

Mercy & Grace In Times Of Need

Hebrews 4:14-16



Hebrews... A "Better" Letter

A better way to deal with...

- **Our sin (Hebrews 10:11-18)**
- **All of our challenges and trials
(Hebrews 4:12-16)**

“Since we have a **great High Priest...**” (4:14)

Why is our High Priest *“great”*? He...

- ***“Passed through the heavens”*** & sits at the right hand of God for us. (4:14; 9:24; Eph. 1:20-23)
- ***“Had to be made like His brethren”*** & able to ***“come to (our) aid”*** having been ***“tempted.. as we are, yet without sin”***. (2:17-18; 4:15)
- Who, understanding our needs is **“interceding for us”**. (7:25; Romans 8:34)

“Since we have a great High Priest...” (4:14)

“Let us hold fast our confession...” (cf., 3:6, 14)

- **What confession? That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, my Lord & my High Priest. (Matthew 10:32; Hebrews 10:23)**
- **How do we do this in trying times?**

“Let draw near to the throne of grace...” (4:16)

God wants us “near” (“cling to”) to Him.

What keeps us away?

- 1. Our sin... (James 4:4-10)**
- 2. Our many distractions. (Luke 10:38-42)**
- 3. Our pride... (Proverbs 16:18)**
- 4. Our fear... (Esther 4:11ff)**

“Let draw near to the throne of grace...” (4:16)

“Draw near to the throne of grace...” (where God in His glory & power reigns; Isaiah 6:1-4) in great humility.

Only by His grace. (Esther 4:11ff)... God holds out the golden scepter to us.

With ***“boldness”*** (cheerful courage) because of His promises, (1 John 5:14) **yet with reverence!**
(Matthew 6:9)

“That we may receive mercy & find grace...”

We “receive mercy”...

What is mercy? “...not simply possessed of pity but actively compassionate...” (Vine);

• Like love, **mercy includes action.** (1 John 3:1)

We are invited to ***“cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”*** (1 Peter 5:7; Mark 4:38; Job?)

“That we may receive mercy & find grace...”

We “find grace”...

“Find” - after searching. (Matthew 7:7-8, 14; 11:29; cf., Titus 2:11-14; Acts 20:32)

“Grace” - “divine favor or regard”, “unmerited... not wages”

Must seek the “true grace” not the false grace so many in the world teach. (1 Peter 5:12)

Conditional? - (John 9:6-7; 1 Peter 1:3, 22-25)

“To help in time of need...”

“To help...” - nautical term referring to
“frapping a vessel”. (Acts 27:17)

God helps His children like no other. (2:16)

How? (Acts 20:32; 14:22)

We need God’s strength! (1 Peter 4:11)

“Mercy & grace... to help in time of need...”

“In time of need...” What needs? **Spiritual/physical?**
Where is our emphasis? (3 John 2; Colossians 3:1-2)

Wants or needs? (James 4:1-4)

God will bless us with “*as much as (we) need*”.
(Luke 11:8; Philippians 4:19)

He wants us to ask... not complain. (Matt. 6:8;
1 Cor. 10:10)

Our role? (Titus 3:14; Ephesians 4:28-29; Romans 12:13;
Matthew 25:34-36)

Whose Needs? Our own?

We can become blind to our times of need.

(Revelation 3:17-18; Matthew 7:3-5)

• **Do we “need” God when “things” are going well?**

Not popular to be considered, “needy”.

(Psalms 40:17; 70:5; 109:22, 31)

God wants us to “need” Him, depend on Him and trust Him. (Deut. 8:3; 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Psalms 31:14)

Times of need must be all the time!

Whose Needs? Our own?

When we are just beginning our race.

(Acts 2:42; 11:21-26; 14:22; 1 Thessalonians 3:5)

When we grow weary! (Galatians 6:6-10;

Hebrews 10:24; 1 Kings 19; Hebrews 12:3, 12; 2:1)

When we are facing temptation!

(Matthew 6:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 6:10-13; James 1:13-15; Romans 13:13-14)

When we sin! (Matthew 9:12; 1 Timothy 1:5; Acts 8:23-24)

Whose Needs? Our own?

**When open doors present themselves
and when doors of opportunity close**

(Ephesians 6:19; Colossians 4:3-6)

In days of adversity (Eccles. 7:14; 2 Kings 20:1; 2
Cor. 12:7-10; John 11:32ff)

In days of prosperity! (Proverbs 30:7-9;
1 Timothy 6:10-17)

Whose Needs? Others?

Can't be selfish!

- **Brethren** (Hebrews 3:12-13; 10:24; Romans 12:9-13; James 5:19; 2 Timothy 4:2; Ezekiel 3:17-21)
- **Physical families.** (Ephesians 5:28-29; 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 5:8)
- **"The lost and dying world"** - (Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Thess. 1:8; Acts 8:4)

Whose Needs? God's?

God is not dependent on us! cf., Acts 17:25;

Do we ever stop to consider what God needs?

Someone to “stand in the gap” (Ezekiel 22:30)

Workers... (Matthew 9:37-38; 1 Corinthians 15:58)

who will be useful to the Master. (2 Tim. 2:21)

Those who won't look back (Luke 9:62) **but**

keep focused on the prize. (Philippians 3:12-14)

Whose Needs? God's?

Anyone with tender hearts who will recognize their sinfulness, repent and faithfully obey!

Anyone who will get back up after they have fallen!