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Encouragement for Pilgrims

Hebrews 4:14-16

'Study to show thyself approved unto God...' – 2 Timothy 2:15

The importance of reading and learning God's word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Doug Barger email: pastor@crbc.faith or phone: #317-945-2262

INTRODUCTION

Today we consider the closing points the inspired writer makes in Chp.4, which were intended to encourage the early Christians to persevere in the faith...unto the end!

HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER THIS TEXT?

- v.14- Jesus awaits our arrival.
- **vv.15-** Jesus is sympathetic to our weariness and obstacles.
- **vv.16-** Jesus invites/permits us to the throne of sustaining mercy and grace.

<u>The Priesthood of Christ:</u> 5:1 thru 10:18: Christ Our High Priest Is the Object of Our Confession (5:1—6:20) Christ Is a Priest According to Melchisedec (7:1–7:28) Christ Mediates a Better Covenant (8:1—10:18).

<u>I.</u> <u>v.14 Jesus Awaits our Arrival.</u>

1. Encouragement #1 = Recall how we were given Jesus?

Rom.5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

- 2. Encouragement #2 = The God-Man messiah has risen!
 * Jesus' resurrection, ascension and intercession is
 intended, when embraced, to produce a **lively hope** within
 the consciousness of the child of God.
- <u>1 Pet.1:3-5</u> "3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."
- 3. Encouragement #3 = His realistic expectations. 'hold fast' κρατέω kratéō, krat-eh'-o = a) to keep carefully and faithfully b) of death continuing to hold one c) to become master of, to obtain.

* John 3:34 teaches us that Jesus was the one who was given the Spirit WITHOUT measure, not you and me.

* Be careful to not condemn yourself with expectations that come from within yourself or other people, but which Christ does not demand nor expect. Unbalanced, extrabiblical expectations are toxic and will sap all joy and peace from your faith.

<u>II.</u> <u>v.15- Jesus sympathizes with our weariness and obstacles.</u>

4. Encouragement #4 = Christ's Empathy

<u>Compassion</u> "A suffering with another; painful sympathy; a sensation of sorrow excited by the distress or misfortunes of another;"

<u>Empathy</u> "1) The ability to identify with or understand another's situation or feelings 2) the intellectual identification of the thoughts, feelings, or state of another person.

<u>John 15:13</u> - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

<u>John 15:15</u> - Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

III. V.16- Jesus invites/permits us to the throne of sustaining mercy and grace.

CLOSING THOUGHTS AND APPLICATION:	
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