



3. "Jesus, the Son of God", is our high priest.

Psalm 2:2,7,12 (see Jeremiah 17:5,7); Isaiah 9:6

*"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,"*

*"I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."*

*"Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."*

*"Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD."*

*"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is."*

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."*

4. Because of this we need to "hold fast our profession" (because it is true).

"Let us hold fast (2902) (krateo) means to lay hold of and cling tightly to that which has been taken hold. Krateo means to cling to tenaciously with the idea of seizing, retaining (using strength) as in Hebrews 6:18-note. The writer is exhorting his readers (especially those wavering and being tempted to go back into Judaism and not forward to genuine saving faith in Messiah) as a principle of faith to keep on holding on to (present tense = "let us keep on holding fast") their confession regarding the Messiah." [http://www.preceptaustin.org/hebrews\\_414#4:14](http://www.preceptaustin.org/hebrews_414#4:14)

Hebrews 6:18 *"That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to **lay hold** upon the hope set before us"*

Note: "Laying hold (2902) (krateo from kratos) means to seize and cling to that which has been taken hold of. The idea is to hold in one's hand, holding fast so as not to discard or let go. In the context of the present verse, krateo could mean to hold on to something one already has or to reach out and grasp something one does not yet have. Which one is favored depends on whether one interprets hope as the act of hoping or the object hoped for."

*"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God." John 6:66-69*

## **15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

Jesus understand all we go through. Because he became man and was tempted he understands what we face. Understanding what we go through he is a ready and faithful source of help.

One night in 1903, after delivering a sermon on the sympathy of Jesus at Chicago's Salvation Army Citadel, Frederick Booth-Tucker was approached by a man who was rather unimpressed. "If your wife had just died, like mine has," he declared, "and your babies were crying for their mother, who would never come back, you wouldn't be saying what you're saying."

Incredibly, a few days later, Tucker's own wife was killed in a train wreck. Her body was brought to Chicago and carried to the same Citadel for the funeral. After the service the bereaved preacher gazed into his wife's silent face before turning to the assembled guests.

The other day a man told me I wouldn't speak of the sympathy of Jesus if my wife had just died," he declared. "If that man is here, I want to tell him that Christ is sufficient." "My heart is broken," he continued, "but it has a song put there by Jesus. I want that man to know that Jesus Christ speaks comfort to me today." (The man was there and came forward and Booth Tucker introduced him to Jesus)

*"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." 1 Corinthians 10:13*

**16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**

The Old Testament High Priest went into the presence of God fearful. He was not certain he wouldn't be struck dead because of some sin.

Not so today, because of what Jesus did (*to make reconciliation for the sins of the people*), and is doing (*we have a great high priest*) all can come "*boldly unto the throne of grace*".

Remember, there are two groups of people being addressed in this book - possessors and professors. Both are challenged in this verse to:

*"Come boldly to the throne of grace"*

"Grace is God's unmerited favor. That is, grace is God doing good for us that we do not deserve. In the Bible, grace and mercy are like two heads of the same coin. Mercy is God withholding judgment or evil that I deserve; grace is God giving me blessing or good that I do not deserve. Because of God's mercy, I do not receive the judgment of God against my sins; because of God's grace, I receive eternal life and a promise of heaven though I do not deserve them. Both mercy and grace come to me through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace can also be defined as God's sufficiency or God's fullness in the life of the believer. God told Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). That is, the grace of God in Paul enabled him and empowered him in his weakness. Another verse states, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8). God's grace working in us supplies the sufficiency whereby we may abound to every good work."

Pastor David Reagan, Antioch Baptist Church

PROFESSORS: "*we may obtain mercy*"

*"Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."*

Isaiah 55:6-7

*"For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all."*

Romans 11:30-32

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."* Ephesians 2:8-9

POSSESSORS: "**and** *find grace to help in time of need.*"

After we are saved we have a reservoir of *grace* to help us.

*"Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,"* 2 Peter 1:1-2

Knowledge is *epignosis* which means a complete, personal knowledge as opposed to *gnosis* which means a general knowledge of facts.

Strong's definition:

epignosis {ep-ig'-no-sis} Meaning: 1) precise and correct knowledge 1a) used in the NT of the knowledge of things ethical and divine

Kenneth Wuest 'Wuest's Word Studies,' defines *epignosis* this way:

"This knowledge of the Lord Jesus possessed by the believer therefore, is not a mere intellectual knowledge of the facts concerning Him acquired by a study of the Gospels, for instance, but a heart experience of what and who He is gained by such a study plus a personal association with Him by means of the Word and ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is a person with Person knowledge through intimate fellowship."