

*Trusting the Truth of the Gospel:  
An Active Pursuit of the Devine Nature*

**Key Idea**

Jesus came to give us perfect righteousness, pursue it with all your might through an active discipleship and a regular confession.

**2 Peter 1:4**

...[Jesus] has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become *partakers of the divine nature*, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

**Hebrews 12:14**

*Strive* for peace with everyone, and *for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord*.

*Devote yourself to the Word...*

*Devote yourselves to the Church...*

*Devote yourself to Prayer...*

*(Acts 2:42)*

*Devote yourself to a life of joyful Submission...*

Notes:

**Advent 2015**

Responding to the Gift of God: A Call to Worship – Hebrews 10:19–39

*Trust the Truth of the Gospel*

**Sermon Outline – November 29, 2015**

**Children's Sermon: Help My Unbelief!**

- ❖ A Modern Proverb: "*Seeing is believing.*"
  - What does this mean? Is this true?
  - What is faith?

**Hebrews 11:1, 3 (HCSB)**

<sup>1</sup> Now **faith is** the *reality* [existence] of what is hoped for, the *proof of what is not seen*. ... <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was created by God's command, so that what is seen has been made from things that are not visible.

❖ **Moses:** "*this shall be the sign for you that I have sent you...*" (Ex. 3:12)

**Mark 9:24**

"I believe; help my unbelief!"

*What is the Truth?*

Notes:

**Truth #1: We are Given Access to God's Holy Throne!**

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places... (Tabernacle Diagram; Cf. Heb. 8:1-5)

The Danger God's Judgment:

<sup>26</sup> For *if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth*, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but *a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries*. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>29</sup> How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? <sup>30</sup> For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." <sup>31</sup> *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

- ❖ God's Holiness reminds us not to trust in our own goodness! (**Driving the speed limit**)

**Truth #2: Jesus is the Only Way** (Amazing Grace)

<sup>19</sup> ...we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and... we have a great priest over the house of God...

The Way of Mediated Sacrifice:

- ✓ The Burnt Offering, Sin Offering & Peace Offering
- ✓ Mediator (**Lev.16**)

*Do We Trust the Truth?***...by Drawing Near with Jesus**

<sup>19</sup> ...since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith...

How Do We Draw Near? Seeing with Our Ears:**2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:4b-6**

<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. ...

...the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

<sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord... <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Washed by Christ...**

...with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Cleansing the Priests: (Lev.8)

- ✓ Wash with Water – Bronze Basin (Lev. 8:6)
- ✓ Clothe, Slaughter...
- ✓ Sprinkle – Anointing Oil & Blood (Lev. 8:30; Cf. Lev. 19; Heb. 9:13-14)
- ✓ Eat...7 Days (New Creations)

**Psalm 51:17**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

How are We Washed? Both Passive & Active:**Ephesians 5:25-27**

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

**Titus 3:5-6** (Cf. 1 Corinthians 6:11)

<sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior...

**Ezekiel 36:25-27** (Cf. John 3:5; Revelation 7:14)

<sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. <sup>26</sup> And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

**1 John 1:9** (Personally and Corporately)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.