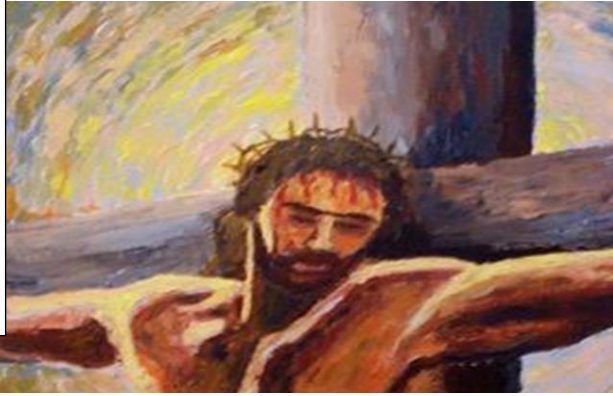


The Kind of
**HIGH
PRIEST
WE NEED**



***Superior Life of Faith –
THE NEW ORDER OF PRIESTHOOD – SUPERIOR HOLINESS
HEBREWS 7:26-28***

MAIN PRINCIPLE OF TODAY'S SERMON:

-As our High Priest, Jesus not only saves us perfectly and completely, He also gives US the power and strength we need to overcome a life of sinful behavior and allows US to live up to OUR calling as priests before Holy God.

PIECES OF THE PUZZLE LEADING US INTO UNDERSTANDING:

*- BELIEVERS MUST GO ON TO MATURITY and GOD HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO DO SO.
(HEB. 5:11 - 6:3)*

- THE PROCESS OF MATURITY DOES NOT AFFECT SALVATION. BUT IT DOES AFFECT THE WAY WE LIVE IN THE INTENDED BLESSINGS OF GOD.

- IF WE START TO DRIFT FROM THE WORD (HEB. 2:1-4), THEN WE START TO DOUBT THE WORD (HEB. 3:7-4:13).

-BEFORE LONG, WE WILL GET DULL TOWARD THE WORD (HEB. 5:11-6:20) AND BECOME LAZY BELIEVERS.

-A FRUITFUL LIFE IS A BLESSED LIFE AND A LIFE THAT DECLARES ALOUD THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S SALVATION WITHIN US. LIKEWISE, THE GREATER THE FRUIT, THE GREATER THE AWARENESS WE HAVE OF OUR SECURITY IN CHRIST.

- THE BEST WAY TO AVOID DRIFTING IS - TO LAY HOLD OF THE ANCHOR.

-WHEN WE ARE ANCHORED HEAVENWARD, HOW MUCH MORE SECURE CAN YOU BE IN YOUR SALVATION.

- JESUS HAS INITIATED A NEW ETERNAL PRIESTHOOD WHICH IS SUPERIOR TO THE OLD TESTAMENT LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD IN AARON'S LINE. THIS DOES NOT DISCREDIT OR LESSEN THE FORMER COVENANT - IT COMPLETES IT BY FULFILLING ITS INTENDED GOALS.

THE LEADER WE NEED - MORE LIKE GOD

I. His Character – a Superior Purity v. 26

- HOLY -
- INNOCENT -
- UNDEFILED -
- SEPARATED FROM SINNERS
- EXALTED ABOVE THE HEAVENS

II. His Works – a Superior Sacrifice – Once for all vv. 27, 28

- No need to make sacrifice on His own behalf
- One And Forever
- Our Perfect Position in Christ - I Peter 2:9-12

III. My Response In Living – Romans 6:1-6

- Grace Frees Me
- Sin no longer enslaves me
- We are now set apart - a royal priesthood under Christ
- My grace as leader, parent, friend

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. In what ways have you considered your role as priest to this point?
 2. Does God's perspective of you in Christ change your perspective?
 3. In what ways do we as modern believers reach back to the law and allow it to enslave us again today – as fathers or leaders?
 4. How does your understanding about intercession of Jesus being more about representation than pleading affect your perspective of God the Father?
 5. What can separate you from the Love of God? Who can bring a charge against you?
 6. In what ways do you find the priesthood of Christ more valuable than the old priesthood? Is it clear to you why God arranged it historically the way He did?
 7. How are you responding to the great kindnesses of God? How has His priesthood altered your course of life or your affections towards God?
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