

OT Reading. Psalms 6:6

"I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears."

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.

Our Subject today is our Faithful High priest.

"If Jesus was only a man--then how could He watch the interests, and manage all the affairs of all His redeemed people scattered far and wide over the face of the earth?

- **His heart is large enough to embrace all?** The Lord is full of Grace and full of truth. *Psa 86:5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.*
- **His eyes can see all?** *Psalms 33:14-15 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. [15] He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.* He sees all, there is nothing hidden from His sight. He considers us individually He knows our hearts. He made us and understands us fully. He sees and know even how many hairs are upon our heads. He looks upon us with care and Compassion. How He sees all the sons of men but he particularly sees His own those who trust Him and place their confidence in Him. He sees, He fashions He considers. In His providence He knows what is the best for us.
- **His ears hear all our cries.** Psalms 34:15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

Are you distressed in heart? God sees your distress.

Are you crying in secret in the bitterness of your soul? God hears your cry. You are not alone. O, lonely spirit, broken spirit, be not dismayed; be not given to despair. God is with you. If he sees nothing else, he will see you. "The eyes of the Lord are upon the

righteous.” And if he hears no one else in the world, he will hear you “His ears are open to their cry.”

Think of the tens of thousands of prayers said in a hundred different tongues that go up to heaven at once, and all together, to His ear! Yet God hears each one.

And every believer can feel as if he were alone with Jesus -- enjoying a private audience of the King in His Holy presence.

Be of good cheer. Every groan of your wounded heart, your every sigh, and cry, and prayer--falls as distinctly on Jesus' ear as if you stood beside His throne; or, nearer still, lay with John on His bosom, and felt the beating of His heart against your own.

How full of encouragement and comfort is this truth to us, to you and I, who have sins to confess, sorrows to tell Him, and many a heavy care to cast upon His sympathy and kindness.

Believer, let Him sustain your cares. Your case cannot be too difficult, nor can your burden be too heavy for the One who guides the rolling planets on their course, and bears on His unwearied arm the weight of the universe."

What a tremendous privilege to have been granted access to the throne of grace where we can obtain mercy and find help in a time of need. We who were so undeserving we who were totally unworthy But God made a way for us in Christ Jesus. Access has been granted. What mercy.

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. Let us hold fast to the one we profess to be ours. Christ Jesus is the principal object. We hold fast to Him. Our profession includes Loyalty to the Gospel, Obedience to the Faith, Continuing to Trust in Him.

Let us hold firmly onto our professed or confessed **confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ**, who as our high priest will successfully bring us to heaven, in spite of all the obstacles that lie in the way. We have made a public acknowledgement to the world that we

belong to Him and we must hold on tight to that profession, for he is faithful to us who have put our trust in him.

The Surest reason for Holding fast, and coming to the Lord in Prayer is The Excellency of our High priest He is so much higher than all the old testament priests. He everliveth to make intercession for us. Christ Jesus standing before the Father our High priest, He grants us access, He knows exactly the right way to pray for us, His intercession also points to what He accomplished on the cross for us. He simply points to His side; He simply shows the nail prints in His hands. He suffered and died on the cross for us, will he not much more give us what is good.

Romans 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

He petitions the Father perfectly; He desires to do us good. He will not deal with us according to our iniquities. *Psalms 103:10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.*

The Lord is full of understanding and compassion, He asks in truth, in purity, according to the fathers will, no plea is rejected.

As in the Words of our Hymn we just sung

Before the throne of God above

I have a strong, a perfect plea;

A great High Priest, whose name is Love,

Whoever lives and pleads for me.

A perfect High priest. No prayer is forgotten no prayer is left out. It's all according to Gods will and Gods timing. *"Prayer as it comes from the saint is weak and languid (slow); but when the arrow of a saint's prayer is put into the bow of Christ's intercession it pierces the throne of grace."* Thomas Watson

The richness and fullness of what Jesus Our High priest does for us.

