

How to respond to Jesus our High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-6:12)

1. Hold on to your faith and come to Jesus for mercy and grace

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.

A. Jesus is a great high priest-4:14

- B. Jesus is the Son of God who has passed through the heavens-4:14
- 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.
- C. Jesus is a high priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses-4:15 D. Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are yet without sin-4:15
- ⁵ So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"; ⁶ just as He says also in another *passage*, "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER, ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."... ¹⁰ being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.
 - E. Jesus was appointed a high priest like Melchizedek by the Father-5:5-6, 10

⁷ In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

- F. In His humanity Jesus offered cries and prayers to God and was heard because of His piety-5:7
- ⁸ Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered
 - G. Although a Son, Jesus learned obedience through the things He suffered-5:8
- ⁹ And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
 - H. Jesus is the source of eternal salvation to those who obey Him-5:9
- 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.
 - I. Since we have a Jesus as our High Priest, let us hold fast our confession-4:14
- 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.
 - J. Let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace and receive mercy and grace in our time of need
 - 2. Stop being a spiritual baby and grow up into maturity (5:11-6:3)

¹¹ Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

A. You have become dull of hearing-5:11

- ¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.
 - B. Should be teachers but still need teaching on the elementary principle of the Word of God-5:12
 - C. Not ready for solid food and still need milk-5:12
- ¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.
 - D. Not accustomed to the word of righteousness and you're still a baby-5:13
 - ⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.
 - E. Solid food is for the mature who practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil

- **6** Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. ³ And this we will do, if God permits
 - F. Leave the elementary teachings about Christ and press on to maturity-6:1
 - G. Don't lay again the foundation on the basics-6:1-3
 - 3. Don't fall away but bear the fruit of salvation (6:4-12)
- ⁴ For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵ and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶ and *then* have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.
 - A. 4 views on this passage: 1) Describing the unbeliever who has come close to salvation but never truly believed 2) Describing the believer who has rejected the faith 3) Hypothetically describing the believer 4) Unique description of the believing Jewish audience

⁷ For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; ⁸ but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.

- B. Ground that drinks rain and brings forth vegetation is useful and receives a blessing-6:7
- C. But if it yields thorns and thistles it is worthless and ends up being burned-6:8
- ⁹ But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.
 - D. But we are convinced of things concerning salvation for you-6:9
- ¹⁰ For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. ¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.
 - E. God remembers your work and love-6:10

 F. Be diligent to realize the full assurance of hope until the end-6:11

 G. Imitate the faith of those who inherit the promises-6:12