

Hope Christian Church
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Sermon Series: *Hebrews: The Supremacy of Christ*



Jesus: The Source of Eternal Salvation for Those Who Obey Him

Three Reasons Jesus Can Save You Forever

Hebrews 5:5-10 (ESV)

⁵ So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

"You are my Son,

today I have begotten you”;

⁶ as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Introduction

The author of Hebrews is writing to fully persuade you of the superiority and sweetness of Jesus. Jesus is superior over the great prophets of the past, great angels, great leaders—like Moses, and even great priests—like Aaron. Jesus is unlike any other person who has ever lived. And he is the sweetest Savior. The author of Hebrews is writing to help you worship Jesus and draw near to God through him. He aims at help you rest all of your confidence and hope for eternal life in Jesus alone. He’s writing to help you get into heaven. He wants you to love Jesus with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. He is striving to help you see how sweetly satisfying a living relationship with Christ can be.

Jesus the Great High Priest

In the previous paragraph, 4:14-5:4, he introduced the notion of Jesus being “**a great high priest.**”¹ He is the only New Testament (NT) writer to think of Jesus in this way. He has already made it clear that Jesus is the Son of God², but now he wants us to think of Jesus as the Great High Priest of God.

The purpose of priests is “**to act on behalf of men in relation to God in offering gifts and sacrifices for sins**” (Heb. 5:1). God is so utterly holy and mankind so utterly sinful that we cannot even so much as enter God’s presence to offer a gift on our own, not to mention offering a sacrifice for sins. Someone—a priest—must serve as an intermediary between God and man. The author’s point now is that Jesus is the perfect intermediary. He’s the perfect priest.

As Iain explained [last week](#), Jesus is the greatest high priest. The high priest was the only one who, on one day each year, entered into the holy of holies, into the very presence of God

¹ Heb. 4:14.

² Heb. 1:2, 5, 8; 3:6; 4:14.

himself, in order to offer atonement for the sins of the people. The holy of holies was separated from the holy place by a 30 foot tall curtain. Yet Jesus, in offering himself as a sacrifice for sins on the cross, opened the way for man to commune with God. As Jesus died on the cross, that 30 foot tall curtain was torn apart from top to bottom—meaning that God was the One doing the tearing—thus signifying that now through Jesus anyone, not just a priest, could enter into the holy presence of God. The point is that *only through Jesus can anyone enter into the presence of God the Father*. Jesus is the one priest through whom we can enter into the presence of and enjoy communion with God the Father. This was the main point of last week's sermon on 4:14 - 5:4.

However, the main point of today's text, 5:5-10, is one step deeper than that. The main point of today's text is found in verse nine. Not only is Jesus the way into the presence of God the Father, but he is the only way to *remain* in the presence of the Father. Jesus doesn't merely get you occasional or *momentary* access to God the Father, he gets you *eternal* access to God the Father.

Main point: Jesus is the great high priest who is the source of eternal salvation for those who obey him (v.9).

Three Reasons Jesus is the Source of Eternal Salvation

Jesus is the only priest who can save you forever. The author offers three reasons why Jesus is the source of eternal salvation & thus can save you forever. First, because God himself has appointed Jesus as this great high priest (5:5-6). Second, because Jesus is a high priest who always gets his prayers answered (5:7). Third, because Jesus remains in his office of high priest forever (5:8-10). So, the priesthood of Jesus is superior to the priesthood of Aaron as well as all other priests because he alone is a divinely *appointed* high priest, because he is a passionate, *praying* high priest, and because he is a *permanent* high priest.

1) Because of His Divine Appointment

The first reason ***Jesus can save you forever is because he was appointed to the office of high priest by God himself***. He was not elected into office by the popular opinion of his peers. He didn't become the great high priest because no one else wanted to do it. Neither was he self-appointed because he was young and ambitious. Jesus was appointed The Great High Priest by God the Father himself.

How does the author of Hebrews arrive at this conclusion? Because he read and studied his Bible, which is our Old Testament (OT). He points out two OT passages from the book of Psalms.

Hebrews 5:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,
"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you";
⁶ as he says also in another place,
"You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek."

Notice first that the author of Hebrews understands the OT to be divinely inspired down to the smallest details. The first quote, verse five, is a from **Psalm 2:7**. These are words first spoken by God the Father to king David and they reflect the promise that He made to David³ that one of his sons would forever reign upon David's throne. The author of Hebrews understands that Jesus is the final fulfillment of God's promise to David (which was only partially fulfilled through David's son, Solomon).

