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A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- **Jesus the Great High Priest**

- **Hebrews 4:14**

Seeing then that we have

a great high priest,

that is passed

into the heavens,

Jesus the Son of God,

let us hold fast

***our* profession.**

- **Jesus the Great High Priest**
 - **Hebrews 4:15**
- **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

- **Jesus the Great High Priest**

- **Hebrews 4:16**

- **Let us therefore
come boldly unto
the throne of grace,
that we may obtain mercy,
and find grace
to help
in time of need.**

- Here we come to the main idea of Hebrews.
- That of Jesus is the perfect high priest.
- His task is to bring the voice of God to man
- And to usher men into the presence of God.

- The high priest at one and the same time must perfectly know man and God.
- That is what this epistle claims for Jesus.
- No one ever stressed the sheer greatness of Jesus like the writer to the Hebrews.⁷

- Three words

in that brief passage
sum up all it has
to say,

- What 3 words?

- "throne of grace."

- A **throne** speaks of **authority** and **power**.
- **Grace** conveys the idea of **sympathy** and **understanding**.
- These two thoughts are **combined in Jesus Christ**.
 - He is a man of infinite **power**, yet in complete and utter **sympathy with us**.

- **Hebrews 4:14**

**Seeing then that
we have**

a great high priest,

that is passed

into the heavens,

- When we put a couple of men into a rocket and hurl them into space from Cape Kennedy, we are throwing them into the heavens.
- But they are still within this space-time continuum.
 - Even on the moon this is still true;
 - Or the outermost reaches of our solar system.

- But the claim made for Jesus is that **he has passed through the heavens.**
 - He has passed outside the limits of **time** and **space**.
 - He is no longer contained within, limited by, those boundaries that hold us within physical limits.
- He is outside, above, beyond, over all,
 - Therefore there are **no limits to his power.**
(Matthew 28:19-20)

- Growing up as children we think of heaven as **"out there"** in space somewhere,
 - Because of the figurative language employed in Scripture we think of going **"up"** to heaven and **"down"** to hell.

- The idea that is conveyed to us by the figurative language of the Scriptures is that heaven is outside time and space,
 - The throne of grace is not in remote space;
- It is right in the heart of a believer in whom Jesus Christ dwells.
Romans 8:9 (20cNT)
since the Spirit of God
lives within you.

- To come to the **throne of grace** does not mean to **go into a prayer closet** and shut the door and address an appeal across the reaches of space **to some distant point in heaven.**
 - It means to call upon **the One who indwells us.**
 - The throne of grace **is that close to us.**

- Though the Lord Jesus has passed into the place of supreme power, and has absolutely no limits upon his ability to work,
 - He also is tremendously concerned with our problems.

- "We have not a high priest who cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities."

- "***We do not have,***"

- he says,

- "a priest who is remote from us, who is isolated from us, who does not understand what we are going through."***

- Previously in this letter Jesus has been called

- "the pioneer of our salvation,"**

- (Hebrews 2:10).**

- He has already gone the whole course before us.
- He has felt every pressure,
- He has faced every fear,
- Every anxiety,
- Every worry.
- Yet he did it without failure, without sinning.

- "Therefore,"
the writer says,
"let us draw near with
boldness,
- with confidence to the
throne of grace,
- That we may receive mercy
 - And find grace to help
 - Every time we need it."

- It is right at this point that the tempter **pulls the neatest trick.**

- He suggests to us Christians that we file this verse away.

- **And pay it lip service.**

- The tempter jams into **our subconscious mind**

a very slimy doubt.

- He suggests to us **a limitation**

which we hardly let ourselves think about;

- That there is one area in which Jesus did not undergo the same temptation we have.

- **"Of course Jesus never failed,"**

the devil suggests,

"because he had

one great advantage over you,

he had no sin nature."

