

September 21, 2025

Digging deeper: Hebrews 4 (Christ our High Priest)

Slide 1 (10 minutes)

From the Old Testament passages, what do you learn about Israel's high priest's roles and responsibilities?

- Numbers 16:41-48
- Numbers 18:1-7, 20-21
- Leviticus 16:17
- Deuteronomy 17:8-13
- How has (and will) Jesus fulfill these rituals?

Slide 2 (8 min)

Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and 1 Timothy 6:11-14

- What are examples of *not* "holding firmly to what we believe?" (V14)
- How might this weakness lead us further away from fellowship with God?
- What is the author's recommended solution?

Slide 3 (8 min)

Read 1 Timothy 2:5

- When do we typically need God's grace and mercy most?
- Why is God's grace needed during times of weakness?
- What might be some reasons that you or others do *not* enter God's throne of grace during our times of weakness or temptations?

Remember to enter His place of rest, forgiveness, strength, joy, and grace this week!

Cathy's Observations

Slide 1 (10 minutes)

From the Old Testament passages, what do you learn about the role of Israel's high priest and their responsibilities?

- Numbers 16:41-48 (Intermediary between a sinful people and a Holy, Just God)
- Numbers 18:1-7, 20-21 (only Aaron and his sons represent the priesthood; only Aaron and his sons care for the Tabernacle & perform rituals behind the inner curtain; they would not receive land and Israel's tithes would support them)
- Leviticus 16:17 (makes atonement for his own sins, his family and the nation of Israel; making them all right with the Lord)
- Deuteronomy 17:8-13 (representatives of the Lord, help judge over legal cases and interpreting the law)
- How has (and will) Jesus fulfill these rituals? (Christ is the Intermediary between us and God; He tore the curtain; He was the ultimate and last sacrifice for sin for all people; He did not need to make atonement for his sin because He was sinless; He will be judge over all peoples.)

Slide 2 (8 min)

Reread Hebrews 4:14-16, 1 Timothy 6:11-14

- What are examples of *not* "holding firmly to what we believe?" (V14)
(giving up or shrinking back because of persecution; not trusting that God has completed the payment of our sin; for the Jews they wanted to escape persecution by going back to offering sacrifices in the temple; not coming to the Lord for help or for repentance; living like the rest of the world and wealth)
- How might this weakness lead us further away from fellowship with God?
(guilt and shame can cause us to feel unworthy; we might try to rely on our own strength or wealth rather than coming to God for help)
- What is the author's recommended solution?
(Come boldly to Grace and Forgiveness, because He understands our weakness; for He faced them, but was sinless)

Slide 3 (8 min)

Read 1 Timothy 2:5

- When do we typically need God's grace and mercy most? (under persecution, weakness to sin, trials, temptations, testing, hardships)
- Why is God's grace needed during times of weakness? (He is an *intermediary* between God and us and can forgive us when we fall into sin; and can *help* us in our times of weakness)
- What might be some reasons that you or others do *not* enter God's throne of grace during our times of weakness or temptations? (rely on self; don't think about reaching out to God for help; maybe too tired or weak)

Remember to enter His place of rest, forgiveness, strength, joy, and grace this week!