The second quote comes from **Psalm 110:4**. Both of these psalms are understood to be Messianic psalms, meaning they find partial fulfillment in either David (and in some measure Solomon), but their ultimate fulfillment will not come until messiah comes.

How Do We Know Psalm 2:7 & 110:4 Should Be Applied to Jesus?

Why would the author of Hebrews think these two passages point to Jesus of Nazareth rather than to someone else? How can we be sure that he is rightly understanding these psalms? How do we know that these OT verses should be applied to Jesus? I can think of two reasons.

First, Psalm 2:7, which is quoted in verse 5, refers to a declaration by God that messiah is his Son. God the Father, on two occasions, proclaimed out loud—audibly—from heaven that Jesus was his Son. The first occasion was at Jesus' baptism and the second was at his transfiguration.⁴ There is no other indication throughout the whole recorded history of mankind that God has done this of any other person. Jesus is the only person whom God the Father has publicly and audibly declared to be his Son. So the author of Hebrews is correct to apply Psalm 2:7 to Jesus of Nazareth.

The apostle Paul also affirms that God declared Jesus to be his Son by raising him from the dead.

Romans 1:4 (ESV)

⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

³ 2 Sam. 7:12-16.

⁴ ESV Study Bible note at Heb. 1:5. God spoke words of divine sonship at Jesus' baptism (Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22; cf. Matt. 3:17) and his transfiguration (Matt. 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35); see also Acts 13:33.

Secondly, Jesus is the only person ever to be resurrected from the dead, received directly into heaven without dying a second time, and then seated at the right hand of God. Neither Mohammed nor the Buddha is given this honor. The first verse of psalm 110 records David writing this,

Psalms 110:1 (ESV)

A Psalm of David.

¹ *The LORD says to my Lord:*

“Sit at my right hand,

until I make your enemies your footstool.”

David is here writing and telling us that the LORD (i.e. Yahweh) said to “my Lord,” who is someone other than David, “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.” The question is to whom is Yahweh speaking? He is not speaking to David, because David is listening to this and reporting this conversation that he heard. The other person to whom God is speaking is a person whom David calls “my Lord.” This is someone who is superior to king David. Yahweh was speaking to whoever he chose to seat at his right hand. So we must discover who is seated at Yahweh’s right hand in order to understand who this third person is.

We are told in Acts 1:6-11, that Jesus was taken up into heaven on a cloud as the disciples were watching, and then subsequent testimony reveals that Jesus of Nazareth is now seated at the right hand of God.⁵ Before his death and crucifixion Jesus prophesied several times that he would be seated at God’s right hand.⁶ In fact, Jesus again made this claim during his trial and it was this statement that the high priest, Caiaphas, declared was sufficiently blasphemous to make him worthy of death.⁷

After his ascension, Stephen—as he was being stoned to death for preaching salvation through Jesus—was allowed to see into heaven. What he saw was Jesus at the right hand of God the Father.⁸ Peter affirmed this, as did Paul, the author of Hebrews, and the apostle John.

Therefore, since God exalted Jesus of Nazareth to sit at his right hand, then Psalm 110 is ultimately about Jesus. So if Psalm 110:1 (“Sit at my right hand...”) is about Jesus, then so is Psalm 110:4, which states that he “*is a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.*”

Therefore, we can trust the author of Hebrews. He is correct to apply Psalm 110:4 to Jesus of Nazareth. He is correct to understand Jesus to be God’s Great High Priest after the order of Melchizedek. Therefore it is right for us to agree with him.

⁵ Mk. 16:19; Act. 7:55; Rom. 8:34; Eph. 1:20; Col. 3:1; Heb. 8:1; 1 Ptr. 3:22; Rev. 3:21; cf. Mt. 22:43-44.

⁶ Mt. 26:64; Mk. 14:62; 16:19; Lk. 22:69.

⁷ Mt. 26:64-66.

⁸ Acts 7:55.

Jesus is a superior priest to Aaron because God himself appointed Jesus to be his Great High Priest. Jesus did not take this honor for himself. God confirmed his appointment of Jesus to this office by first publicly and audibly declaring that Jesus was his Son and second by raising Jesus from the dead and seating him at his right hand. Jesus is a superior high priest because of his divine appointment. God chose Jesus alone to be his high priest therefore it is Jesus alone who can save you forever.

