

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study for April 15, 2021

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Topic: "Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace"

Scripture Reference: Hebrews 4:16

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and fine grace to help in time of need."

I. Introduction

A. Before we examine our target verse for this study session, I want to refresh your memory with just a brief mention of a few facts concerning this wonderful book of Hebrews.

B. First, the theme of this book is **"The Superiority or the Preeminence of Jesus Christ."** Jesus Christ is superior to and preeminent over everyone and everything.

C. Studying the book of Hebrews is a thrilling adventure. We will be examining only one verse during this study but the book itself has many deep truths that are difficult to grasp and that demand diligent and faithful study, and the illumination of the Holy Spirit.

D. My former Bible College professor, Dr. Doug Lyons of many decades ago, in addition to what is stated above, said this: "You cannot fully understand the book of Hebrews unless you understand the book of Leviticus, because the book of Hebrews is based upon the principles of the Levitical priesthood." We will not be reviewing the book of Leviticus during this study, but I wanted to provide you with that insight.

E. Never-the-less, without delving into further in-depth

historical insight, I would like to give you the following historical fact relative to our target verse (Hebrews 4:16).

F. Most ancient rulers were unapproachable by the common people. Some would not even allow their highest-ranking officials to come before them without permission.

G. Queen Esther was willing to risk her life in approaching King Ahasuerus without an invitation, even though she was his wife (cf. Esther 4:11 – 5:2)

H. But thank you Lord, because today, we who know you, can share with any person, no matter how sinful, if there is a humbling of the heart, they may approach God's throne at any time for forgiveness and salvation – and with confidence, knowing that they will be received with mercy and grace. Thank You Lord!

II. Exposition [Part I] – Heb. 11:16

A. This verse begins by saying “**Let us therefore come boldly ...**”

The word boldly comes from the word *perresia*, an often-used Greek word that was used in ancient times to refer to *freedom of speech*.

B. It normally depicts a person who speaks his mind and who does it straightforwardly and with great confidence.

C. In New Testament times, freedom of speech was restricted, and people who violated the rules were punished.

D. The word *perresia* that is used in this verse depicts a frankness that was so bold, it was often met with resistance, hostility, and opposition. It just was not appropriate to speak so candidly.

E. Therefore, when someone freely spoke his mind and thoughts, such outspokenness was met with scorn or rebuke.

F. Because the Holy Spirit uses the word **parresia** in Hebrews

4:16, it tells us several important things.

1. First, we know that whenever we approach the Lord in prayer, we do not need to ever fear that we are too frank, too bold, too forthright, or too honest. when we bare our hearts to Him or request His help.

Comment: We should not, and we must **not ever be irreverent**, but

neither do we need to be ashamed to speak exactly what is on our hearts. (Remember, God is **Omniscient** (All-Knowing), and He knows everything in our hearts.

2. Second, the use of the word **parresia** – which was used to give us the encouragement to speak boldly to God in prayer – tells us that God will not rebuke us for telling Him exactly what we are thinking. (Remember – He already knows).

G. Even if we are wrong, when we are honest with God, He may

correct us or take us to the Word to help fix our wrong thinking and believing, but He is always glad when we come to Him and speak freely from our hearts.

III. Exposition [Part II]

A. As the verse continues, it exhorts us to “... **come boldly unto**

the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”

Comment: We all need mercy, so now let’s look at the word “**obtain**” to see how this is done!

B. The word “**obtain**” comes from the Greek word **lambano**. It can be translated a couple of ways, depending on how it is used in the text.

C. For example, it can mean **to seize** or **to lay hold of something**

in order to make it your very own; almost like a person who reaches out to **grab**, **to capture**, or **to take possession** of something.

D. At other times, it depicts a person who gently and graciously **receives** something that is freely and easily given.

E. How easily you receive from God may be determined by your

own personal circumstances or inward struggles that affect the ease with which you receive God’s help.

F. If your mind is tormented or you feel that the world is

pressing hard against you, it may be more difficult for you to receive – not because it's difficult for the Lord to give but because it is difficult for you to focus on what He wants to give you.

G. The truth is, Jesus is willing to give you what you and I need, and all we have to do is to be obedient, open our heart, and by faith receive it.

H. Our Lord is full of mercy and He wants to help us! But don't stop with obtaining mercy. Because the verse continues to say that you can also **"find grace to help in time of need."**

I. The word **"find"** is a translation of the often-used Greek word ***eurisko***. This word simply means to find. It expresses the idea of a discovery that is made by ***searching***.

A9. Usually, the word ***eurisko*** points to a discovery made ***due to an intense investigation, scientific study, or scholarly research***. There is nothing of ***chance*** left to this kind of investigation.

