

## Boldness to Enter the Holiest

### Hebrews 10

#### Introduction

1. **Isaiah 6:1-5** – If Isaiah felt such before the magnificent throne of our Holy God, how do we have such boldness to approach Him?
  - a. Reason for timidity – **(v. 5)** – ultimately sin.
  - b. **Isaiah 59:1-2** – it separates us from God.
2. The Jews, freshly delivered from Egyptian bondage, dared not approach God’s presence – **Exodus 20:18-19**
3. Every time we come together for worship, we are approaching the throne of God. Every time we kneel to pray, we are approaching the throne of God – and we can do so at any time.
4. Who are we to have such boldness? How do we have such boldness? What has been done to afford us such boldness?
5. We are told we have a **“boldness to enter the Holiest”** and are encouraged to **“draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith” (Hebrews 10:19, 22)**.
  - a. **Boldness** – *parrhesia*; from *pas*, “all,” *rhesis*, “speech”; “the absence of fear in speaking boldly; hence, confidence, cheerful courage, boldness, without any connection necessarily with speech” (VINE)
  - b. **True heart** – sincerity, worship from the heart, not merely form, and not with reservations.
  - c. **Full assurance of faith** – fully trusting in our ability to approach God’s throne in this bold way because of what has been done for us.
- I. Our Boldness
  - A. The Blood of Jesus **(v. 19b)**
    - a. **(v. 19b)** – first in a line of 4 reasons for our boldness – the blood of Jesus.
    - b. Blood needed for purification and remission – **9:22 (cf. Leviticus 17:11)** – long ago established)
    - c. Blood of animals – **9:13** – for the sanct/purification of FLESH.
      - i. **10:1-4** – cannot possibly take sins away – consciousness remains.
      - ii. NO BOLDNESS FROM ANIMAL BLOOD!
    - d. **10:5-10** – offering of body of Christ for sin.
      - i. **(vv. 5-6)** – animal offerings not satisfying requirement of God. **(v. 1)** – merely a shadow of the figure)
        1. **Micah 6:6-7** – rhetorical – granted answer is a resounding no, nothing will do.
      - ii. **(v. 9)** – “Your will,” i.e. God’s will was Jesus’ sacrifice.
      - iii. **(v. 10)** – sanctified through His offering.
    - e. **9:13-14** – not sanctify the flesh, but spiritual cleansing and sanctification.
      - i. **(vv. 24-26)** – offering of “Himself,” “the body of Jesus Christ” – with His blood.
  - B. The New and Living Way **(v. 20)**
    - a. **(v. 20)** – boldness through a new and living way.

- i. **New** – fresh. “of things which have not lost their character or appearance by the lapse of time” (Vincent’s Word Studies)
    - ii. **Living** – alive, active.
    - iii. **Cf. John 14:6** – Especially in connection with Jesus who calls Himself the way – THE ONLY TRUE WAY TO THE FATHER.
  - b. **9:7-8** – HS indicating the way into the Holiest is not open.
  - c. This way “consecrated” by Jesus through His flesh (veil – **9:7** – as in the earthly representation)
    - i. **Consecrated** – *egkainizō*; to renew, i.e. inaugurate. (STRONG)
    - ii. **9:16-21** – Old Covenant being dedicated, or inaugurated with blood – “dedicated” (**v. 18** – *egkainizō* – same as **10:20**)
  - d. **Way** – a road or passage to a destination.
  - e. What is old that is replaced with new? – **8:7, 13** – new covenant.
    - i. **10:8-10** – takes first away (OT – animal sac.) to establish the second (NT – Christ’s sac.).
    - ii. **10:15-18** – speaking of NC within the OC – “I WILL remember no more” – implies at the time of writing they are remembered.
    - iii. **9:15** – for this reason Jesus is mediator of the NEW COVENANT.
    - iv. OC didn’t accomplish what needed to be accomplished (wasn’t intended to, but to bring us to what could – Christ) but Christ did, and inaugurated a NC by His death for entrance, and reception of its blessings.
- C. The High Priesthood of Jesus (**v. 21**)
  - a. (**v. 21**) – boldness through the High Priesthood of Christ.
  - b. Insufficiency of the OT priesthood – **7:11** – no perfection through such, need another.
    - i. Service offered – **10:4, 11**
    - ii. Possessor of office – **7:23, 27-28**
  - c. High Priesthood of Jesus:
    - i. **10:10-14** – offered ONE sacrifice, and that was enough.
    - ii. **7:23-28** – not prevented by death from continuing and is sinless Himself.
  - d. Boldness – **4:14-16** – a perfect sacrifice from a perfect High Priest who is continually available for help in time of need.
- D. The Purification of Our Conscience (**v. 22b**)
  - a. (**v. 22b**) – another reason for boldness, and ability to draw near with true heart in full assurance of faith – sprinkling of heart from an evil conscience, bodies washed with pure water.
  - b. **Objective nature** – blood of Jesus, new and living way consecrated, High Priesthood of Jesus – these are true and available no matter what we do.
  - c. **Subjective nature** – “**OUR hearts...OUR bodies**” – personal, not automatic with others.

