

**HEBREWS:
CHRIST IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE
AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018**

**Persevering Faith in the Furnace of Life
Hebrews 4:11-16
November 9, 2017**

Thesis: Persevering faith in the furnace of life results from...

I. Making every effort to enter God's rest.

A. The goal of persevering.

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest...

B. The costs of not persevering.

...so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

C. The gifts for persevering.

1. The Word of God.

¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. The omniscience of God.

¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

II. Holding firmly to our confession.

A. The motivation.

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, ...

1. The office of Jesus... *Since then we have a great high priest*

2. The ascension of Jesus... *who has passed through the heavens*

3. The identity of Jesus... *Jesus, the Son of God,*

B. The mandate.

...let us hold fast our confession.

Two-fold: Our confession of the historical Jesus and the Christian faith.

III. Drawing near to God's throne.

A. The motivation to draw near

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest, ...

1. A sympathetic High Priest. *...who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,*

2. A tempted High Priest. *...but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are,*

3. An impeccable High Priest. *...yet without sin.*

B. The mandate to draw near

¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near...

- C. The place to which we draw near
...to the throne of grace...
- D. The results of drawing near
...that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
 - 1. Receiving mercy
 - 2. Finding grace

Discussion Questions

1. What is the rest in verse 11 that God's people are seeking to enter?
2. Going forward, how do you plan to access more readily the gifts of God for promoting persevering faith in your life? Reexamine verses 12 and 13. What is the role of the Word of God and the character of God to help you enter God's rest?
3. In what ways can you make your current Sabbath keeping a bit more like the heavenly rest that it foreshadows?
4. Can you think of a time in your past when God's Word serves as a two-edged sword in your life? If you were completely open, how would and should it operate in your life today?
5. Was Jesus really tempted in every way like we are? How would you explain this to someone new in the faith? Why is it essential that Jesus never sinned?
6. What does it mean to mean that you can go to the throne of grace with boldness and confidence? Based upon your study, is there any way that you should change your personal prayer and worship times with the Lord?

Going Deeper

1. How does Scripture help us strive to enter God's rest? How do the attributes of Scripture described in this passage strengthen your perseverance?
2. Does Jesus serving as your great high priest have any significance for your daily life? If so, what aspects of His heavenly, priestly role are most encouraging to you?