

WORSHIP IN HEBREWS

“Let Us Draw Near”

“The glory of the gospel, is this:

The one from whom we need
to be saved is the One who
saved us.”

(R. C. Sproul)



**Barriers between the individual and God
under the Old Covenant**

The Veil

Exodus 26:33

And you shall hang the veil from the clasps. Then you shall bring the ark of the Testimony in there, behind the veil. The veil shall be a divider for you between the holy place and the Most Holy.

In the New Covenant,

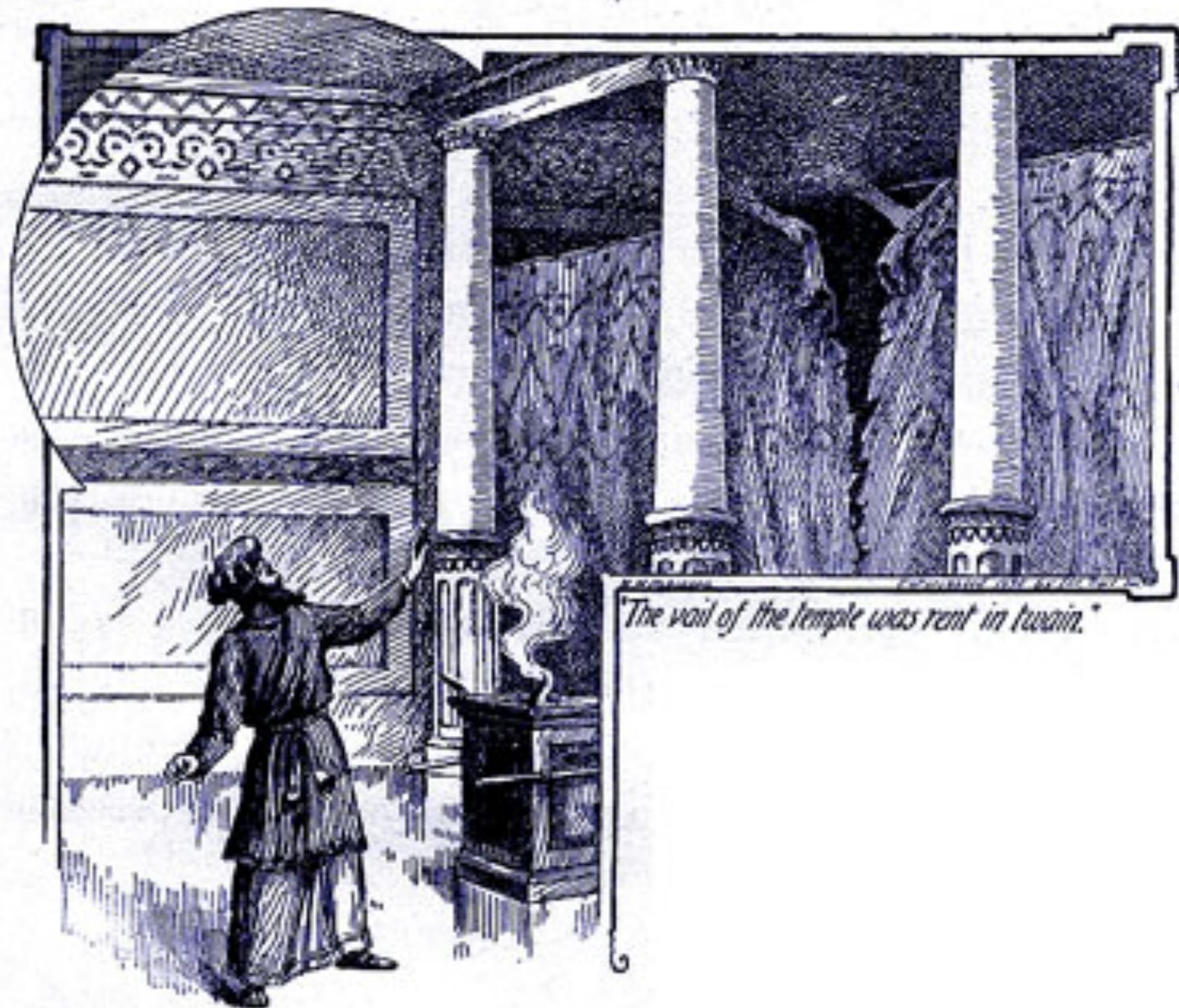
Was Torn

Matthew 27:51

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

you have direct access to God





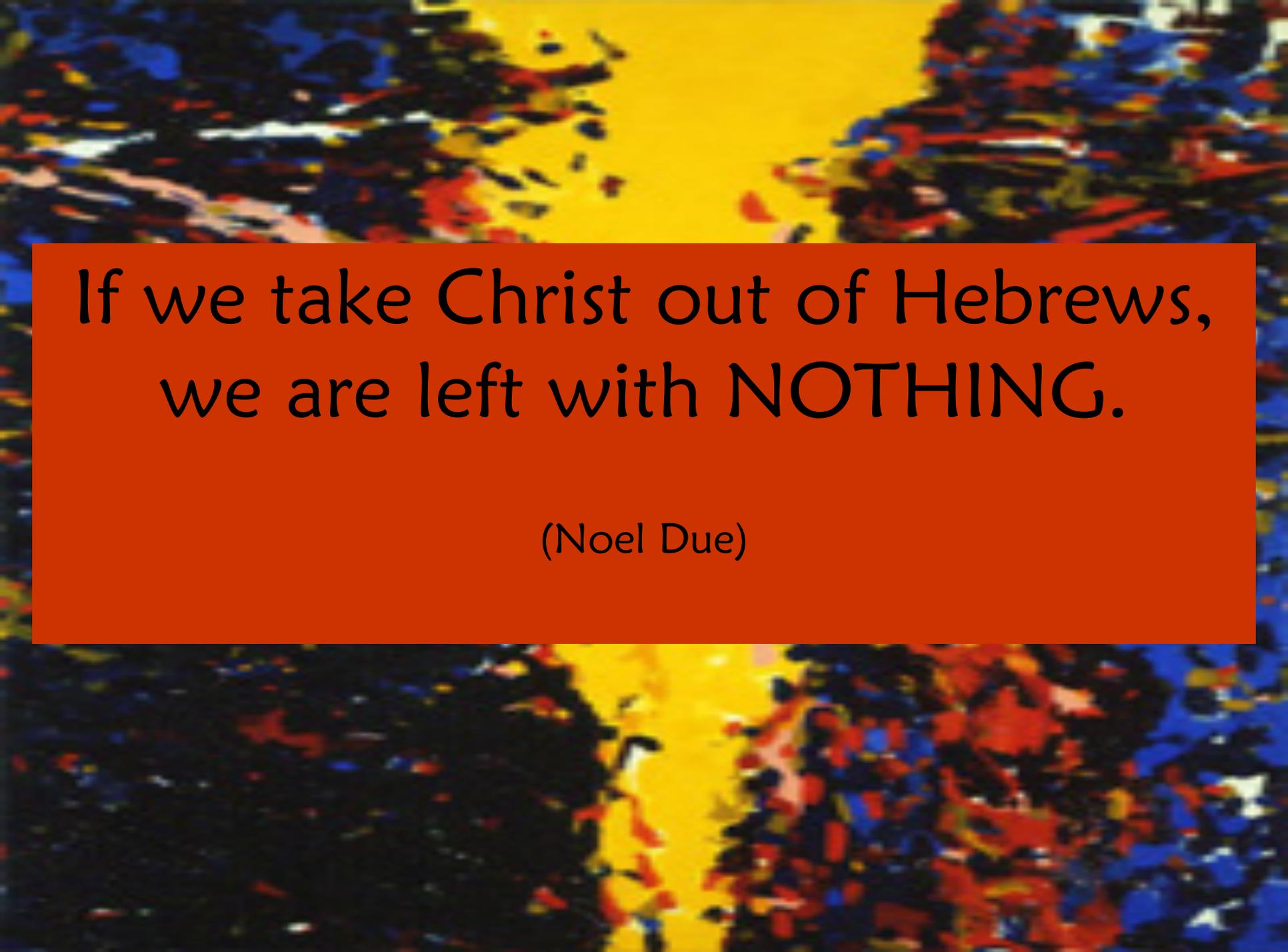
"The veil of the temple was rent in twain."



ACCESS!

