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The SUPERIORITY
of CHRIST

Hebrews 4:14-16

14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Our Great High Priest Hebrews 4:14-16

- Theme of Hebrews: The Superiority of Christ
- 1. Jesus is Superior to the Prophets (1:1-3)
- 2. Jesus is Superior to the Angels (1:4-2:18)
- Warning 1: Do not Neglect the Gospel (2:1-4)
- 3. Jesus is Superior to Moses (3:1-4:13)
- Warning 2: Beware of Hard-Hearted Unbelief (3:7-4:13)
- 4. Jesus is Superior to the Priesthood (4:14-7:28)

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to Faith (14-15)

Hebrews 2:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

Hebrews 4:11-13

¹¹ Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience. 12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Three Descriptions of Our Great High Priest Description 1: His Location

Hebrews 6:19-20

¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, ²⁰ where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

Mark 6:30-34

³⁰ The apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.) 32 They went away in the boat to a secluded place by themselves. ³³ The people saw them going, and many recognized them and ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them. 34 When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

Matthew 4:2

² And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

John 11:33-35

33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, 34 and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

William Lane:

The special nuance of "sympathizes" extends beyond the sharing of feelings. It always includes the element of active help. In this context the stress falls on the capacity of the exalted high priest to help those who are helpless.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

Reason 2: His Accomplishment of a Perfect Life

James 1:13

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

Reason 2: His Accomplishment of a Perfect Life

Mark 3:22

The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Description 1: His Location

Description 2: His Humanity

Description 3: His Divinity

Reason 1: His Identification with Our Weakness

Reason 2: His Accomplishment of a Perfect Life

2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Our Great High Priest - Part 1

Hebrews 4:14-16

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.

Reaction 1: Hold Fast to the Faith (14-15)

Reaction 2: Draw Near to Your God (16)

Hebrews 4:14-16

Conclusion

- 1. Hold Fast to Your Confession of Faith
- 2. Draw Near to Your God for Help

Theme: Consider our great high priest and be strengthened to persevere in faith.