2) Because He is a Passionate, Praying High Priest

Jesus is the source of eternal salvation because **he is a reverent, passionate, praying high priest**. Part of the duty of a priest is to go before God on behalf of the people and plead with him to be gracious and merciful to undeserving people. Jesus is the Great High Priest because he can *“sympathize with our weaknesses because he has been tempted in every respect as we are, yet he never gave in to sin”* (Heb. 4:15). Because of this, Jesus passionately prays for his people and Jesus gets all of his prayers answered. He knows our weaknesses. He knows we won't make it to heaven without him.

Hebrews 5:7 (ESV)

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

Jesus prayed *“with loud cries and tears.”* If you know the story of Jesus' life, the first episode that comes to mind would be the Garden of Gethsemane. On the night before his crucifixion Jesus said that his *“soul was sorrowful to the point of death.”*⁹ We know that as he prayed in that garden that he was in such anguish that the blood vessels in his head burst and it looked as if he was sweating drops of blood.¹⁰ It's easy to imagine that night being a night of *“loud cries and tears”* as Jesus prayed, *“Father, if this cup can pass from me, then let it...but not my will, but your be done.”* But this verse teaches us much more than this.

In the Days of His Flesh

The phrase, *“in the days of his flesh,”* describes far more than just one event. The *“days of his flesh”* is descriptive of his whole life. It refers to all the days of his incarnation. This means that Jesus was a passionate prayer throughout his whole life. Jesus was often in prayer. Again and again we read in Scripture that Jesus rose early and went off to desolate places to pray to be alone with his Father.¹¹

Evidently, those weren't just mere moments of quick and hasty prayers. They were times when Jesus poured out his soul, pleading with his Father through *“loud cries and tears.”* He prayed

⁹ Mt. 26:38; Mk. 14:34.

¹⁰ Lk. 22:44.

¹¹ Mk. 1:35.

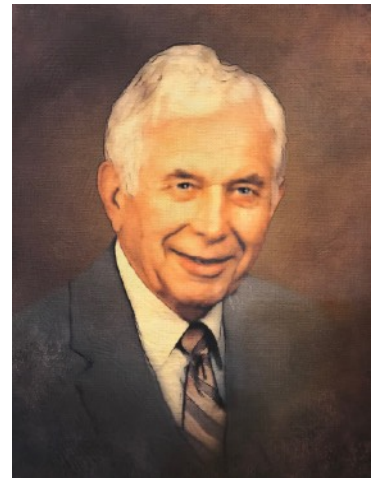
prayers of passionate supplications and earnest requests. Jesus wept, not only as Lazarus' graveside, but also in solitary prayer at his own bedside, as it were.

When's the last time you've prayed with "loud cries and tears?" When's the last time you got down on your face and prayed, such that when you stood up there were tear-stains on the couch? How long has it been since you have taken prayer that seriously? This is the way that holy people pray.

I've just returned from vacation. We went back to my hometown to visit my mother. My brother Mike met us there over the weekend. Mike told me a story about Raymond Hornbeck. Raymond was the father of my two best friends, the twins, Keith and Kevin. Raymond Hornbeck was holiest person I have ever personally known.

When I imagine what it would be like to meet Moses, the image that pops into my head is the image of Raymond Hornbeck. I could talk for a long time about Raymond, but I'll just tell you the story that my brother told me. Our families were very close.

Raymond had a small bookstore in his basement, filled with Bibles, Bible study guides, and books written by Christian theologians. Almost every Sunday evening after church we went to their house for coffee and fun. Mike told me that once he went over to visit the bookstore and he walked in the back door of the house and down the steps toward the basement bookstore. As he reached the basement floor, he heard someone weeping. He turned the corner and there was Raymond on his knees, weeping in prayer, pleading with God with tears streaming down his cheeks. This is was the kind of man he was.



If some random teenager was to wander into your house without knocking and sneak up on you in your basement, would you ever be caught weeping in prayer? This is the way holy people occasionally pray.