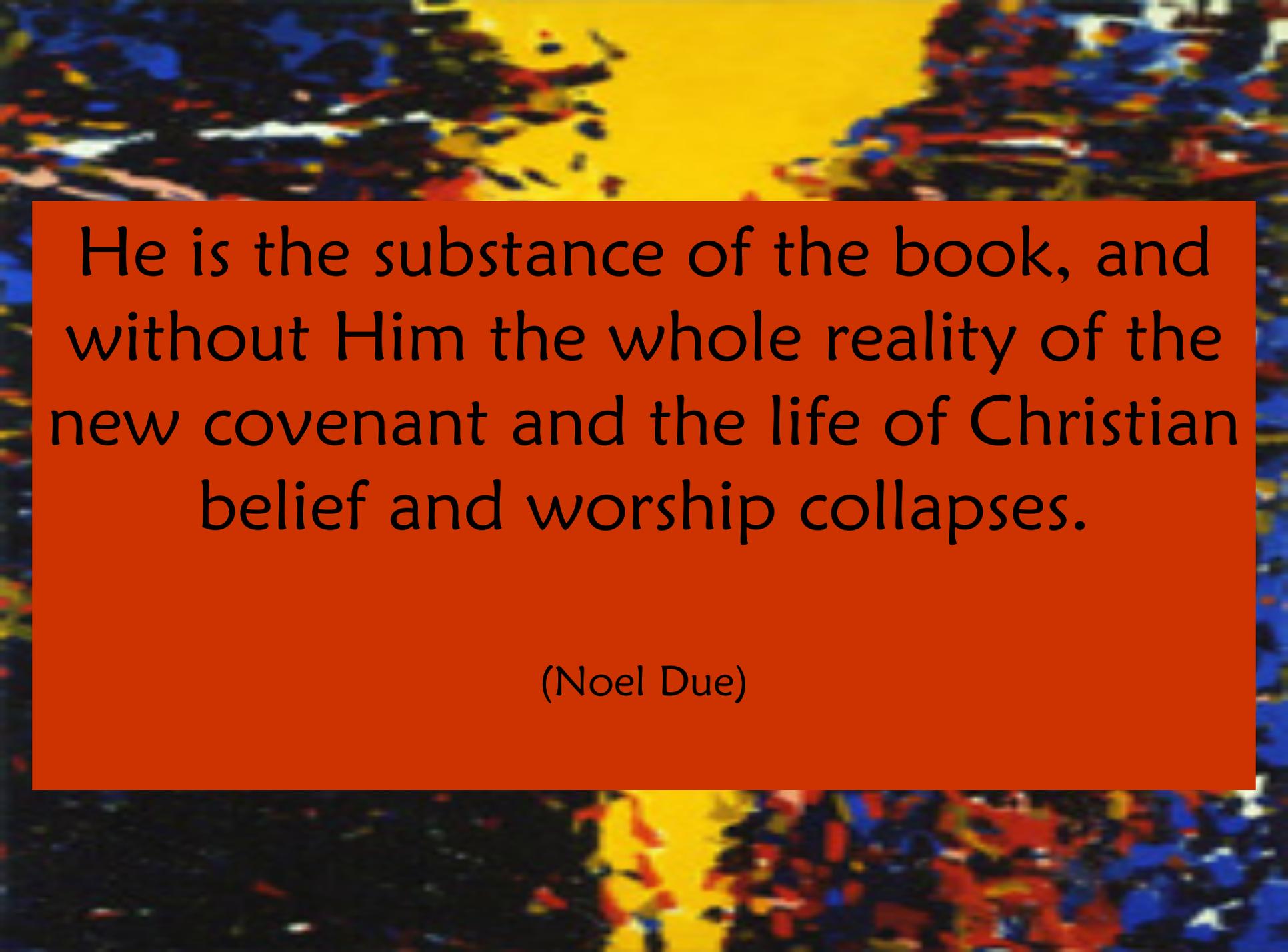
Let us draw near ...
(Hebrews 10:22)





If we take Christ out of Hebrews,
we are left with NOTHING.

(Noel Due)



He is the substance of the book, and without Him the whole reality of the new covenant and the life of Christian belief and worship collapses.

(Noel Due)



I. A BETTER WAY

II. A BETTER MEDIATOR

III. A BETTER WORSHIP

The background is a complex, abstract composition. A bright yellow path or beam of light runs vertically down the center, starting from the top and extending towards the bottom. This path is flanked by dark, almost black, areas that are densely packed with small, irregular shapes in various colors, including blue, red, and white. The overall effect is one of a textured, multi-colored environment, possibly representing a forest floor or a microscopic view of a material. The central yellow path provides a strong visual contrast and a sense of direction.

I. A BETTER WAY

BETTER:

