

## THE BOOK OF HEBREWS: JESUS, THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST HEBREWS 5:1-10

### INTRODUCTION:

1. Jesus is our great High Priest for three reasons.
  - a) **HEBREWS 4.14:** Jesus ascended through the heavens.
  - b) **HEBREWS 4.15:** Jesus is compassionate.
  - c) **HEBREWS 4.16:** Jesus intercedes on our behalf.
2. Hebrews 5 describes the character of Jesus as our High Priest.

### I. THE OLD TESTAMENT HIGH PRIESTS

- A. CONNECTION: The high priests of Old Testament times could connect with Israel because of their humanity.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.1:** *“For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God”*
  2. “Men” (anthropos): mankind, humankind.
- B. COMPASSION: The high priests of Old Testament times had compassion on the Israelites because they also sinned.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.2:** *“He can have compassion”*
  2. “Compassion” (metriopatheo): Literally, feel a little bit.
- C. COMMISSION: The high priests of Old Testament times were commissioned to fulfill a specific responsibility.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.3:** *“Because of this he is required...”*
  2. It was his responsibility to offer sacrifices for sins.
- D. CALLING: The high priests of Old Testament times were called by God. (Heb. 5.4)

### II. JESUS: THE NEW TESTAMENT HIGH PRIEST

- A. CONNECTION: Jesus was human as we are human.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.5,6:** *“Today I have begotten You.”*
  2. Begotten suggests coming in the flesh. (John 1.1,14)
- B. COMPASSION: Jesus knows what it is like to suffer.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.7:** *“He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears”*
  2. This is a reference to Gethsemane. (Matt. 26.39)
- C. COMMISSION: Jesus was commissioned by God.
  1. **HEBREWS 5.8,9:** *“He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”*
  2. Jesus was commissioned to offer salvation. (Luke 19.10)
- D. Calling: Jesus was called by God. (Heb. 5.10).

**CONCLUSION:** Does Jesus care? Oh, yes, He cares!

## NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

January 3, 2021

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### MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

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## NEW BEGINNINGS

Genesis: A word that is a transliteration of the Greek word “genesis” and carries with it the basic meaning of “beginning” and “origin.” It is from this root word that we get “generation”, “genealogy” and “genetics”. The first book of the Bible is appropriately named “Genesis” for in it contains the beginning of all things.

Scientists and philosophers have searched for the origin of all creation. Through their musings and observations they have developed such prolific theories as evolution and the Big Bang. Yet none of their theories adequately nor accurately explain the beginning of the universe and man. In contrast, the inspired writer simply and concisely states that *“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth”* (Gen. 1.1). One of the great mysteries of life is solved in the very first verse of the inspired word of God.

The book of Genesis also reveals in a very simple and matter of fact manner, the origin of sin and salvation. Again, there is no lack of words from theologians professing their beliefs in the origin of sin and the provision of grace. Yet the words of the Bible show the simple truth of sin. God gave a command. Man broke the command. (Gen. 3.1-6). God calls this sin (1 John 3.4). The beginning of salvation is also well documented. Through the seed of Abraham would come a nation. Through that nation (Israel), the Messiah would come, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed (Gen. 12.1-3; cf. Gal. 3.16). CLP

## WHAT ARE OUR GOALS FOR 2021?

### 1 CORINTHIANS 9:27

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. The akrasia effect can derail our goals by sacrificing our future desires to fulfill our current desires.
  - a) Immediate gratification is temporary. (1 John 2.15-17)
  - b) Practice self-discipline. (1 Cor. 9.27)
  - c) Plan ahead of time.
2. What are your goals for 2021, and how can you achieve them.

#### I. THE GOAL OF PLEASING GOD

- A. **2 CORINTHIANS 5.9:** *“Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.”*
  1. *“Make it our aim”* (philotimeomai): Being ambitious because of the love of what is honorable.
  2. What was Paul ambitious to achieve? Paul wanted to live a life that was well pleasing to God. (2 Cor. 5.9)
- B. Our goal for 2021 and beyond is to be pleasing to God.
  1. We are motivated to achieve our goal by thinking about our resurrection. (2 Cor. 5.1-4; 1 Cor. 15.42-44)
  2. We are motivated to achieve our goal by thinking about the Day of Judgment. (2 Cor. 5.10)

#### II. THE GOAL OF ATTAINING ETERNAL LIFE

- A. **PHILIPPIANS 3.14:** *“I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*
  1. *“Goal”* (skopos): Literally, to see. It suggests being fixed on a mark off into the distance.
  2. *“Press”* (diokos): Literally, to run. From the same word that give us *“diakonos”* (deacon).
  3. What was Paul running toward in order to obtain? Paul wanted to attain the prize of eternal life. (1 Cor. 9.25)
- B. Our goal for 2021 and beyond is to attain eternal life.
  1. We are motivated to achieve our goal by remembering that we are not yet perfect. (Phil. 3.12; cf. Heb. 12.23)
  2. We are motivated to achieve our goal by learning to let go of our past. (Phil. 3.13,5-8; 1 Tim. 1.13,16)

**CONCLUSION:** 2020 was a difficult year. Let’s resolve to make 2021 a year of spiritual growth.

## THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE

The world is searching for answers. However, in a world that is filled with darkness and confusion, answers are not easy to find. The true disciples of Christ shine as a beacon of light so that all around many see. Jesus taught His disciples that they were *“the light of the world.”* And as such, they were commanded to let their light *“so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven”* (Matt. 5.14-16).

Sadly, the light has been greatly diminished because of the religious division among those who claim to be the true children of God. Virtually every denomination and religious institution claims, as does this Calvinistic based site, to be *“the most biblically faithful systematization of the Bible’s teachings”* [www/reformed.org]. While every different and contradictory religion claims to be the one true faith, it has created confusion and desperation among people of the world. Many have become so disenfranchised that they have even rejected the Sonship of Christ.

Jesus referred to the damaging effects of division when He prayed to the Father concerning unity. **JOHN 17.21:** *“I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”* How the world will come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God and was sent by the Father is by observing the unity of faithful believers.

We cannot control the division and disharmony within the denominational world, but we have a responsibility to ensure that there is unity among the Lord’s church (1 Cor. 1.10). Jesus taught that the peacemakers shall be called the sons of God. (Matt. 5.9). The world is looking for the one true church. When they come into our assembly, what do they see? Do they see peacemakers, or do they see people who are divided and filled with animosity toward one another. Many cannot see who the true sons of God are because they cannot see unity in the Lord’s church. Yet Jesus said that the peacemakers were called the sons of God.

As Christians we are unified in the same doctrine (2 John 9), with the same goals (Phil. 3.14), and with the same mindset (Gal. 3.2). We cannot be unified without also showing love for one another (1 Pet. 3.8; Phil. 2.1,2). We must do our best to be unified with one heart and one mind. Our success in the world is dependent upon our success within the church.