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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church  
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I Timothy Book Study (#14)

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### **GOD’S MERCY TO BELIEVERS**

We have been studying the doctrine of Mercy from chapter one (Heb.1:2, 13 and 16). We have just completed three lessons on God’s Mercy in Salvation.

**This lesson will study four aspects of God’s mercy to the Spiritually Advancing Believer in the Church Age.  
(Heb.4:14-16)**

#### **1. When we examine Heb.4:14-16, we discover at least four doctrinal truths of how the high priesthood (archieurus) of Jesus Christ ministers mercy and grace to the spiritually advancing believer.**

- **1<sup>st</sup>** Jesus Christ is our Great High Priest (GHP) because He passed through the heavens (**Heb.4:14**; 7:24-28).
  - We are instructed to hold fast this as our great confession of faith.
- **2<sup>nd</sup>** Our Great High Priest can sympathize with our weaknesses(astheneia) (Matt.4:1-11; 16:21-23)
  - Because He has been tempted in all aspects of the angelic conflict as we are, yet without sin (Heb.4:15).
- **3<sup>rd</sup>** Every Church Age Believer (CAB) has access to the throne of grace of our Great High Priest (Heb.4:16a).
  - Faith gives us confidence in this promise to approach our Great High Priest whether carnal or spiritual as a believer-priest (1 Pet.2:5, 9).
- **4<sup>th</sup>** As a believer-priest, we are promised by our Great High Priest to receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need (4:16b).

#### **2. The High Priesthood of Jesus Christ is after the order of Melchizedek and not Aaron (Heb.7).**

The Great High Priesthood of Jesus Christ is based on His resurrection, ascension, and session (Eph.1:20-22; Ps.110:1; Heb.1:3; 8:1).

(Heb.4:14) “Who has passed through (dierchomai/ perf.m.ptc.asm) the heavens (tousouranos/ aplm)?”

- (2 Cor.12:2) “Caught up to the third heaven.”
- (2 Cor.12:4) “Caught up to Paradise.”
- (1 Thess.4:17) “Caught up together with them in the cloud to meet the Lord in the air.”
- (2 Cor.5:8) “We are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from this body and to be at home with the Lord.”

After introducing the subject of the High Priesthood of Jesus Christ (Heb.4:14-16), the writer of Hebrews expanded the subject in Heb.5-10.

(Heb.9:24) “For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, **now to appear in the presence of God for us.**”

### 3. During the church age, Jesus is Our Great High Priest over the church of believer-priests.

At the moment of grace salvation, every CAB becomes a holy and royal priest of Jesus Christ. It is 1 of 20 status privileges in the grace package of salvation (50 Things).

(1 Pet.2:5) “You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a **holy priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (Rom.12:1-2)

(1 Pet.2:9) “But you are a chosen race, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people of God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

(Rev.5:10) “You have made them to be a **kingdom of priests to our God**; and they will reign upon the earth.” (Rev.1:6)

### 4. As a believer-priest in church age, you have access to the throne of the grace (to thronostescharis).

(Heb.4:16) “**Let us** therefore (oun/ inferential conj.) **draw near** (proserchomai/ p.a.subj. 1pl) **with confidence** to the throne of grace, **that** (hina+subj/ result of confidence) **we may receive** (lambano/ a.a.subj.1pl) **mercy** (eleos) and **may find** (heurisko/ a.a.subj.1pl) **grace to help in time of need.**”

Note the **three hortatory subjunctives** (volition and perfect timing of sovereignty of God) in Heb.4:16.

- **Draw near** (proserchomai/ present/ continuous/p.a.subj.1pl) “with confidence” (parrhesia) [to bring Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) to application in prayer] (1 John 5:14-15)
- **May receive** (lambano/ aorist/ point in past time/a.a.subj.1pl) “Mercy” (received as result of self-evaluation of misery of weakness). Peter received it after 3 denials of Jesus (Matt.26:69-75; **Luke 18:9-14**).
- **May find** (heurisko/ aorist a.subj.1pl). “**Grace (charis)** [grace operating assets] (Phil.4:19) **to help** (eis+acc.boetheia) [help in God’s perfect timing] **in time of need** (eukairos) [in that critical moment of need] (Gal.4:4).”