

**Sunday Morning, Nov. 7**  
**Breakout Lecture Session**

**10:25 a.m.**  
**Adult 1-2**

**The Son of Man & Temptations** .... Jerry Houston

*"He was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Heb. 4:15). The Son of Man was not immune to temptations, but when He was confronted He overcame. Jesus' strength to triumph over the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life came by hiding the Word of God in His heart. His example in overcoming gives us confidence, and the promise that He will aid those who are tempted gives us strength.*

**Introduction**

1. The book of Hebrews was written to show the Superiority of Christ, our High Priest.
2. Chapter 4 begins with a focus on the promised "rest" which awaits the faithful Christian (4:1-11).
  - a. It is God's rest!
  - b. It is the heavenly rest (cf. Rev. 14:13)!
3. Chapter 4 continues by emphasizing the power of God's Word (4:12-13).
  - a. To stress the need for diligence to enter that rest, we are reminded of the Word of God.
  - b. The Word of God is described in glowing terms:
    1. It is "living."
    2. It is "powerful."
    3. It is "sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow."
    4. It is "a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
  - c. Thus, no one can hide from His righteous judgment (4:13).
    1. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight;
    2. All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.
4. That leads to our study of our Great High Priest.

**I. Our High Priest Is Superior (Heb. 4:14).**

- A. He is superior in His personality.
- B. He is superior in His performance.
  1. Lev. 16; 2 Cor. 5:17; 12:2; 1 Pet. 2:24
  2. Heb. 13:12; 10:11-12; 9:23-25; 10:12

- C. He is superior in His people.
  1. 2 Cor. 5:17; John 3:3

**II. Our High Priest Is Sympathetic (Heb. 4:15).**

- A. Because of His Human Identity
  1. Jesus is "touched with the feelings of our infirmities."
    - a. "Touched with the feeling" is from one Greek word, which gives us our English word "sympathy."
    - b. It means "to be affected with the same feeling."
    - c. It carries the idea of "knowing how we feel coupled with a desire to help."
  2. John 1:1, 14; Phil. 2:5-8; Psalm 139; Heb. 4:13; Prov. 15:3
  3. Jesus experienced both the negative and the positive things of life.
- B. Because of His Heavenly Integrity
  1. Jesus "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."
  2. He was tempted in the same ways we are tempted.
  3. Gen. 3:16; Matt. 4:1-11; 1 John 2:16; 3:5; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 John 3:5; Heb. 2:18; 1 Cor. 10:13

**III. Our High Priest Is Our Sanctuary (Heb. 4:16).**

- A. Because Jesus understands human experience and because He has successfully endured the full force of temptation, He is able to help us with whatever we face in life. That is why He invites us in this verse to run to Him in times of trouble.
- B. His Petition – "Come boldly unto the throne of grace"
- C. His Promise – "Obtain mercy and find grace to help in a time of need"
  1. Psa. 46:1; 63:7; 55:22; Matt. 11:28; 1 Pet. 5:7; Phil. 4:6-7

**Conclusion**

1. Do you ever need help? Do you ever face trials that threaten to overwhelm you? Do you ever go through temptations that appear to be beyond your power?
2. We have a GREAT High Priest!
  - a. He is Superior in every way.
  - b. He is Sympathetic in every need.
  - c. He is our Sanctuary in every trial.



**Jerry Houston** has been preaching the gospel for over 20 years. He currently preaches for the East Henrietta Road church of Christ in Rochester, New York. Jerry and his wife, Deborah, have two children.