



Hebrews 4:14-16

“Since then 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 is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Commentary: In these verses Jesus, the Son of God, is exalted as the High Priest and we are reminded that we have Him as our High Priest. As a result, we are to choose to hold fast to our profession of faith, our confession that Jesus is King and Lord. The author of Hebrews reminds the readers that our High Priest, Jesus, Himself who walked in the flesh as fully man and fully God, knew and knows and continues to know of our weaknesses as flawed humans and he can sympathize and does sympathize with us. The Greek word for sympathize has a stronger meaning than that in the English and is translated as not only sympathetic but providing empowering help. There is an encouragement in these verses not to be shamed and fall into condemnation over our sin but to identify it, confess and repent (1 John 1:9) and then draw near to the one who has defeated sin and stands in intercession for us at the right hand of the Father (Romans 8:34). We are exhorted to be steadfast in our faith as Jesus is well able to empower us in moving forward in faith in His love, mercy, grace, forgiveness, and comfort. Let us choose confidence in Him who is infinitely able to do exceedingly above all that we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). Confidence reminds us to come boldly into the holiest of holies and rest in the safety of our Savior. As we choose to step into Christ, we are promised the receipt of mercy and grace to help in time of need.

Application:

What are your needs today? _____

Will you choose to accept and appropriate his comfort so that you may experience mercy and grace to help in time of need? _____

Write a prayer of gratitude that Jesus is longing to be your High Priest, Comforter, and intercessor.