- Deep in our **subconscious,** hardly allowing it to come to the surface,
- **We feel there is pressure** we undergo that he has never felt,
 - There is power exerted upon us that he does **not understand.**

- The question that begs to be answered is, **If** Jesus never sinned,
 - **How** can He sympathize with sinners?
- **Did Jesus have a sin nature?**
- That question is answered in **Hebrews 5:7-10.**

- In the days of his flesh,
Jesus offered up
 - prayers
and
supplications,
 - with loud
cries and tears,
- (Hebrews 5:7-10 RSV)**

- To answer that question we go to the **garden of Gethsemane.**
 - There we find the **human side of Jesus.**
- He had gone to the garden as was his custom, but there he suddenly began to be **greatly distressed** and **troubled.**
(**Mark 14:33**)

- Nothing like this is recorded of him before.
- He had never once mentioned Gethsemane **to his disciples.**
- There is no prediction of this in the **Old Testament.**
 - There is much that predicts what he would go through **on the cross;**
 - There is not one word of what **he endured in the garden.**

- In the midst of his deep unrest of heart, and distress of soul, he does an unusual and amazing thing.
- For the first time in his ministry he appealed to his own disciples for help.
 - He said to them, "Watch with me, pray with me."
(Matthew 26:41)

- Here we find Jesus' complete identity with mankind.
- He went through everything that a man has to go through and is like us in all things except that he emerged from it all completely sinless.

- The fact that Jesus was without sin means that he knew depths and tensions and assaults of temptation which we never can know.
- So far from his battle being easier it was immeasurably harder.
- Have you ever been tempted to the point of sweating blood?
(**Luke 22:44**)

- We never know temptation at its **fiercest**,
 - Because **we fall long before** that stage is reached.
 - The tempter put **everything** into his assault against Jesus.

- **Hebrews 4:16**

**Let us therefore
come boldly**

**unto the
throne of grace,
that we may obtain
mercy,
and find grace to help
in time of need.**

- There is mystery here **that is too profound** for me and you.
- Fully aware that He is God-Man, and yet seeing Him suffer in pain as a human, **almost as if He were not God.**
 - And it is **too much** for us to understand.

- Out of our Lord's temptation we learn a profound lesson stated in verse 41, where our Lord says,
- ***“Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”***

- **Ever the teacher,**
even in the midst of this
unbelievable
struggle with the enemy
the Lord goes beyond His own experience
to teach His
disciples and us.
- He sees in His own struggle
a great lesson
that we must learn about
how we are to face temptation
and severe trial.

- Jesus was fully human
and in humanity
is weakness.
- Let us remember how Jesus died.
- Death is the essence of weakness.
- Tears are a sign of human weakness.
- Agony is a sign of human weakness.
- Suffering is a sign of human weakness.
 - Jesus endured all that!
 - Therefore, he was human.

- When you go to the Lord Jesus Christ with your needs, you're not talking to a high priest who doesn't know how you feel.

- He was fully human.

- Touched with the feelings of our weaknesses.

- He knows weakness.

- He knows humanity.

- As He went to that **cross**,
 - As he prayed in the **garden**,
 - In all the **suffering, sorrow, grief**,
 - He experienced what it is **to be human.**

- And being severely tempted by Satan he sensed His dependence on God, the Father.

- And out of that trial came victory.

- But, sadly one that Peter didn't learn.

- So, will you and I learn or shall we be like Peter?

(**Matthew 26**)

- There's a Gethsemane in all of our lives.
- There may be many of them.
 - Trials and temptations.
 - Deep sorrows
and trials through
which we all must pass
sooner or later.

- The dark hour of death lurks around all of us.
 - And the bitter cup is always lurking.
- And we are forced to drink it at one time or another.
- And where do you go?

- When you enter into **a severe trial** **you must not look to men,** but to God.

- Jesus passed **the severest test** in the history of humanity.

- And that is why the writer of Hebrews tells us, in

Hebrews 4:15

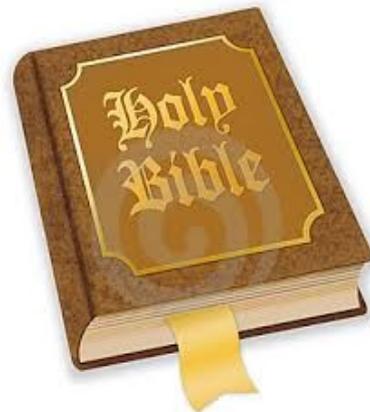
- **And may we see it with new eyes.**
 - **“We have not an high priest”**
 - **“who cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities,**
 - **but was in all points tempted**
 - **like as we are, yet without sin.”**

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



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