

The Light of the World
Jesus Has Come to Pay Our Ransom
Hebrews 4:14-16

It can be intimidating to walk into a courtroom, especially if you are the one on trial. Perhaps that is one reason why built into our justice system is the right to an attorney. We need someone who is familiar the procedures of the court, who knows its etiquette, and is deeply knowledgeable in the intricacies of the law. Most of us feel inadequate in every aspect of trying to represent ourselves. We need someone to stand with us and advocate for us.

1. Jesus sympathizes with us.

2. Jesus represents us.

3. Jesus offers himself in our place.

4. Jesus advocates for us.

Our great High Priest does not just point us down certain paths. He doesn't just inspire us with stories from the past. He doesn't just meet with us on Sundays to give us the game plan for the week. He is right there walking down the path with us. He is right there inspiring us in our own stories. He is right there every day of the week, helping us and strengthening us in aspect of life. If we would let Him. If we would trust Him. If we would hold fast to Him. After all, He paid our ransom.

For further consideration:

Look back at the truths and claims the author makes about Jesus in Hebrews 2. Think about how they complement and support the truths and claims made in 4:14-16. What three characteristics does Hebrews 4:14 ascribe to Jesus and how are these attributes intended to help us hold fast to our confession? What is our most basic confession of faith? How does that confession inform our personal decision making, our attitude towards others, and our willingness to seriously consider our role in the mission of Christ? Why is it so important that we know that Jesus can sympathize with sinners? What is the difference between temptation and sin? Why are only Christians able to come boldly to the throne of grace? Why are Christians sometimes apprehensive to take advantage of the invitation to approach God?