



Sunday, November 21, 2021
Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Hebrews 10:19-25

There is a real danger among people who have been around the church for a long time to presume that they know Christ simply because they know *about* Him. In fact, there are many people who know the facts of the gospel but are still functional legalists—trying to earn God’s favor through this or that means. Yet, the word of God is clear: knowing that we have confidence to enter God’s presence because of the blood of Christ, and knowing that He is our Great High Priest, we must still draw near to Him in full assurance of faith. We must not shrink back or remain obstinate or apathetic. We must draw near to Him in fellowship and devotion.

Thankfully, because Christ is a merciful High Priest, He is sympathetic even towards those who struggle to draw near. That is why He gives us these gracious reminders in this passage. And so, as we gathered once again this past Sunday, we were reminded of the value of stirring one another up—not only to love and good deeds, but to renew our faith and assurance of faith in Jesus.

Context

This passage is something of a pivot in the book of Hebrews from an exposition about the high priesthood of Christ to the implications of that for our faith. In the beginning, the author spends time considering how Jesus is better than angels and Moses and Joshua (and everyone else) because He is the one, true Son of God. Then, from chapter 5:1-10:18, the author explains how Jesus is a great high priest who has not just offered an animal sacrifice to atone for sins but has atoned for them with His own blood. And He did this so that we might have eternal life in Him. Following this passage, the author makes it clear what the life of faith looks like and how we must persevere in it in order to be saved.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 10:19-25

“Draw Near”

Amazing Incarnation	5
Heavenly Exaltation	12
Final Vindication	13

What do we possess?

(19-20) since we have confidence to enter

(21) since we have a great high priest

How should we respond?

(22) let us draw near to the God we worship

(23) let us hold fast to the hope we profess

(24-25) let us stir up the ones we love

When the head comprehends, the heart must respond

Discuss

- 1) Do you ever feel distant from God? What do you think is most often the cause of that?
- 2) How easy is it for you to believe that Jesus' death paid for all your sins and gives you access to God?
- 3) What does "drawing near" to God look like in your life?
- 4) What is the greatest challenge for you to hold on to hope?
- 5) How much consideration do you give to helping others grow in love and good works?