



Day Three Devotional.

By Josh Harrison

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*19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. 23 **Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.***

Before we dive into our second “let us,” two quick reminders. First, everything that we’re invited to do is **respond** to what God has already done. He is not like every other god with whom the order is, “Let us so that he will.” Instead, here, it is, “He has so let us.” In other words, all our doing is predicated on *his* doing. We can know him because he knows us. We can be near to him because he has drawn near to us. We can love him because he first loved us. Second, as we discussed yesterday, when we consider the magnitude of what God has done for us, a boring, polite, “Isn’t that nice. Now, let us...” is probably not what the writer of Hebrews had in mind. Instead, we should read these with a whole lot more enthusiasm. “You guys! Can you believe what God has done?! This changes everything! We have to respond! Let us...”

Now, with that in mind, “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.” If we were right to paraphrase yesterday’s “Let us draw near” as, “What are you waiting for?! Run to him!” then, I’d paraphrase today’s “Let us” as,

“And don’t settle for anything less.”

You see, while everything that the writer of Hebrews has told us is true—Jesus is our high priest and our atoning sacrifice, and through him, the Holy of Holies is wide open to us—it doesn’t always seem like it. The environments within and around us often make it difficult for us even to be aware of the presence of God let alone to want to pursue him with single-minded devotion. Every day, we experience temptation, distraction, disappointment, heartbreak, anxiety, apathy, and so much more. And when we do, it’s so easy to forget that God has drawn near to us, that his presence—and the joy that is found there—is available to us. So, rather than running straight to him, we veer off course and run to other things for security, comfort, affection, and satisfaction. But none of the things we turn to deliver what they promise.

Which is why the writer of Hebrews encourages us to hold unswervingly to hope in God because he *is* faithful. He will make good on his promises. When we run straight to him, not veering to the right or to the left, we will find him, and in his presence we will find security, comfort, affection, satisfaction, and so much more. He will not fail us.

