb. Through HIS working, we have access even unto the very throne of God. This access is not a result of our work, it is nothing we have or could ever have earned. It is, rather, a grant woven into the very fabric of God's work through all of human history... it is the finished work of Christ on the Cross. It grants us boldness in our dealings with God, but boldness birthed in humility; having received all by the working of another.

#### I. LAW AND BONDAGE

A. Under bondage to fear in the law –

## Galatians 4.21-24

- B. All who do not keep the whole law are cursed –

*Galatians 3:10 (NKJV) <sup>10</sup> For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”*

- C. Though sons through God's promises, they were slaves in heart to their sin, and lived in the terror of a holy God whom they hated and wanted distance from... the veil of Moses displayed this attitude –

*2 Corinthians 3:14–15 (NKJV) <sup>14</sup> But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. <sup>15</sup> But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart.*

## II. DESIRE FOR DISTANCE

- A. The fruit of sin, the root of the Law
- B. Began in the Garden, Adam's first conscious act after sin was to hide from God
1. Cover his nakedness with fig leaves –

*Genesis 3:7 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.*

2. Hide in the Garden when God came for fellowship –

*Genesis 3:8 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

3. Lie and cast blame to cover his actions, blaming everyone (including God) –

*Genesis 3:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”*

- C. When the Law was given, this idea of distance became the framework, but it also became the voiced desire of the people of God.

### **Deuteronomy 5.23-31**

- D. The place of God's presence was closed off from them, and none could enter, indeed none wanted to enter... even the high priest entered only once per year with the blood of

Atonement and a rope around his ankle, in case he was slain by the Lord for transgression...

E. The attitude of the law is best summed up in this idea -

1. "how close to I have to get to God in order to be saved?"

F. While the attitude of grace is this -

1. "how can I get closer that I may delight in God's presence?"

### III. HUNGER AND DELIGHT

A. We are transformed when grace makes us live and we no longer want to do what is evil, rather we feel about sin and wickedness as does God Himself

1. The attempt to permit and even justify sin is evidence of a dead heart, for even when we sin saved men delight in what God says –

*Romans 7:22–23 (NKJV) <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. <sup>23</sup> But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*

2. Our hearts are transformed so that we  
WANT what God wants –

*Psalm 110:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.*

B. Our entire attitude toward God's law is one of delight and longing –

- *Psalm 119:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.*
- *Psalm 119:24 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup> Your testimonies also are my delight And my counselors.*
- *Psalm 119:35 (NKJV) <sup>35</sup> Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.*
- *Psalm 119:47 (NKJV) <sup>47</sup> And I will delight myself in Your commandments, Which I love.*
- *Psalm 119:70 (NKJV) <sup>70</sup> Their heart is as fat as grease, But I delight in Your law.*
- *Psalm 119:77 (NKJV) <sup>77</sup> Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live; For Your law is my delight.*
- *Psalm 119:92 (NKJV) <sup>92</sup> Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction.*

- *Psalm 119:174 (NKJV) <sup>174</sup> I long for Your salvation, O Lord, And Your law is my delight.*

C. The core of this hunger is always about the longing for the PRESENCE of God
- *Acts 3:19 (NKJV) <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,*
- *1Corinthians 13:11–13 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. <sup>13</sup> And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*
- *Hebrews 9:24 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup> 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;*
- *Jude 24 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup> Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*

➤ *Revelation 21:22–23 (NKJV) <sup>22</sup> But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup> The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.*

#### **IV. ACCEPTANCE BRINGS BOLDNESS**

A. Our sin has been removed and God has accepted us in the finished work of Christ

**2 Corinthians 5.21**

B. His plan displays His eternal wisdom, in which we learn of His purpose in all things

**Ephesians 3.8-12**

C. As sons we know our privileges within the house of our Father... we go boldly, confidently and with hope rejoicing into His presence

*Hebrews 3:5–6 (NKJV) <sup>5</sup> And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, <sup>6</sup> but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.*

a. Remember that Moses was ultimately rejected for his sin.

- b. He was not permitted to enter the promise. He saw it, but could not go in.
  - c. He was found lacking as a servant and so paid that price
  - d. But WE in Christ not only have the promise but we ARE the very promise of God unto Christ and inherit every privilege which that fact entails.
- D. This comes from a heart cleansed by the blood of Jesus, filled with actual LOVE toward the Father, even as we have been given love for His ways and His law.

*1 John 3:21 (NKJV) <sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.*

*1 John 4:17 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.*

- E. This acceptance by God of our person grants us confidence in the presence of God. We know He will not reject us because our access is the perfection of Jesus Himself.

*Hebrews 10:19 (NKJV) <sup>19</sup> Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,*



F. We need never fear that our sin will disqualify us, for our righteousness does not Qualify us in the first place... therefore we have confident assurance, rooted in humility knowing that our alien righteousness is our only plea before God.

*Hebrews 10:35 (NKJV) <sup>35</sup> Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.*

G. We must trust what God has said and rely upon His promise,

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*