

While we are waiting to begin the lesson please
Complete the three questions EXERCISE one on page one of
your hand outs.

Hebrews: a Bible Study

Lesson SIX

Liberty Towers Church
Men's Bible Study
Just Larry

Prayer

Father, you know our goals and dreams for the future,
our deepest hurts and disappointments,
our weaknesses and yes even our failures
You understand us completely.
Teach us to be open and honest with you
Not for your benefit but for ours.
May we tonight enter into your rest.
May your word be
ALIVE
ACTIVE
SHARP
PENETRATING
DIVIDING
JUDGING OF OUR ATTITUDES OF HEART
NOTHING IS HIDDEN FROM YOU
We pray for the rest of knowing you.
Open our minds to hope, joy, peace that only comes with you
in our lives.

Better

Our
Path

• Nothing inferior to Jewish religion

• The message of God as found
in the Bible is two things:
**REVELATION AND
RECONCILIATION**

• Better provision of God's message 10:1-18

• Better method of God's message 11:1-40

• Better encouragement of God's Message 12:1-13:22

Sacrifice

Faith

Admonitions

Hebrews 4:14

Key
Verse

Therefore, since we have a great
high priest who has ascended into
heaven, Jesus the Son of GOD, let
us hold firmly to the faith we
profess.

WE HAVE

a great high priest

Who is in heaven

We are to hold firmly. Grasp it as if nothing else matters.

To a faith

A faith that we shout to all to hear

A faith based upon JESUS.

Our focus for tonight Hebrews 4:14 - 5:10

Focus

- Message of Hebrews - same as the rest of the Bible
 - Message of God in Revelation - God revealing Himself
 - Message of God in Reconciliation - God providing a path to Him
- Priest, High Priest, Melchizedek
 - Their calling
 - Their purpose
 - Their attitude

- Up to this point in our study - Negative?
 - Prophets were not as good as Jesus bringing the message
 - The Angels were not as good as Jesus proclaiming the message
 - The great leader Moses not as good Jesus in honor
 - The great leader Moses not as good Jesus in bringing rest (Shabbat)
- A little judgmental.
- Here we step it up a notch
 - Start talking about FAITH
 - The BONUS of reconciliation is a spiritual life
- WE have a high priest **Hebrews 4:14**

Up to this point in our study – Negative?

Prophets were not as good as Jesus bringing the message

The Angels were not as good as Jesus proclaiming the message

The great leader Moses not as good Jesus in honor

The great leader Moses not as good Jesus in bringing rest (Shabbat)

A little judgmental.

Here we step it up a notch

Start talking about FAITH 4:14

Priesthood and their relationship to faith

LISTEN CAREFULLY... FAITH IS MORE than A DEPENDENCE UPON SOMETHING

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Story of the door to door witnesses.

Hey lets look at John 3:16

“Whoever has faith”

FAITH IN WHAT.

Just exhibiting faith must be toward something.

FAITH CREATES SOMETHING IN US

It produces a spiritual life

Rejection of revelation is not a good thing.

Acceptance of revelation and moving toward reconciliation is good

BUT THERE IS MORE

WITH RECONCILIATION COMES A PLUS- not free shipping but a spiritual life.

- High Priest - the supreme religious head
 - Aaron the first
 - Handed down father to son, generation to generation (family business)
 - Specific admonitions on how to do the job
- Tabernacle in the wilderness
 - Place for the presence of God
 - Inner place, the Holy of Holies
 - No one to enter except a priest

Not just a priest. One of many

Not just a High Priest. One that has taken the temporary job

BUT A GREAT HIGH PRIEST> BEST OF THE BEST

High Priest – the supreme religious head

Aaron the first

Handed down father to son, generation to generation (family business)

High Priest has special garments to set him apart from the ordinary priests

THE SUPREME MEDIATOR BETWEEN MAN AND GOD

Specific admonitions on how to do the job

Tabernacle in the wilderness

Place for the presence of God

Inner place, the Holy of Holies INSIDE OF THE VIEL

No one to enter except a priest

DAY OF ATONEMENT

Account of two sons of Aaron Hadab and Abihu

Brought their own fire to burn the sacrifice

They lit it up and they died

They could not wait for the Holy Fire to come

They saw the priesthood as something that could be done

DAY OF ATONEMENT

Idea
3

- Great time of remembrance, supplication, self examination, guilt
- Great ceremony, pomp, and excitement
- Priest was to shed blood for the remission of sins of the people
- Once a year. When done there was that moment of perfect rest.
- Enter into the holy of holies to make atonement for the people
 - God was appeased
 - God was pleased
 - God did his part according to the self-imposed laws given to Moses
- There was joy in the midst of the people

Joy because all the garbage was cleaned out.

But they knew it would happen again

It had to be done over and over and over

Because sins would mount up

Garbage would not be taken out

Each sin, each falling short, each rebellion would put a shadow on their hearts

Every day after the day of atonement

Less and less joy in the house

Guilt was a terrible thing

LOGIC here

More sacrifices

More perfect lambs would create more joy in the house

Why not once a month?

Why not once a week?

Why not every morning and every evening?

Why not a never ending sacrifice?

And the priest were no better.

They had their own sins. To be taken care of.

