







The Letter to the Hebrews

- Written to Jewish Christians who were tempted to give up on Christianity
 - They thought perseverance wasn't very important
 - Perhaps they thought it would not be so challenging!
 - Perhaps they thought that "prayer works"
 so God would make life easier when we ask Him to



Hebrews 1:1-4

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days <u>he has spoken</u> to us by

his **Son**,

whom he appointed heir of all things,

and through whom also he made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory

and the exact representation of his being,

sustaining all things by his powerful word.

After he had provided purification for sins,

he sat down at the **right hand of the Majesty** in heaven. So he became as much **superior** to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.



Hebrews

1:1-4 Jesus Christ: The Son of God with heavenly authority to rescue us

4:14 Jesus Christ: The great high priest. Ordained in heaven. God
→ Hold firmly to the faith we profess

4:15-16

The Faith (Gospel)

"For this reason Christ is the <u>mediator</u> of a new <u>covenant</u>, that those who are called may receive the promised <u>eternal inheritance</u>—now that he has died as a <u>ransom</u> to set them <u>free from the sins</u> committed under the first covenant." *Hebrews 9:15*

mediator = peacemaker, intermediary covenant = holy, unending agreement eternal inheritance = abundant, blessed life forever with God ransom = payment to buy freedom free from the sins = consequences and enslavement

Hebrews

1:1-4 Jesus Christ: The Son of God with heavenly authority to rescue us

4:14 Jesus Christ: The great high priest. Ordained in heaven. God
→ Hold firmly to the faith we profess

4:15-16 Jesus Christ: Who experienced the deepest trouble and the greatest temptations on earth and always without sin

The Big Idea

Jesus Christ is great enough to conquer fully

our greatest enemies

SIN, SEPARATION FROM GOD, AND DEATH

And low enough to raise to heaven the lowest person

WORST SINNER, MOST DISCOURAGED, LEAST CAPABLE, ...

who comes to Him humbly

A <u>great high priest</u> who has ascended into heaven

A <u>lowly high priest</u> who can and does empathize with our weaknesses and temptations ...yet without any flaw





Application

- Bold confidence in the Gospel: hold on tight!
 - God, the creator and sustainer of all life, guarantees it
 - Christ experienced all categories of trouble and temptation, and in full force,
 - so He "owns" our troubles as His own

Application

- Bold confidence in the Gospel: hold on tight!
- Come near to God, expecting real, timely, appropriate help
 - Pray, worship, obey, cry out for help, ... confidently!
 - Don't take access to God for granted!
 - "Throne of grace": this "of"=characterized by

Application

- Bold confidence in the Gospel: hold on tight!
- Come near to God, expecting real, timely, appropriate help
- Share this hope with others
 - Empathize with people in their weakness
 - Provide real, timely, appropriate help
 - Begin with "generous listening"
 - Then point to our great and lowly high priest: Jesus Christ

The Big Idea

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our greatest enemies

SIN, SEPARATION FROM GOD, AND DEATH

And low enough to raise to heaven the lowest person

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WHAT WEAKNESSES ARE YOU EXPERIENCING TODAY? LET US JOIN TOGETHER IN SEEKING GOD'S HELP