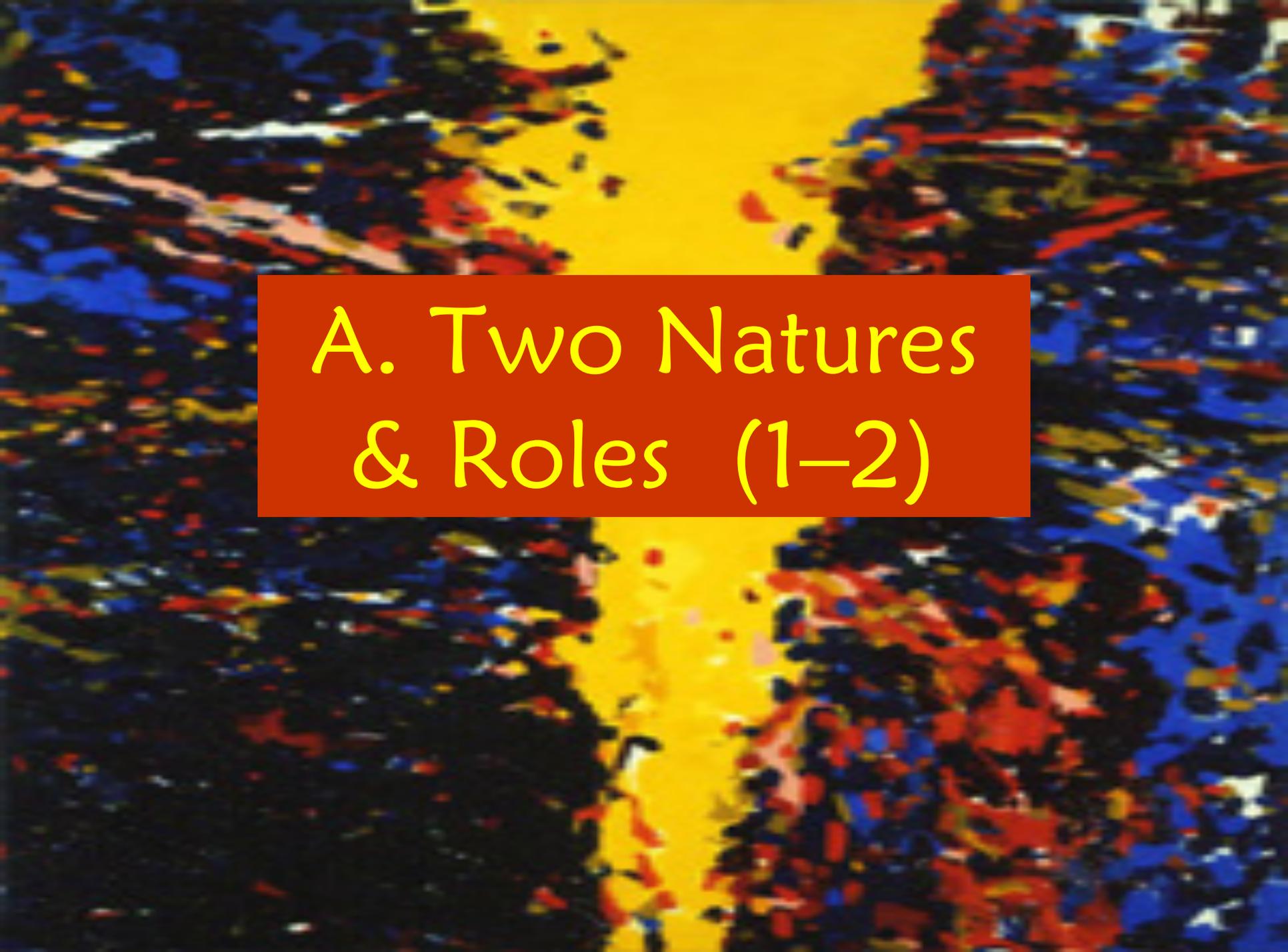
1:2-14	spokesman for God (the Son)
2:2-3	message (salvation)
3:3	rest
4:15	High Priest (tempted but sinless)
7:7,15-17	priestly order (of Melchizedek)
7:19	hope
7:21	priesthood (eternal)
7:22	covenant (better guarantor)
7:27; 9:26	sacrifice (priest Himself)
7:28	priest (perfect)
8:2; 9:11	tabernacle
8:6	ministry (better covenant)
8:6	covenant (better promises)
8:6	promises

BETTER:

8:11	knowledge of Lord
9:12; 12:24	blood
9:12	redemption (eternal)
9:14; 10:22	cleansing (of conscience)
9:14-15	inheritance (eternal)
9:23	sacrifices
9:24	holy place (in heaven)
9:26; 10:12,14	frequency (once for all)
8:10; 10:16	law (written on heart, mind)
8:19	access (to holy place)
12:22	mountain/city (Zion)
12:28	kingdom (cannot be shaken)
13:9	food (grace)
13:10	altar (Christ)



II. A BETTER MEDIATOR



A. Two Natures & Roles (1–2)

1. Worship of the Son

a. His deity (1:1-6)

God . . . has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. . . . “Let all God’s angels worship Him.”

1. Worship of the Son

b. His authority (1:7-14)

Of the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. . . . the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom. . . . You are the same, and Your years will have no end. . . . Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

2. Worship by the Son

a. His humanity (2:6-11)

“You made Him for a little while lower than the angels. . . .” For He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brethren.

2. Worship by the Son

b. His priesthood (2:12-18)

“In the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.” . . . He had to be made like His brethren in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

3. Summary (3:1)

Therefore, holy brethren,
you who share in a heavenly calling,
consider Jesus,
the Apostle and **High Priest**
of our confession.

