

The high priest who cares and helps

Hebrews 4:14-16 p. 970

- I. HE CARES: WE MUST HOLD FAST TO JESUS OUR PERFECT HIGH PRIEST WHO UNDERSTANDS OUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS (HEBREWS 4:14-15).
 - A. Jesus our divine high priest finished forever what human priests could never do (4:14).
 1. Jesus as high priest made the final, full offering for sin, and then arose and ascended to heaven (14a).
 2. We must hold firmly to the power of Christ's finished work, not worthless religious traditions (14b; see Mark 7:4).
 - B. Jesus our high priest understands our temptations and cares about our struggle with sin (4:15).
 1. Jesus, the God-Man, understands the full weight of human temptation (15a).
 2. Jesus resisted every temptation without sinning (15b).
- II. HE HELPS: WE CAN CONFIDENTLY ASK JESUS FOR TRANSFORMING HELP WHEN TEMPTED BECAUSE OF HIS LAVISH GRACE (HEBREWS 4:16).
 - A. We can pray boldly when tempted with sin or facing any trial because Jesus responds to us in grace (4:16a).
 - B. Jesus will empower us to overcome temptation because He is merciful and gracious (4:16b; 1 Corinthians 10:12-14).