

Bible Study
The Race of the Christian Faith
A Study of the Book of Hebrews
Lesson 5 – Part 1 (STUDENT COPY)
“Overcoming Weakness”
Hebrews 4:14-5:10
November 16, 2022

Opening Thoughts:

As people of faith, we have obstacles, challenges, and hindrances. They are unavoidable; they are a part of the fabric of faith and life. But we can give praise to God because we have one who has been triumphal in every obstacle, every fear, and every test through faith.

These verses (**14-16** particularly) lay hold on the person and work of Jesus Christ our "over-comer." They reveal three significant aspects of Christ involvement with human history.

- **14** Seeing then that we have a great high priest, which is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. **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. **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.

I. The Eminence of Christ

A. Eminence is the exaltation of Christ.

○ His Position

- **Phil. 2:9** ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

○ His Purpose

- **John 10:10** ¹⁰ The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

➤ ***How can you discern your purpose?***

Consider some Biblical aspects that give Him this “Eminence:

- The resurrection Proclamation
 - His Power
 - ***Matt. 28:18*** ¹⁸ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
- The proclamation of Nicodemus
 - His Ministry
 - ***John 3:2*** ² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
- The Proclamation of people
 - His Reputation
 - ***Matt. 7: 28-29*** ²⁸ And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: ²⁹ For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

B. Christ is Superior

1. Aaron (The first Priest – brother of Moses)
 - ***Ex. 29:4-9a*** ⁴ And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water. ⁵ And thou shalt take the garments, and put upon Aaron the coat, and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the curious girdle of the ephod: ⁶ And thou shalt put the mitre upon his head, and put the holy crown upon the mitre. ⁷ Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him. ⁸ And thou shalt bring his sons, and put coats upon them. ⁹ And thou shalt gird them with girdles, Aaron and his sons, and put the bonnets on them:
2. Christ surpassed Aaron’s position because Aaron passed off the scene.
3. Our High Priest Christ is still on the scene in eternity.
 - a. The idea is rooted in our Aaronic Priest passed through the Holy place, into the Holy of Holies.

- b. Christ is more superior because the Priest had to make atonement once a year. Christ did it once for eternity.

II. The Empathy of Christ

A. Empathy vs. Sympathy

- Sympathy literally means to feel “with” someone.
- Empathy literally means to “in feel” with another.
 - It means to experience what you experienced!
 - He is touched by the feeling of our infirmities.
 - He understands fears (Gethsemane)
 - He understands the pain of death (Lazarus)
 - He understands rejection (His own did not receive Him)
 - He understands feeling abandoned (Disciples forsook Him)

B. Tempted and Tested

III. The Exhortation of Christ (vs. 16)

- 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.

A. Come boldly

- Confidence (not brash or brave) Confidence is the assurance in Him that we come to.
 - **1 John 5:14** ¹⁴ Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

B. God's Throne

Application:

1. What did you learn, and how can you live what you've learned?
2. What does it mean to you, knowing that Christ truly “understands”?