APOSTLE

(deity)

HIGH PRIEST

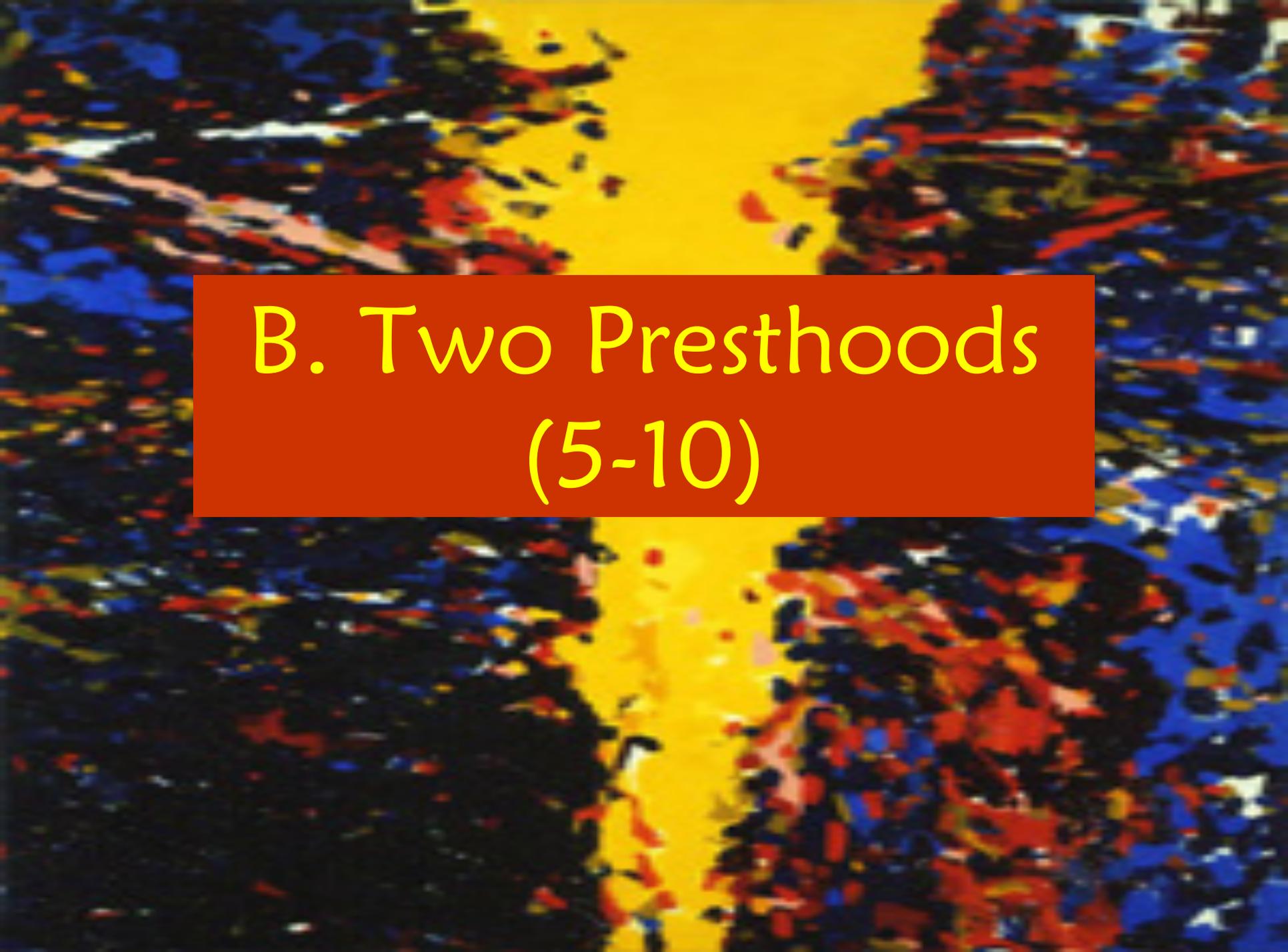
(humanity)

As Apostle, Christ bears witness for God, that He is Holy. As High Priest He acknowledges that witness and says Amen to it. Again as Apostle of God He confesses the mercy and grace of God, His will to pardon and reconcile. As High Priest He intercedes for men, and confesses them before the face of God.

(T. Torrance)

Revelation

Response



B. Two Presthoods (5-10)

1. Levitical Priesthood/ Order of Aaron

- weak, imperfect, sinful
- mortal, therefore temporary
- served a copy and shadow
- had to sacrifice for self too
- repeated sacrifices
- no cleansing of conscience
- or making perfect
- offered blood of bulls and goats

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How Priesthood of
Christ different?

2. Priesthood of Christ/ Order of Melchizedek

a. Christ like Melchizedek

- “king of Salem [Shalom]” (7:1)
- “king of righteousness” (7:2)
- without human pedigree (7:3,6)
- greater than Abraham and Levi (7:6-10)
- not from priestly line (7:11-16; 8:4)

Genesis 14:18-20

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)

And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.



