

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine Hebrews 10:19-25

INTRODUCTION

What we believe impacts how we behave. Would you agree? In fact, we can turn it on its head and state that how we behave really tells others what we believe. And therein is the great disconnect for many followers of Christ Jesus.

The New Testament never divorces doctrine (who we are) from deeds/duty (how we live); it never divorces creed from conduct or belief from behavior. **In fact, the call for Christians is to put our position in Christ into practice. *Understanding our position in Christ is the basis for our practice in daily life.*** Understanding who we are in Christ is the basis for how we are to live for Christ. The author of Hebrews follows the same pattern. Although a few times he has interrupted his doctrinal themes to apply it, most of the book to this point has been doctrinal. In the first four chapters, he demonstrated how Jesus Christ is **superior** to all in His **person**. From chapter 5 through 10:18, he shows how Christ is **superior** to all in His **priesthood**. But beginning at 10:19 and running to the end of the book, he shows how Christ's superiority should motivate us on to enduring faith, even in the face of trials.

I. A _____ reality: _____ Christ, we _____
a new _____ with God (10:19-21)

A. "We have _____ to enter the holy place by
the blood of Jesus" (10:19-20)

The basis of our confidence has nothing to do with anything in us. Rather, it is **"by the blood of Jesus."** Hebrews 9:22 emphasizes the importance of Christ's blood in the forgiveness of sin. His shed blood satisfied the just penalty that God imposed on our sin. Thus, we do not approach God with any good works or any merit of our own, but only through the merit of Jesus' blood. The name **Jesus** emphasizes His humanity and the fact that His blood satisfied God's wrath against sin in a way that animal sacrifices could not (10:4). Jesus, through His shed blood, satisfied God's justice in our behalf, so that we can now claim God's mercy and grace.

In 10:20, the author describes the access to God as **"a new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh."** The word **"new"** comes from a Greek word that originally meant **"freshly slain."** But this Sacrifice was not only freshly slain; He is also **"living,"** risen from the dead! The basis on which we come to God is called a **"new and living way"**. **New** in the sense that it did not exist before Jesus, **living** in the sense that it is personal. Jesus personally opens the way for you and me as individuals. There is no other way to come to God but by dealing with Jesus. John 14:6 states: **'I am the way, the truth and the life no one comes to the Father but by me'.**

Going back to the symbolism of the Holy of Holies, the way in is via the curtain. No one could pass that curtain but the High Priest and he only once a year. Now that veil was torn from top to bottom at the moment of Jesus' death (Mk 15:38, Matt 27:51, Luke 23:45). Here was a symbolic message that the way to God was now open. Now anyone could draw near. **Jesus' body is now pictured as that curtain.**

B. "We have a _____ over the house of God" (10:21)

Believers have not only a confident spirit, but also a competent advocate. Jesus now serves as **"a High Priest over the house of God." He is the One...**

1. **Who is able to _____ to our aid -
Heb 2:17-18**
2. **Who _____ with our weakness -
Heb 4:14-16**
3. **Who ever lives to _____ in our behalf -
Heb 7:25-26.**

He is continually available, completely aware of our present situation, and vitally involved with us in working all things together for good. His great concern is the welfare of each member of the household of God.

The author refers to believers as **"the house of God"** (see 3:6). God does not dwell in tabernacles or temples made by human hands, but in the hearts of His people. Individually, but in a greater sense, corporately, we are the temple of the living God (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:16).

Do not miss the amazing reality in these words. We believers have access to God — the sovereign king of the universe! When was the last time you utilized the full value of this privilege? The presence and closeness of God is available to you.

Again, the glorious reality is that through Christ we now enjoy a new relationship with God. We now have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus. We have a great priest over the house of God.

II. A _____ exhortation: _____ of Christ, let us _____ near, let us _____ & let us _____ one another (10:22-25)

A. Let us draw near to God in _____ (10:22)

The exhortation is, **"Let us draw near"** ("to God" is implied). Under that command are four things that describe the person who has experienced the new birth in Christ, has surrendered to the Lordship of Christ, has received Christ, is born again: **(1) a sincere heart; (2) in full assurance of faith; (3) having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience; and, (4) [having] our bodies washed with pure water.**

B. Let us hold fast the confession of our _____ without wavering (10:23)

C. Let us consider one another in _____ (10:24-25)

What are the implications of this command?

First, you are your brother's keeper! For the body to be healthy, every member needs to take responsibility to encourage their fellow members.

Second, this ministry implies knowing one another on more than a superficial level. Again, it is impossible to know everyone in this church well, but each of us can and should know some fairly well.

Finally, this takes some deliberate focus and effort. You must take your eyes off of yourself and think about others.

CONCLUSION

I would ask you to think prayerfully through each of these three **exhortations**. Which one do you need most to apply? Do you need more consistency in ***drawing near*** to God in faith? This discipline is really the foundation for the other two. If it is lacking, the others will not be strong, either. Perhaps your need is to be bold in ***holding fast*** to the confession of our hope without wavering. Probably all of us can improve in considering how to ***stimulate one another to love*** and good deeds. Think through some specific ways that you can grow in the area that God prompts you to consider. Ask Him how you can put your glorious position in Christ into daily practice.