

Hebrews 4:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

'Seeing then that we have a great high priest' introduces the central theme of Hebrews 4-10. Christ's passage through the heavens surpasses the high priest's annual entrance to the earthly Holy of Holies. The dual nature—'Jesus the Son of God'—emphasizes both His humanity (Jesus) and deity (Son of God). 'Hold fast our profession' (Greek 'kratomen tes homologias') means grip tightly our confession.

Historical Context

The Day of Atonement ritual, when the high priest entered God's presence, would be familiar to Jewish readers. Christ's superior priesthood provides better access and a better sacrifice.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does having a great high priest in heaven affect your confidence in prayer?

2. What confession of faith are you tempted to loosen your grip on?

Interlinear Text

ἔχοντες	οὖν	ἀρχιερέα	μέγαν	διεληλυθότα	τοὺς		
Seeing	then	high priest	a great	that is passed into	G3588		
G2192	G3767	G749	G3173	G1330			
οὐρανοῦς	Ἰησοῦν	τὸν	υἱὸν	τοῦ	θεοῦ	κρατῶμεν	τῆς
the heavens	Jesus	G3588	the Son	G3588	of God	let us hold fast	G3588
G3772	G2424		G5207		G2316	G2902	
ὁμολογίας							
our profession							
G3671							

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 9:24 (References God): For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Hebrews 12:2 (References Jesus): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 9:12 (Parallel theme): Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Hebrews 10:23 (Parallel theme): Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 6:20 (References Jesus): Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Ephesians 4:10 (Parallel theme): He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Romans 8:34 (References God): Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Hebrews 3:14 (Parallel theme): For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

Hebrews 8:1 (Parallel theme): Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;

Hebrews 10:12 (References God): But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

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