Melchizedek blesses Abraham on
behalf of God,



MEDIATOR



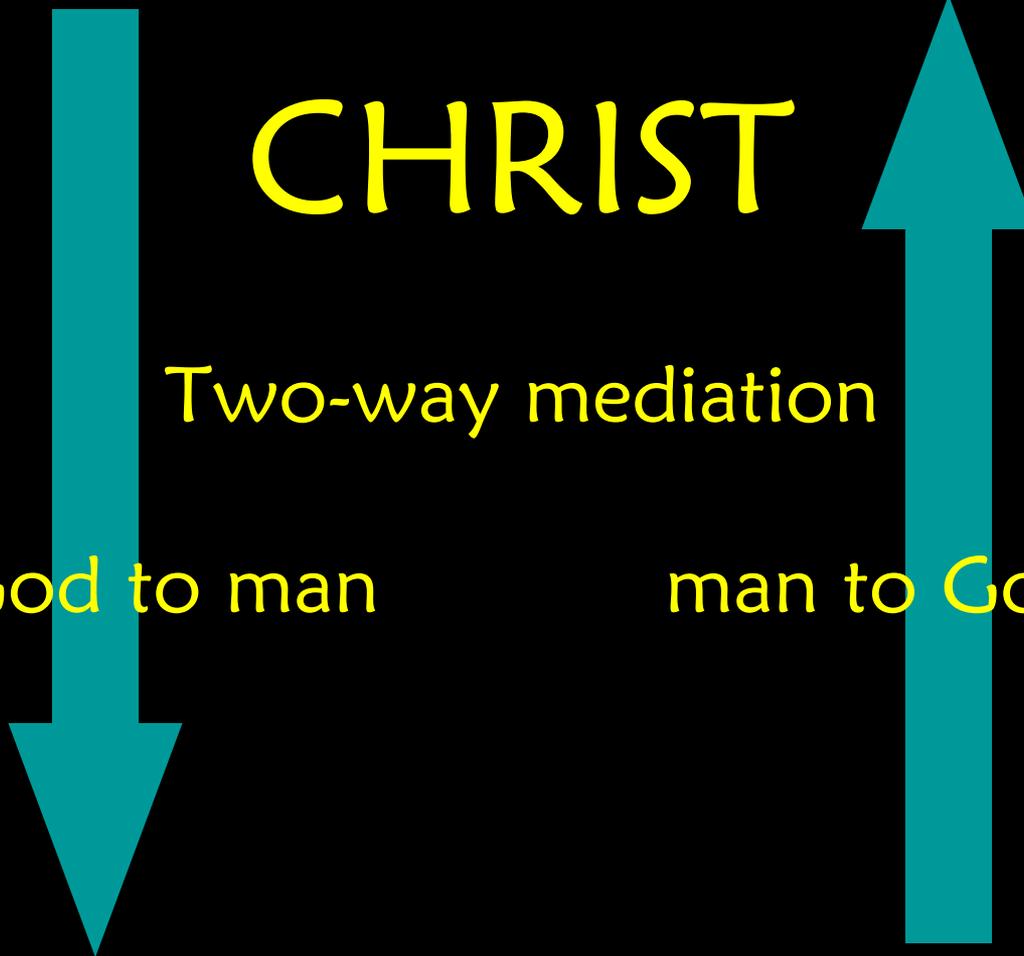
AND blesses GOD on behalf of
Abraham

CHRIST

Two-way mediation

God to man

man to God



2. Priesthood of Christ/ Order of Melchizedek

b. Entering the heavenly tabernacle (His sacrifice)

Hebrews 9:11 Christ . . . entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood.

2. Priesthood of Christ/ Order of Melchizedek

c. Ministering in the heavenly tabernacle
(His session and ongoing ministry)

Hebrews 8:1-2 We have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle.