Account of two sons of Aaron Hadab and Abihu

Idea
4

- Example of the lack of faith of a priest Leviticus 10
- Priesthood without faith
- Two sins in one act
 - The sin of presumption, they took the place of their father
 - The sin of substitution, they brought their own fire.
- Moses “do not mourn”

Account of two sons of Aaron Hadab and Abihu

Brought their own fire to burn the sacrifice

They lit it up and they died

They could not wait for the Holy Fire to come

They saw the priesthood as something that could be done

2 sins in one act

Take the place of the father Aaron

Offering a strange fire.

DO NOT grieve

Disrespect to the taker of the lives

Not to think God was being a little to harsh

What was New Testament Priesthood?

Idea
5

- Hebrews 4:15 Indictment, judgement, bad attitude.
 - They had no empathy
 - Saw no weakness in themselves
- Hebrews 5:1 Elected from Aaron's tribe a political selection
 - Appointed to represent the people
 - In matters related to God
 - Offer Gifts
 - Sacrifices for Sin
- Hebrews 5:2
 - Deal gently
 - Own sin
 - Sins of the people
 - Not seen as a big deal. This is God's calling *not your honor*.

Had we a high priest who was cold and heartless;
who simply performed the external duties of his office without entering into the sympathies
of those who came to seek for pardon;
who had never experienced any trials, and
who felt himself above those who sought his aid,
we should necessarily feel disheartened in attempting to overcome our sins, and to live to
God.
His coldness would repel us; his stateliness would awe us;
his distance and reserve would keep us away, and perhaps render us indifferent to all desire
to be saved.

Priestly indifference
Idea
6

- Privileged contact with God
- Always on the watch
- A continual passive role.
- Aloof
- Without us there is no path to God
- I don't see a lot of prayer FOR the people
 - Prayers of consecration of the tools
 - Prayers for the sacrifice
 - Prayers to honor God

Always on the watch for anything that would defile them.. Afraid of God and the heavenly zap

Became very aloof, though himself as being better than the common people

The were a part of a crew and populated with just your relatives

A clan

PASSIVE always waiting for the next offering from the people, the next sacrifice from the people

No proactive duties.

STRUCK ME.. 4:15.... The preacher was contrasting Jesus the perfect priest with the current High priest

Jesus was able to empathize . THE CURRENT PRIESTHOOD MUST HAVE BEEN UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO DO SO.

NOT ABLE TO SYMPATHIZE

“Can’s suffer fools easily”

TERRIBLE THING TO SAY.

The priesthood was taught not to care

Son to son to son to son

There is no other way

Can’t get involved with the mundane

We are doing God’s business

You will live this way

You are better than them

You are more spiritual

You are closer to God than they

Without Us they would never find God

Without Us there is no atonement

Without us there is no forgiveness of sin

Without us there is no God to find

We are the only representative of and to God

If you see us you see God

Without Us Israel really doesn’t exist

Without us God will never turn the people into the household.

Jesus the High Priest

Idea
7

- What a High Priest should be like?
- What kind of High Priest is Jesus
 - A man - Incarnation was not an option
 - If there was salvation, then God had to come down to us to pick us up and carry us home.
 - Compassion
 - Sympathetic - I understand your pain
 - Empathetic - I feel your pain
 - Offering the perfect sacrifice (required by the law)

Radical change from the priesthood of Aaron

One of the people . All the people

A representative of the people.

A servant to the people

One that has the people's heart

Gently

Ignorant

Going astray

He was one of them tempted in every way

Need not offer any sin for himself

He became the offering for all time for the people

Did not see himself as special

humble and meek of heart

Prayers of intercession for the people

Petitions to God for the people

Fervency Was an active role

God into the highways and biways and compel them to come in.

Tears.

It was all about compassion, empathy and sympathy

HEARD because of his reverent submission

heard not because he was the Son of God

Heard because he was willing to become a man and suffer in obedience

From his suffering

MADE PERFECT

The source of intercession is perfect

Jesus is better

Therefore...

Perfect Priest allows reconciliation

•Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with a confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Because He was tempted
Because he has tenderness
Because he has more than sympathy – gone to empathy
Because he was tempted
Because he was persecuted,
Because he was poor
Because he was despised
Because he suffered physical pain
Because he endured the sorrows of a lingering and most Cruel death
BECAUSE HE DID IT ALL
AND YET He Did not sin

Isaiah said: He had done no violence, neither was there any deceit in his mouth

Throw open the doors of heaven
Let there be no constraints on the redeemed
Prophets of Old stand to one side
Angels you are not needed any more
Moses your laws and oppressive regulations do not apply

Pull back the veil ... tear it down
Let there be nothing that keeps me from GOD
I COME Boldly to the throne room
Step back Moses your honor is not as high as we
We have an invitation written in blood
My King is on the throne
He is my brother
I have a High Priest that welcomes us to the very throne of Grace.
He who sits on the mercy seat reigns.

I do not hesitate,
I do not tremble with head held low
I do not fall on my knees For I have already been acknowledge and accepted by the King of Glory.

Questions of faith

- What qualifications did Jesus have to be the eternal High Priest?
- What personal attitude do you need to enter into the presence of God?
- What kind of relationship does Jesus the High Priest want with us?
- Have you ever felt reluctance to go to the High Priest with your needs or concerns?
- For you what is the significance of Jesus being the better High Priest and the better sacrifice?

Inspiration

- How much does God care?
 - Big things ☺
 - Little things ?
- God cares about all things
 - Heir of God and Co-heir with Jesus
 - You are eternal
 - You have a crown
 - You are now a priest
 - You are a treasured possession
 - BEST OF ALL you are a child of the King

Let us hold firm!

Blessed Assurance

*We can
approach
on our
own*