1. He alone appears before God the Father as the only one who can satisfy the debt of our sin. He represents the blood that was shed. He is the Lamb of God that pardons all of our sin

2. He alone is our defence and protection, **against the wrath of the Law**, and **against the accuser of the brethren satan**. Satan accuses us, Our High priest pleads mercy, help and grace for us.
3. He is our surety (guarantee); He asks the Father for all we need that we may persevere. He asks for Gods power to work in us to *stablish* us. That means to to make us stable, that place our whole trust firmly upon Him, to strengthen us in the spiritual man, He makes us to be constant, our mind constant. What is more constant and firmer and unmovable than His word which is settled forever in heaven.
4. Our High Priest Jesus Christ, makes us worthy to stand before the father- furthermore he sanctifies us and our prayers and all of our sacrifice by perfuming it with the sweet smelling savour of His own sacrifice. So that IN HIM our prayer and sacrifice is pleasing and acceptable to God. You see without His cleansing. If I were to harbour iniquity in my heart. Then my prayer will not be heard. *John 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.*
5. The vastness and completeness of what He accomplishes and has accomplished. Our High Priest, *“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.” Eph 2:18.* Our High priest the Lord Jesus Christ granted us access by the Spirit of God to The Father God. He opens our understanding to comprehend the length and the breadth and the height of the love of Christ. Which is above and beyond anything, it surpasses and exceeds and excels all general intelligence and understanding. That we might be filled with all the fullness of God.

We could not exhaust all the fullness of what our High priest Jesus Christ , the Father and Holy spirit does continuously for us. He actively makes known to us His will.

Our Lord Knows what to pray before we even come to Him. The Lord said to Peter **Luke 22:31-32** And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: [32] But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

The Lord prayed for Peter before He fell. ‘I make supplication for thee that thy faith shall not fail.’ So full of compassion He understands, and prays sympathizing, It’s not

mechanical and lifeless. If we have such a faithful high priest as the Lord. If God be for us who can be against us?

Hebrews 8:1 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. He is above all, yet He identifies with us. He is an understanding and sympathizing High priest. A faithful High priest, one who always cleanses us. We who were so undeserving and helpless have the greatest possible helper.

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.

We have a Friend and advocate; our Bridegroom is on the throne. He who reigns in heaven and loves us better than we love ourselves.

Come, then, why should we hesitate, wherefore should we delay our approach to his throne of mercy?

What is it that we need at this moment? Let us ask for it.

If we are in a time of need, then we see clearly from this verse that it is a time when we are permitted and encouraged to pray.

Are you facing a day of trouble? What does the Psalmist say? ... *And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.*

The Lord Himself says, Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. There is no reluctance in Him which we have to overcome. He is more ready to give than we are to receive. **Isaiah 30:18** And therefore will the LORD *wait*, (*The Lord longs*) that he may be gracious unto you, He waits to be sought, He waits for us to place our confidence Hope and trust in Him.

I think of the Prodigal son, the father longing and waiting for his son, then the son arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. Our heavenly father loves us even more than this – come to Him.

We have heard of Him our faithful high priest "**let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**". If we do we shall find peace that is far beyond your comprehension and understanding, and it will guard your heart and mind.

Psalms 62:5-6 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. [6] He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved. And now, my dear Brothers and Sisters, I cannot single out all your cases, but for sure there are many cases to which the text will apply. There is a struggling Christian. He does not know where his next meal will come from. My Brother, He that feeds the ravens will not let you starve. **Instead of looking to find friends to console you, tell your story into the ears of God.** As sure as the Bible is true, He will not leave you. Shall a father leave his children to die? No Faithful is He.

In closing

I know God if full of the Love for His Children, for those chosen of Him, But what about me I'm Lost. I have not been converted, I'm not a child of God. There is no mercy and help for me.

It is said that a brother of the famous Whitefield was once conversing, in great distress, with Lady Huntingdon. She told him of the infinite love and mercy of Jesus, but he replied, "I know all that; but there is no mercy for me-I am lost, I am lost." "I am glad to hear it, Mr. Whitefield, very glad to hear it." "How, my dear Madam, glad to hear that I am lost?" "Yes, Jesus came to save the lost." That word moved him; he believed on Jesus, and lived and died a Christian. And so may you, if you believe on him who is the Saviour of the lost and ruined. Then come to Jesus, come earnestly, come just as you are.

Suppose Jesus Christ was in the next room interceding for you... How you would be encouraged and strengthened. Well, there is no distance to the right hand of the throne of majesty where he is seated. **Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost** that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Sinner, has He saved your soul Have you come to Him? He is able to save you because He didn't save Himself on the Cross. He suffered and died for our sins. He died so we don't have to die.

Come, and you will be heard, come and you shall find rest. He will not send you away. He came into the world to save sinners, he suffered and died to save sinners, he invited

the burdened sinners to him. Then take this blessed, this precious invitation for yourself, take it now, come to Jesus, and your soul shall live.