

THE THRONE OF GRACE

Heb. 4:16

Introduction: what does this expression mean?
"to lead us to the throne of grace"

I. The Monarch who reigns on the throne.

A. Context speaks of our High Priest.

B. An empty throne is meaning ~~least~~ powerless

1. Tragedy for kingdom without a sovereign
2. Throne of grace always occupied ^{by}
3. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, & forever.
4. "Swift to its close, ebb out life's little day."

C. Heb. word for "throne" means "chair"

1. natives like to sit or squat on floor.
2. First Sam. 1:9, "now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple."
3. Christ is a Priestly-King.

D. In His Humanity, Christ can sympathize.

1. Not a note in the great organ of our humanity which when touched doesn't find a sympathetic vibration in the mighty range and scope of our Lord's Being.

- (a). When we are lonely.
- (b). He was tired & weary.
- (c). Bread from Heaven hungered.
- (d). Sorrow, agitated with grief.
- (e). poverty - stricken - poor.
- (f). Pain, lacerated with ~~lashes~~ ^{scourges}.

2. He was tempted, and is able to help them that are tempted.

- (a). Does Jesus care when I've tried & failed.
- (b). "make like unto his brethren (Heb. 2:17)"

E. He has "passed into the heavens" ascension

1. Elevation characterized a Biblical throne.
2. Isaiah saw God "sitting upon a throne, high & lifted up."

3. Solomon's throne -

- (a) "There was not the like made in any ^{dom} king-
dom."
- (b) But it will not compare with the Throne of Grace where Jesus is ascended and exalted -

4. He is passed into the heavens;

He has passed out of hands of sinful men, out of the clutches of Satan himself, passed into that celestial city where his holy royalty is appreciated

II. ACCESS to the throne.

- A. the way to this throne is not difficult
 - 1. the story of Esther
- B. Heb. 4:16 is not only an invitation; it is a command. Imperative.
- C. We are to come "boldly" with confidence - openly
- D. what joy + assurance this should give!
- E. Heb. 10:19-22 - precious gems of sparkling promises shined by the H. S. on the nephews of God's word.
- F. Why we can come boldly -
 - 1. Based on the priesthood of Christ
 - 2. High Priest of Israel on Yom Kippur. Significance explained in 9th ch. of Heb.
 - 3. therefore, "Let us draw near!"
- G. no substitute for prayer - open highway

III. What We Receive at the throne of Grace.

- A. We are never disappointed.
- B. First we receive MERCY.
 - 1. Not like human mercy, is God's mercy.
 - 2. Not temporary but everlasting his character.
 - 3. ~~man cannot thank God~~ ^{man cannot} ~~merit~~ ^{merit} ~~grace~~ ^{grace} ~~contrary to his character.~~
- C. When Moses prayed "I beseech thee shew me thy glory." God answered, "I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee."
 - 1. this He did when He proclaimed his own character to Moses. (Ex. 34:5-7)
 - 2. Notice how mercy + grace are united.
- D. at the throne of Grace we find Grace
 - 1. Unmerited favor
 - 2. Unlimited resource
 - 3. Unfailing help - just when we need him most
- E. Illustrations of the grace of God lifting men Trotter and Phil Haver.
- F. Go to him for every problem + need.
- G. Let us determine that we will no longer spend so much time in the ante-chamber or vestibule of the Palace of our gracious King, but go right into the throne room.