

## The Book of Hebrews 5

### Hebrews 5:1-14 (NLT2)

Every high priest is a man chosen to represent other people in their dealings with God. He presents their gifts to God and offers sacrifices for their sins. <sup>2</sup> And he is able to deal gently with *ignorant* and *wayward* people because he himself is subject to the same weaknesses.

Here are two Scriptures that highlight these points...

### Ephesians 4:17-18 (NASB)

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, <sup>18</sup> being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God *because of the ignorance that is in them*, because of *the hardness of their heart*;

### James 5:19-20 (NASB)

My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, <sup>20</sup> let him know that he who turns a sinner *from the error of his way* will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

**Hebrews 5:3** That is why he must offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as theirs. <sup>4</sup> And **no one can become a high priest simply because he wants such an honor.** He must be called by God for this work, just as Aaron was.

**Let's look at the Rebellion of Korah and the others with him... This is lengthy but we need to see the necessity of being chosen by God for a position of importance and not just taking it upon ourselves...**

### Numbers 16:1-40 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Now Korah the son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men. <sup>2</sup> ***And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men.*** <sup>3</sup> ***They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"*** <sup>4</sup> When Moses heard it, he fell on

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his face,<sup>5</sup> and he said to Korah and all his company, "In the morning the LORD will show who is his, and who is holy, and will bring him near to him. The one whom he chooses he will bring near to him.<sup>6</sup> ***Do this: take censers, Korah and all his company; put fire in them and put incense on them before the LORD tomorrow, and the man whom the LORD chooses shall be the holy one.*** You have gone too far, sons of Levi!"<sup>8</sup> And Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you sons of Levi:<sup>9</sup> is it too small a thing for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself, to do service in the tabernacle of the LORD and to stand before the congregation to minister to them,<sup>10</sup> and that he has brought you near him, and all your brothers the sons of Levi with you? ***And would you seek the priesthood also?***<sup>11</sup> ***Therefore it is against the LORD that you and all your company have gathered together.*** What is Aaron that you grumble against him?"<sup>12</sup> And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and they said, "We will not come up.<sup>13</sup> Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you must also make yourself a prince over us?"<sup>14</sup> Moreover, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor given us inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up."<sup>15</sup> And Moses was very angry and said to the LORD, "Do not respect their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, and I have not harmed one of them."<sup>16</sup> And Moses said to Korah, "Be present, you and all your company, before the LORD, you and they, and Aaron, tomorrow.<sup>17</sup> And let every one of you take his censer and put incense on it, and every one of you bring before the LORD his censer, 250 censers; you also, and Aaron, each his censer."<sup>18</sup> So every man took his censer and put fire in them and laid incense on them and stood at the entrance of the tent of meeting with Moses and Aaron.<sup>19</sup> Then Korah assembled all the congregation against them at the entrance of the tent of meeting. And the glory of the LORD appeared to all the congregation.<sup>20</sup> And the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,<sup>21</sup> "Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment."<sup>22</sup> And they fell on their faces and said, "O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and will you be angry with all the congregation?"<sup>23</sup> And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,<sup>24</sup> "Say to the congregation, Get away from the dwelling of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram."<sup>25</sup> Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.<sup>26</sup> And he spoke to the

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congregation, saying, “Depart, please, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest you be swept away with all their sins.”<sup>27</sup> So they got away from the dwelling of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. And Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, together with their wives, their sons, and their little ones.<sup>28</sup> And Moses said, “Hereby you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, and that it has not been of my own accord.<sup>29</sup> If these men die as all men die, or if they are visited by the fate of all mankind, then the LORD has not sent me.<sup>30</sup> But if the LORD creates something new, and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into Sheol, then you shall know that these men have despised the LORD.”<sup>31</sup> And as soon as he had finished speaking all these words, the ground under them split apart.<sup>32</sup> ***And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the people who belonged to Korah and all their goods.***<sup>33</sup> So they and all that belonged to them went down alive into Sheol, and the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly.<sup>34</sup> And all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, “Lest the earth swallow us up!”<sup>35</sup> ***And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men offering the incense.***<sup>36</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,<sup>37</sup> “Tell Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest to take up the censers out of the blaze. Then scatter the fire far and wide, for they have become holy.<sup>38</sup> As for the censers of these men who have sinned at the cost of their lives, let them be made into hammered plates as a covering for the altar, for they offered them before the LORD, and they became holy. Thus they shall be a sign to the people of Israel.”<sup>39</sup> ***So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers, which those who were burned had offered, and they were hammered out as a covering for the altar,<sup>40</sup> to be a reminder to the people of Israel, so that no outsider, who is not of the descendants of Aaron, should draw near to burn incense before the LORD, lest he become like Korah and his company—as the LORD said to him through Moses.***

**Hebrews 5:5** That is why Christ did not honor himself by assuming he could become High Priest. No, ***he was chosen by God***, who said to him, “You are my Son. Today I have become your Father.” (**Psalms 2:7**)

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### Jesus was chosen...

#### John 8:48-59 (ESV)

The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" <sup>49</sup> Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup> Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." <sup>52</sup> The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' <sup>53</sup> Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" <sup>54</sup> **Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing.** It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' <sup>55</sup> But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." <sup>57</sup> So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" <sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." <sup>59</sup> So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

**Hebrews 5:6** And in another passage God said to him, "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." (**Psalms 110:4**) <sup>7</sup> While Jesus was here on earth, **he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death.** And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God.

### Here is where we see Jesus come to The Father...

#### Matthew 26:36-39 (ESV)

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup> And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "**My soul is very sorrowful, even to death;** remain here, and watch with me." <sup>39</sup> And going a little farther he

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fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

**Hebrews 5:8** Even though Jesus was God’s Son, *he learned obedience from the things he suffered.*

**Obedience... no matter what!**

**Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, *he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.* <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Hebrews 5:9** *In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest,* and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.

**Let’s go back to Hebrews 2:10 (ESV) to see this truth...**

<sup>10</sup> For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, *should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.*

**Hebrews 5:10** And God designated him to be a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.

<sup>11</sup> *There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don’t seem to listen.* <sup>12</sup> You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God’s word. *You are like babies who need milk and*

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*cannot eat solid food.*<sup>13</sup> For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right.

**We must be careful... just as we received the admonition previously...**

### 1 Corinthians 3:1-4 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> *But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people,* but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup> *I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it.* And even now you are not yet ready, <sup>3</sup> for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? <sup>4</sup> For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

**Hebrews 5:14** *Solid food* is for those who are **mature**, who through **training** have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

**There is a difference between "milk", "bread" and "meat"...**

### 1 Corinthians 2:6-9 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the *mature* we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup> But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him".

### 1 Timothy 4:6-10 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being *trained* in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. <sup>7</sup> Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather *train* yourself for godliness; <sup>8</sup> for while *bodily training* is of some value, *godliness* is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. <sup>9</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. <sup>10</sup> For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.