

6 – A GREAT HIGH PRIEST (HEBREWS 4:14-16)

I. Our High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-15)

A. Our Privilege (Hebrews 4:14a)

1. Intercessor (Hebrews 4:14a)

- The writer expresses that we have a great High Priest.
- A High priest served as an intercessor between God and the people.

SCRIPTURE 1 John 2:1-2 (ESV)

¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

2. Access to God (Hebrews 4:14b)

- The phrase "passing through the heavens" refers to his access to God.
- As High Priest, he has unlimited access to God.

3. His Identity (Hebrews 4:14c)

- The writer identifies our High Priest as Jesus the Son of God.

B. The Encouragement (Hebrews 4:14d)

- Because of our relationship to the High Priest, we are to hold on to our confession.
- The word "confession" refers to the faith or commitment to Christ we profess.

C. His Identification with Us (Hebrews 4:15)

1. His Understanding (Hebrews 4:15a)

- The writer stresses that our High Priest is not above us in our experiences.
- Our High Priest understands our weaknesses.

2. His Experience (Hebrews 4:15b)

- Jesus, our High Priest, was tempted in every way as we are.
- Even though he faced every temptation, he did not sin.

II. The Benefit (Hebrews 4:16)

Understanding Our Faith: The Letter to the Hebrews

A. The Imperative (Hebrews 4:16a)

- The writer calls us to come before God's throne of grace in prayer.
- The writer tells us that we are to come boldly into God's presence.
- To come boldly means that we can enter God's presence with confidence.

B. The Purpose (Hebrews 4:16b)

- The writer tells us to come into God's presence so that we can obtain mercy.
- We are also to come into God's presence find grace to help us in our needs.