

## “JESUS BECAME OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST FOREVER”

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**INTRO:** Let’s continue working our way through the spiritual meat of Hebrews. Today we’ll be covering Heb. 4:12-5:11.

### **I. The Word of God Reveals our True Condition (4:12-13).**

•**Characteristics of the Word of God (vv. 12-13):** Living, powerful, sharp, piercing, separating, and discerning.

- A. The Word of God reveals heart motives (Jer. 17:9).
- B. We read the Word of God, but the Word of God reads us!
- C. The Word of God is an X-ray into our soul – to heal (v. 13).

### **II. Jesus Became our High Priest (Heb. 4:14-16; 2:17; 3:1).**

- A. The O.T. high priest went into the holy of holies once a year to atone for the sins of the people. Jesus went into the heavenly holy of holies. Therefore persevere!
- B. Jesus sympathizes with our weaknesses because He was tempted in similar ways as us (v. 15), but never sinned (v. 15; 2:18; 1Jn. 2:16; 2Cor. 5:21; 1Jn. 2:16; 3:5; Mt. 4).
- C. We’re invited to come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy & find grace to help in time of need (v. 16).
  - 1. His mercy endures forever (Ps. 118:1-4, 29) and His mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:22-23).

### **III. The Responsibilities of the High Priest (5:1-4)**

- A. Called by God and appointed to make an annual sacrifice for the people’s sins (vv. 1, 4).
- B. Compassionate because of personal fallibility (vv. 2-3).

### **IV. Jesus Became our High Priest Forever (5:5-11)**

- A. Jesus was appointed High Priest by God (v. 5; Ps. 2:7).
- B. Jesus became High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek (vv. 6, 10; 6:20; 7:11, 17, 21; Ps. 110:1, 4).
  - 1. This is hard to explain (v. 11; chapters 7-8).
- C. Jesus’ prayer to the Father (v. 7; Matt. 26:36-46).
- D. Jesus learned deeper obedience through suffering (v. 8).
  - 1. We can either respond to suffering by pulling away from God or by drawing closer to God.
- E. Jesus became the author of eternal salvation, of which obedience is an evidence (vv. 9-10; James 2:26).

**CONCLUSION: Come boldly to the throne of grace!**