- i. I.e. the OBJECTIVE matters of Christ’s blood, the new and living way, and the High Priestly service of Christ MUST BE ACCESSED OR APPLIED.
      - ii. HOW? – **10:22b**
    - d. **Sprinkled** – some substance must be sprinkled.
      - i. **9:13, 19, 22** – blood sprinkled for purification, consecration, and atonement. (**10:2-4** – consciousness of sins remains)
      - ii. **9:14** – blood of Christ in parallel to blood of animals sprinkled.
    - e. What does the sprinkling of Christ’s blood do? – **9:14** – purifies conscience.
      - i. **10:22b** – bodies washed with pure water purifies conscience.
      - ii. Sprinkling of blood of Jesus – accessed by bodies washed with pure water.
      - iii. **1 Peter 3:21** – appeal for a good conscience in baptism – parenthetical is there because of the understood action of **“bodies washed with pure water”** in baptism.
    - f. Certainly, there is boldness due to Christ’s blood, new/living way, High Priesthood of Christ.
    - g. HOWEVER, THESE ONLY AVAIL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD – CONTACTED THE BLOOD OFFERED BY THE HIGH PRIEST AND ACCESSED THE NEW/LIVING WAY.
- II. Having Boldness “Let Us” (This boldness is toward an end – it is boldness which motivates, and/or demands actions) (A CALL TO ACTION!)
  - A. Draw Near to God (**v. 22**)
    - a. Not an option before – **12:18-21** – seen w/ Israel.
    - b. Now we can have a “full assurance of faith” to draw near – we fully trust in the work of God, and our contact with it which has granted us access.
    - c. Draw near by:
      - i. Obedience, and refusal of sin – **James 4:7-10**
      - ii. Prayer – **Revelation 5:8** (prayers of saints at throne of God)
      - iii. Worship – **Hebrews 13:13, 15; Psalm 122:1; 65:4**
    - d. Such reasons for boldness should not be taken for granted but used as they were meant to be!
  - B. Hold Fast the Confession of Our Hope (**v. 23**)
    - a. Confession – *homologia*; acknowledgment; profession. (STRONG)
    - b. Hope – **1 Peter 1:3-4** – of an inheritance. (Heavenly home – spiritual body – house not made with hands – **cf. 2 Corinthians 5:1**)
    - c. Hold fast, without wavering – don’t let it go, don’t give up, don’t doubt.
      - i. Why? – **“FOR HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL”** – **Titus 1:2** – cannot lie.
    - d. Hold fast confession by:
      - i. Defending it with a given reason – **1 Peter 3:15**
      - ii. Refusing to trade it for anything – **Hebrews 12:15-17; 3:13-14**

- e. Such reasons for boldness should not be forfeited over time through letting go of hope!
- C. Consider One Another (**vv. 24-25**)
  - a. Consider One Another – **cf. Philippians 2:1-4** – blessings in Christ promote unity and incite mutual care among those who receive them.
    - i. **Stir up** – *paroxysmos* – rousing to activity, stirring up, provoking. (BDAG)
    - ii. **Love and good works** – of God and brethren (**cf. Matthew 22:37-39**), God-ordained works (**cf. Ephesians 2:10** – anything required by the gospel)
  - b. How (in context) are we to stir up love and good works? – (**v. 25**)
    - i. **Assembling** – gathering together in one place. (Worship)
      - 1. Design of God indicating WE NEED COMPANY OF THOSE OF LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH.
      - 2. NOBODY IS AN EXCEPTION TO THIS.
    - ii. **Forsaking** – *egkatalaipō*; to leave behind in some place, i.e. (in a good sense) let remain over, or (in a bad sense) to desert. (STRONG)
      - 1. How many times does it take to be considered **“forsaking the assembly?”** – ONCE! – **cf. Hebrews 13:5** – consider Jesus – “NEVER...FORSAKE YOU” – one time breaks that promise.
      - 2. **“as is the manner of some”** – not saying it must be continual to be an offense, but IT HAD BECOME CONTINUAL/HABITUAL FOR SOME.
    - iii. **In the assembly of worship** – **Colossians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 14:26** – edification through the word of God.
    - iv. **Exhortation** – **Hebrews 3:12-14** – lest be hardened by deceitful sin. (Especially during times of difficulty – “Day” possibly referring to destruction of Jerusalem A.D. 70) (Or judgment day – difficulties, life in general until then.)
- D. What if we don’t?
  - a. What if we don’t “draw near,” “hold fast the confession of our hope,” or “consider one another to stir up love and good works...[by] not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together?”
  - b. WE FORFEIT OUR CONFIDENCE – **10:26-31**:
    - i. What does sin after receiving the knowledge of the truth imply?
      - 1. Trample Christ under foot – **cf. v. 21** (our High Priest – gives boldness)
      - 2. Count blood of covenant common – **cf. v. 19** (sufficient blood of Jesus – gives boldness)
      - 3. Then the covenant itself – **cf. v. 20** (new/living way consecrated by Jesus’ sac. – gives boldness)

4. Insulted Spirit of Grace (HS) – **cf. v. 15** (HS revelation of NC, and Christ’s redeeming blood – gives confidence) (reject the offer)
  - ii. SUCH IS CASTING AWAY CONFIDENCE – **v. 35** – DON’T DO IT OR...
  - iii. NOT BOLDNESS, BUT FEAR – **vv. 26-29a, 30-31** – if OT punished offenders, how much more NT?
- c. BUT IT DOESN’T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY – **10:32-39**:
  - i. **(vv. 32-39)** – Remember past diligence, endurance, PRESS ON/BELIEVE TO SAVING OF SOUL.
  - ii. **(v. 39)** – IT DOESN’T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY – ABSTAIN FROM SIN, AND ENDURE THROUGH HARDSHIP!

### Conclusion

1. We are afforded such incredible boldness/confidence to approach our God like none have ever been able to do before the inauguration of the NT, nor we were able to do before we became His children.
2. We must use this boldness to draw nearer to God and assist each other in doing so!
3. If we let go of this confidence and turn to sin by forsaking the Lord and/or His people we forfeit all God has done for us to give us such confidence. There remains no hope.
4. However, God has given us the boldness for just the opposite reason – that we might **“lay hold of the hope set before us” (Hebrews 6:18).**