AA. After working long-hours and searching for a long time, the time and effort finally pays off as the researcher finds what he or she has been seeking.

AB. In that ecstatic moment of euphoria, there is a shriek, **"Eureka!"** – which means, **"I found it!"** In fact, the word **"eureka"** is derived from the word ***eurisko*** that is translated "find" in Hebrews 4:16, informing us of the joy experienced when a seeker finds what he or she has sought for so long.

AC. Maybe you have sought God's help for a long time. Perhaps you have prayed for it and searched for it. You have heeded the Lord's Word to ask, seek, and knock (see Matthew 7:8; Luke 11:10), and you have been persistent like the woman who knocked on the judge's door and never gave up (see Luke 18:1-8).

AD. Finally, the door opens, and you receive the help you needed.

Go ahead, shout, "Eureka!" I've found it! - [Don't forget to say – Thank You Lord!]

IV. Exposition [Part III]

A. Here is something else that is very important about the word

eurisko. This word doesn't just describe a discovery made for your yourself; it can also mean ***to acquire something for someone else***.

For example, do you know someone in need of some kind of help?

- ☒ Do you know someone who needs physical healing?
- ☒ Do you know someone who needs deliverance from something?
- ☒ Do you know someone who needs peace of mind?
- ☒ Do you know someone who needs a financial breakthrough?

B. Because the word **eurisko** also means to acquire something for

someone else, it means that you can go to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, our Great High Priest, and seek Him for help on behalf of others.

Comment: This means that the Lord wants to hear about your needs and the needs of those you love and hold dear to your heart.

V. Exposition [Part IV]

A. Let us now look at the phrase “**help in time of need.**” This phrase is a translation of the Greek word **boetheia**, a word with a military connotation.

B. The word **boetheia** can be translated **to help**, or ***to help a person with his or her needs***, but the military connotation of this word adds much more meaning and makes it really powerful.

c. In the world of the early New Testament, it was a military word that beckoned soldiers to battle. The word **boetheia**, depicted the exact moment when a soldier heard that his fellow fighter was entrenched in battle, captured, or struggling.

D. Once alerted to the situation, the soldier quickly went into battle to fight for the safety and well-being of his fellow fighter.

E. For that soldier rendering assistance, just hearing of a fellow fighter in need was all that was necessary to call him into battle.

F. The Holy Spirit uses this same word to tell us that when we get into trouble and we tell Jesus about it, He goes into battle like a Mighty Warrior to be our defense and to secure our deliverance.

Comment: When Jesus fights, He is always winning! Therefore, if the Lord is fighting our battles, we too are winners.

G. So, the next time you are struggling, don't try to slug it out all

by yourself. Instead, go to Jesus and tell Him your situation because He can handle it.

Why fight alone when the Greatest Warrior in the universe is willing to fight for you?

h. More than 2000 years ago, Jesus died for you and me, but

today – and right at this very moment – He is living to fight for your every need! Isn't that Good News?

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find help in time of need.”

It is once again interactive time. Please fill in the blank spaces to complete the biblical passages below. As always, each passage of Scripture has been taken from the King James Version (KJV) of the Holy Bible.

“Cast thy _____ upon the Lord, and he shall _____ thee: he shall _____ suffer the righteous to be _____.”

[Psalm 55:22]

“Come unto me, all ye that _____, and are _____, and I will give you _____.”

[Matthew 11:28]

“The Lord is my _____, and my _____, and my _____. My God, my _____, in whom I will trust; my _____, and the horn of my salvation, and my high _____.”

[Psalm 18:2]

“Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the _____ and the _____ by thy great _____ and _____ out arm, and there is _____ too hard for thee.

Thou showest _____ unto _____, and recompensest the _____ of the fathers into the _____ of their children after them: the _____, the _____ God, the Lord of hosts, is his name.

Great in _____, and mighty in work: for thine _____ are upon all the _____ of the sons of men: to give every one according to his _____, and _____ to the _____ of his doings:”

[Jeremiah 32:17-19]

“ _____ unto me, and I will _____ thee, and show thee _____ and _____ things, which thou _____ not.”

[Jeremiah 33:3]

Questions For You To Consider

1. Can you think of a time when you boldly approached the throne of God and received help in your time of need? What happened as a result of you boldly asking for help?
2. Are there others you know, and you are aware that they really need you (or someone) to bring their name before the throne of grace?
3. Is there a moment or a time you can recall where Jesus stepped forward like a Mighty Warrior and fought for you when you were in need?

My prayer is that this lesson has challenged and encouraged you and as a result, you have been blessed. As always, please feel free to share what you have gleaned with others.

Jude 3

Pastor Austin