

We have a great high priest...

<sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Therefore let us <u>draw near</u> with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:14-16)



<sup>1</sup> For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; <sup>2</sup> he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is beset with weakness; <sup>3</sup> and because of it he is obligated to offer *sacrifices* for sins, as for the people, so also for himself. <sup>4</sup> And no one takes the honor to himself, but *receives it* when he is called by God, even as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup> 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";

<sup>6</sup> just as He says also in another *passage*,

"YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER

ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup> And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, <sup>10</sup> being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

(Hebrews 5:1-10)

### The New High Priest (and the Old)

Compares and contrasts the OT high priesthood with Christ's high priesthood – the first prefigures the second

#### The New High Priest (and the Old)

- 1. His Representation
  - he is appointed to represent the people before God with prescribed offerings for sins
  - Christ fully identifies with us as a man, but was not merely "taken from among men"

## The New High Priest (and the Old)

- 2. His Relation to Human Weakness
  - as one "clothed" with weakness, he can deal gently with sinners who are like himself
  - as one without sin, although tempted, Christ can deliver us from sin and temptation

### The New High Priest (and the Old)

- 3. His Responsibility
  - to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people, as well as for himself (e.g. Day of Atonement)
  - Christ, who is without sin, offers one sufficient sacrifice for God's people (not for Himself)

#### The New High Priest (and the Old)

- 4. His Divine Appointment
  - God alone calls and appoints the high priest, staring with Aaron

# The New High Priest (and the Old)

- 4. His Divine Appointment
  - God alone calls and appoints the high priest, staring with Aaron
  - Christ is appointed as high priest with an oath by God, but not according to the order of Aaron

We have a great high priest, Jesus, the Son of God!