JESUS IS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:14-5:10 Key Verse: 4:14

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess."

- 1. What did the author reiterate about Jesus' identity (14a; 1:2-3,5; 2:17; 3:1,6)? What does it mean that he ascended into heaven (8:1-2)? In light of their relationship to Jesus, what message is repeatedly given and why is this so important (14b; 2:1-3; 3:6,14; 4:11)?
- 2. What kind of high priest do we have (15)? Why does the author stress our high priest's empathy with our weaknesses and victory over sin? How does this encourage us to approach God's throne of grace and what kind of help does he give (16)?
- 3. What were the qualifications and duties of high priests in Israel's sacrificial system (5:1)? How could this high priest serve ignorant and wandering people (2-3; Isa 53:6a)? Where did this honor come from (4)?
- 4. In what respect is Jesus similar to Aaronic priests (5)? How is Jesus different from Aaronic priests in terms of his identity and the nature of his priesthood (5b-6)? What does this suggest about the superiority of Jesus' priesthood?
- 5. How did Jesus become the perfect high priest (7-9a)? What blessings flow to us from this Jesus (9b-10)? Why did Jesus submit himself to God and learn obedience, though he is the Son of God? How should we respond to this Jesus?