

Frankincense: A Gift Fit for a Priest

The Three Gifts #2 – Pastor Gary Combs – 12/14/14 – Hebrews 4:14-16

Hebrews 4:14-16 (ESV) ¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

How to give Jesus the gift of frankincense this Christmas:

1. Recognize His superior status as our _____.

Job 9:33 (NIV) If only there were someone to mediate between us, someone to bring us together

Hebrews 8:6 (NIV) But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

1 Timothy 2:5 (ESV) For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus

John 1:18 (NIV) No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Matthew 1:22-23 (ESV) All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

2. Trust His superior sympathy as our _____.

John 15:15 (ESV) No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Hebrews 2:18 (GW) Because Jesus experienced temptation when he suffered, he is able to help others when they are tempted.

John 15:13 (ESV) Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

3. Rely on His superior access as our _____.

Ephesians 2:18 (ESV) For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

1 John 2:1 (ESV) My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Hebrews 7:22-25 (ESV) This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.