3. Summary (7:23-25)

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office,

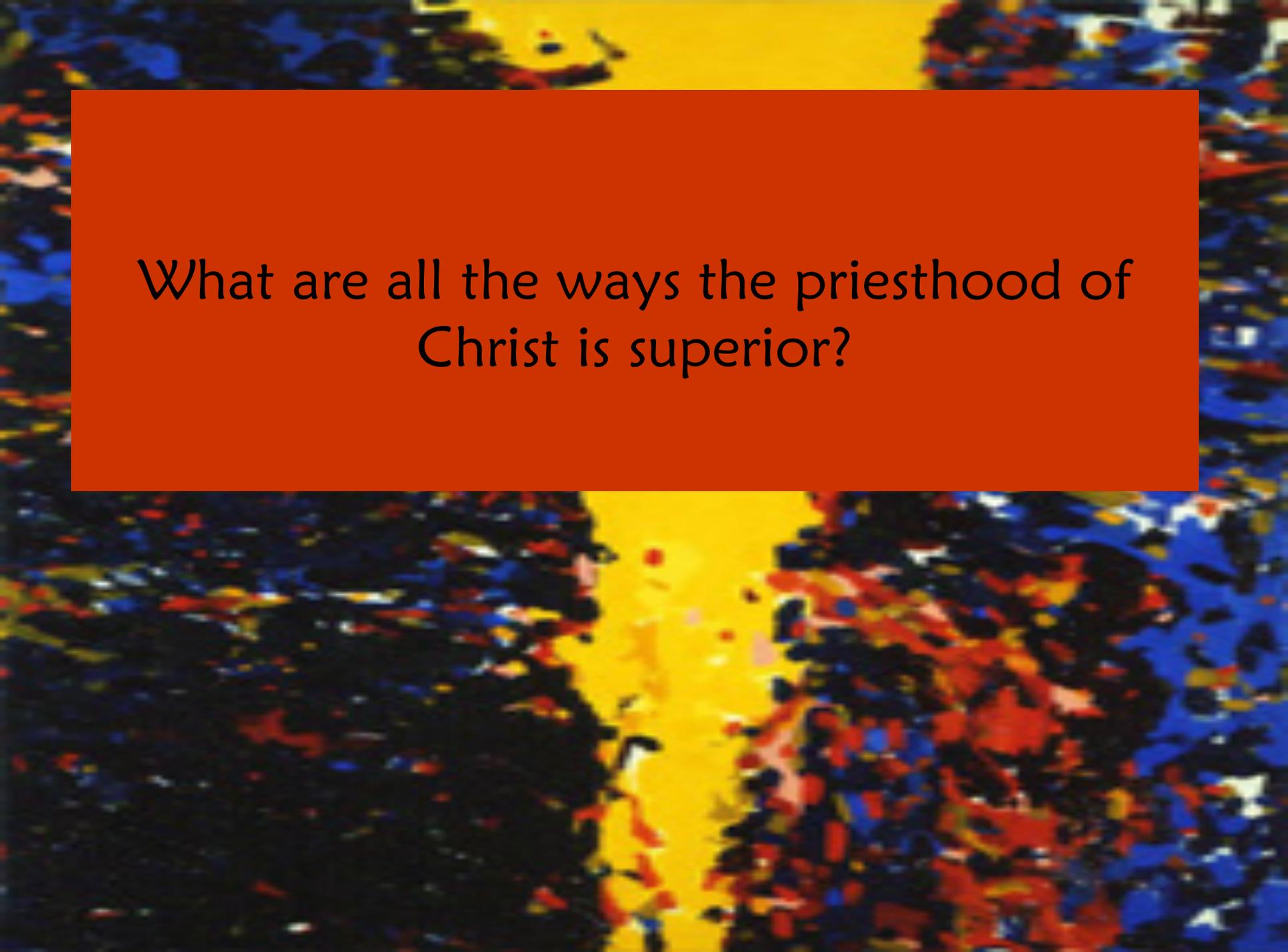
But He holds His priesthood permanently, because He continues forever.

CONSEQUENTLY, He is able to save FOREVER those who draw near to God through him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

3. Summary (10:11-14)

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can **never** take away sins.

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God. . . . For by a **single** offering He has perfected for **all** time those who are being sanctified.



What are all the ways the priesthood of Christ is superior?



III. A BETTER WORSHIP

(10:19-22's summary of themes)

III. A BETTER WORSHIP (10:19-22)

THEREFORE, brethren,

since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that He opened for us through the curtain, that is, through His flesh,

and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

let us draw near

with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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“LET US DRAW NEAR”

proserchomai

Hebrews 4:16 Let 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.

Hebrews 7:25 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.

Hebrews 10:1 the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who **draw near**.

Hebrews 12:18,22,28 For you have not come to what may be touched . . . but you have **come** to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. . . . Therefore . . . let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe.

1 Peter 2:4-5 As you **come** to Him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

III. A BETTER WORSHIP (10:19-22)

Therefore, brethren,

SINCE we have confidence to enter the holy place by
PAST WORK the blood of Jesus,
by the new and living way that He opened for us
through the curtain, that is, through His flesh,

and **SINCE** we have a great priest over the house of
PRESENT WORK God,

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of
faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil
conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

CHRIST'S PRIESTLY MINISTRY

Past

1:3

2:9-10

3:1

5:7-8

7:26-27

9:11-14

9:23

9:26

10:10

10:12-14

10:19-20

12:2

12:24

13:12

13:20

CHRIST'S PRIESTLY MINISTRY

Present

- He leads our worship (2:12; 3:1; 8:1-2,6; 10:21; 13:15)
- He intercedes for us and comes to our aid (2:18; 4:14-16; 7:25; 9:24; 13:21)
- He guarantees our eternal salvation (7:25)

