

“Exposed But Still Welcome”

Hebrews 4:12-16

February 25, 2024

I. The Effects of God’s Word (vs. 12-13)

A. Its Objective Effects

1. God’s Word powerfully accomplishes all that God intends.

Isaiah 55:11 - so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. God’s Word truly exposes and definitively condemns sinners.

B. Its Subjective Effects

1. The Scriptures often reveal to *us* who we *really* are.
2. This can leave us feeling distant and disowned by God.

II. Our Welcoming High Priest (vs. 14-16)

- A. As our Priest, Jesus has already made a perfect offering for our sins (His own body and blood!).

Hebrews 5:1 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

- B. Having suffered like us with temptation (though without sin), Jesus remains sympathetic toward wayward and imperfect believers.

Psalms 103:14 - For He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are only dust.

- C. Believers can always confidently draw near to God’s throne to receive mercy, grace, and help from our Eternal High Priest.