

OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:11-16 & 5:1-10

I. The Problem of Sin (4:11-13)—We are accountable to God**A. The Danger of Disobedience (4:1, 11)—it will keep you from entering God's rest, from reaching the goal, from receiving the promise****B. The Word of God (4:12)****1. Its Function**

- a. **It Warns** ()—living and active
- b. **It Judges** ()—sharp and piercing, discerning thoughts and intentions

2. Its Focus

- a. **God sees** the heart.
- b. **Sin starts** in the heart.
- c. The **word of God addresses** the heart.

C. The Omniscience of God (4:13)—all knowing; He sees everything!

- 1. Nothing is **hidden** from God.
- 2. We are **accountable** to Him. (Gen 3:4)

II. The Priesthood of Jesus ()—He intercedes with God for humans.**A. Jesus' Excellent Credentials**

- 1. He has **passed through the heavens**. (4:14)—His work on our behalf was accepted.
- 2. He is the **Son of God**. (4:14; 5:5)—divine, well connected and able to pay
- 3. He is **fully human**. (5:1-3; 2:17)—able to identify with and represent us
- 4. He was **appointed by God**. (5:4-6; Num 16-17)—*God chose Him* for this; therefore, God is pleased with Him, accepts His atonement on our behalf.

B. Jesus' Holy Character

1. He is **Sinless** (4:15)

2. **He is Sympathetic** (Heb 2:17-18; 4:15)

a. He has been **tempted**. (4:15; Mat 4:1; Lk 4:13)—in every way

b. **He has suffered**. (2:10; 5:7-9; Isa 53; Lk 2:51-52; Mat 3:14-15; Mat 5:10; 2 Tim 3:12)

c. He is able to **deal gently**. (5:2)

C. Jesus' Priestly Services (4:16; 5:9)—

1. He provides **mercy**.—forgiveness for sins when we have fallen

2. He provides **grace**. (2:18)—help when we are struggling

3. He provides **eternal salvation**. (5:9)—

III. The Confidence of Christians (4:16)

A. We have a **Great High Priest**. He cannot fail to secure mercy for us.

B. We have a **Sympathetic High Priest**. He is gentle and kind.

C. **We can approach God boldly**, without fear.

Listen to Jill Philips sing "Come Ye Sinners"
<https://youtu.be/dxAbjh2X9JY>