<u>The Letter To The Hebrews</u>
Why Everyone Needs Jesus, The Perfect High Priest
Hebrews 7:25—8:5

<u>Introduction</u>

Our purpose is to help people come to trust Jesus Christ.
But sometimes we wonder — is it really true that everyone needs Jesus?
The author of Hebrews answers that in today's passage —

<u>What does everyone need</u>? (7:25)

We all need to be saved from sin by Jesus the perfect high priest whose death paid for sin.
God taught this through the nation of Israel and her priests, sacrifices, and temple.
So no one can come to God on their own. We all need a perfect priest with a sacrifice.
And Jesus is that perfect high priest whose death pays for our sins.

<u>What if I stop drawing near to God</u>? (7:25)

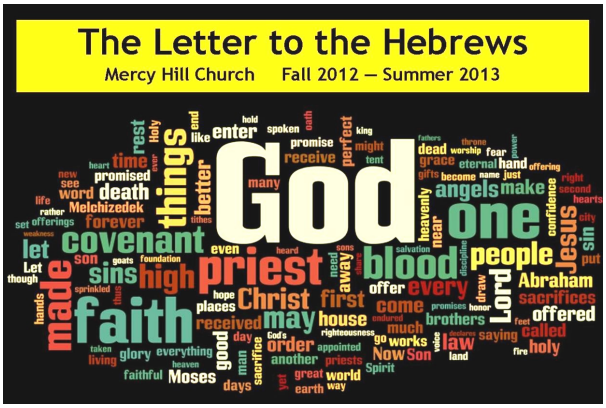
"Draw near" is in the present tense — showing that we must continue to draw near.
But what if we stop drawing near? Won't happen, because Jesus intercedes for us.
He prays, asking the Father to keep us drawing near to Him.
So every saved person must keep drawing near to God — and because of Jesus' intercession every saved person <u>will</u> keep drawing near to God.

<u>How can we be sure Jesus is our perfect high priest</u>? (7:26-28)

Because Jesus is without sin (v.26).
Because Jesus is exalted above the heavens (v.26).
Because Jesus' sacrifice was once for all (v.27).
Because Psa 110:4 says we need a different, perfect priest (v.28).

<u>What was the point of the Old Testament priesthood</u>? (8:1-5)

The OT priesthood was a copy and shadow of the reality in heaven.
From eternity past God had chosen Jesus as our perfect high priest whose sacrifice would pay for all our sins.
To help all humanity see this God created a copy, a shadow of this, in Israel's priesthood.
Which means the only way anyone can come to God and be forgiven is through Jesus Christ.



<u>What does this mean for us</u>?

Tell everyone about Jesus.

Draw near to God through Jesus.

HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

Have you ever wondered if it's really true that everyone needs Jesus? How did you deal with this question? How did this passage help?

Do you agree that the present tense of "draw near" means that all those whom Jesus saves must and will continue to draw near to God through Jesus? Why or why not?

On a scale of 1 (not much) to 10 (consistently) — how much have you been drawing near to God through Jesus? What's getting in the way? What is God saying to you about this?

How does it affect you to think that Jesus prays for all the redeemed, asking the Father to keep them drawing near to God through Him?

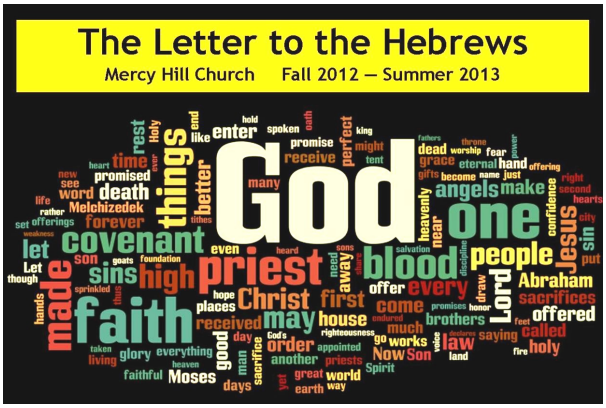
On a scale of 1 (not very sure) to 10 (absolutely certain) — how certain are you that Jesus Christ is our perfect high priest?

Does it make sense to you that the Old Testament priesthood was a copy and shadow of the reality in heaven? And that God created the Old Testament priesthood to show humanity what they need in order to come to God? Why or why not?

What did God do in your heart during Communion?

Who are you reaching out to — so you can tell them about Jesus?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.


The Letter to the Hebrews
Mercy Hill Church Fall 2012 – Summer 2013
God
one
priest
blood
covenant
faith
things
people
Jesus
angels
make
high
sins
Christ
first
every
Abraham
sacrifices
offered
called
holy
law
Lord
made
may
house
received
order
Moses
Melchizedek
forever
death
word
time
promised
enter
perfect
receive
better
let
come
offer
places
hope
good
glory
everything
another
priests
Now
Son
works
much
brothers
saying
great
world
earth
way
Spirit
days
faithful
living
heaven
land
fire
holy
dead
grace
eternal
hand
fear
worship
become
just
name
offering
right
second
hearts
city
sin
put
near
heavenly
confidence
salvation
heard
need
away
even
son
goats
foundation
Let
though
sprinkled
hands
draw
honor
promises
feet
offered
saying
called
holy
land
fire
priests
appointed
righteousness
God's
day
order
good
man
sacrifice
yet
taken
living
heaven
faithful
Moses
days
great
earth
way
world
Spirit
Now
Son
works
much
brothers
offered
called
holy
law
saying
land
fire
priests
another
appointed
righteousness
God's
day
order
good
man
sacrifice
yet
great
earth
way
world
Spirit
days
faithful
Moses
heaven
living
taken
glory
everything
hope
places
received
house
may
Christ
first
every
offer
come
Abraham
sacrifices
offered
called
holy
law
saying
land
fire
priests