III. A BETTER WORSHIP (10:19-22)

Therefore, **BRETHREN**,

since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the
blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that He
opened for us through the curtain, that
is, through His flesh,

and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

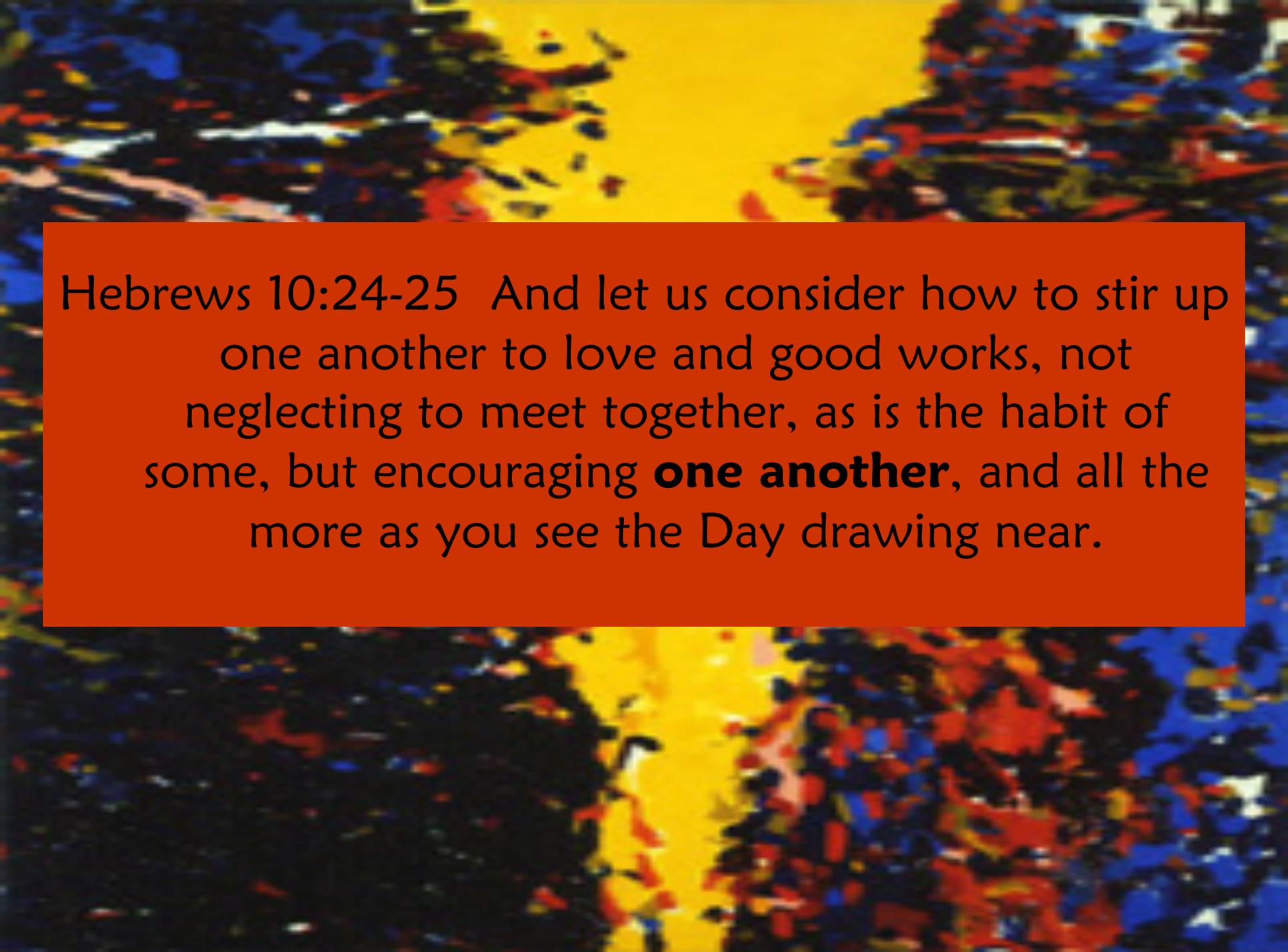
let **US** draw near

with a true heart in full assurance of faith,
with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience
and our bodies washed with pure water.

III. A BETTER WORSHIP (10:19-22)

“He is not ashamed
to call [us] brethren!” (2:11)

(see also 2:13,17; 3:1,12; 7:5; 13:22)



Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging **one another**, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brothers, since we have CONFIDENCE to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus . . . let us draw near with a true heart in full ASSURANCE of faith

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then with CONFIDENCE draw near to the throne of grace

Hebrews 12:28 Therefore let us be GRATEFUL for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with REVERENCE and AWE

Hebrews 13:15 Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of PRAISE to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.

CONCLUSION

Hebrews 13:15

THROUGH HIM

then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Hebrews 7:25 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.

2 Corinthians 1:20 therefore also THROUGH HIM is our Amen to the glory of God through us.

Ephesians 2:18 For THROUGH HIM we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father THROUGH HIM.

WORSHIP

Through Christ

In Christ

By Christ

With Christ

“LET US DRAW NEAR...”

...through Christ

...in Christ

...with Christ



Your favorite passage in Hebrews?



Breathe!