His Prayers Were Heard

In the days of his flesh, Jesus passionately prayed with "loud cries and tears." And his prayers were heard because of his reverence. This means his prayers were answered. This is not merely informing us that God was aware of Jesus' words. It is telling us that his prayers were answered. God responded to the passionate pleas and supplications of Jesus. Heaven was moved into action when Jesus was on his knees. Remember what Jesus told Peter. He said,

Luke 22:31-32 (ESV)

³¹ *"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."*

Jesus prayed for Peter. This is what a Great High Priest does. He goes to God on behalf of weak people. Jesus' prayer was answered. Peter's faith didn't finally fail. He kept his faith til the end of his life. Yes, he stumbled, but he did not fall headlong. Satan tripped Peter up on the night he denied Jesus three times, but Jesus forgave him and restored him. Peter tripped up again later on when decided to stop eating with Gentiles, but Paul was there to correct him and help him get back on his feet.¹² Jesus prayed that Peter's faith would not fail and it didn't. Peter's faith endured to the end of his life. ***Jesus is the Great High Priest who passionately prays for his people.*** Peter's faith endured to the end of his life because Jesus was everyday praying that it would do so. Peter's faith endured because his Great High Priest was praying for him.

Remember the sermon from a few weeks ago? Saving faith is an enduring faith. Peter stumbled a few times along the way, just as we all do. But he kept getting up. Peter kept the faith in Jesus firm to the end of his life. Why, because he was a really faithful guy? No, because Jesus, the Great High Priest, was praying for him. Jesus prays for all his children. Jesus is there, at the right hand of the Father, praying for the children of God to keep to the end of life the faith that He has given them.

Hebrews 7:25 (ESV)

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.*

Jesus can save you forever because he is the Great High Priest who is passionately praying for you forever. Jesus is the only priest you need. Just as Paul writes in his first letter to Timothy,

1 Timothy 2:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ *For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all,*

We don't need any other priest. You need not go to any man other than Jesus in order to find your way into the presence of God and to happily remain there. Jesus is the passionate, praying high priest. Jesus will take you into the presence of God the Father and through him you are allowed to remain in his presence, happily enjoying the communion with God that you were created to enjoy.

¹² Gal. 2:11-14.

Did God Hear Jesus' Prayer to Save Him From Death?

Verse seven says that "*Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.*"

You may be tempted to think, "Jesus didn't get his prayer answered because even though he prayed 'to him who was able to save him from death'—presumably that's God, he still died. So it appears that Jesus did *not* get his prayer answered, therefore, he's not such a great high priest."

This phrase does not mean that Jesus prayed that he would be saved from the experience death, but that he would be saved *out of* death. He wasn't praying to be kept from death, but from within death to be saved out of death. In other words, Jesus prayed that he would be saved from remaining dead. A better way of thinking of this is that Jesus prayed that from within death, he would be saved *out of* death. The Greek word translated '*from*' is *ek* (ἐκ), and can also be translated 'out of.'¹³ It is a preposition that "denotes the origin from which motion or action proceeds."¹⁴ Jesus was not praying that he would be prevented from entering death, but rather that once he gets inside it, he would be safely brought out from it.

Jesus Planned to Die & Chose to Die

We know Jesus did not seek to avoid death since he planned to die. Before the final week of his life, as Jesus journeyed with his disciples to Jerusalem, to what he knew would be his final Passover, three times he predicted that he would be killed (and then resurrected on the third day).¹⁵ He knew that he was about to die and he willingly embraced this painful aspect of God's will¹⁶ for him, even though it was agonizingly difficult.

John 12:27 (ESV)

²⁷ "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour."

Jesus was not running from death. He was running *to* death. Jesus willingly embraced the sacrificial death he was called to die. He chose to offer himself up to death. No one took his life. He willingly laid his life down.

John 10:17-18 (ESV)

¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.

¹³ James Strong, [Enhanced Strong's Lexicon](#) (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995).

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Mt. 16:21; 17:22; 20:17-18.

¹⁶ Is. 53:10.

Jesus didn't pray to escape the experience of death. If he had wanted to do that, he would have called down twelve legions of angels and he would have been delivered in an instant, but then Scripture would not have been fulfilled.¹⁷ Jesus came to fulfill all Scripture and dying was the central aspect of that fulfillment. Tasting death was part of God's will for Jesus.

So Jesus did not pray to God the Father to be saved from the *experience* of death, but rather to be saved from the *grip* of death. And we know his prayer was answered because Jesus was resurrected from death. Jesus willingly entered death and God saved Him *out of* death. Jesus was raised up *from* death into eternal life. God the Father answered his prayer and resurrected Jesus, who is never to die again. This leads us to the third reason Jesus can save you forever.

3) Because He is a Permanent High Priest

The third reason Jesus can save you forever is because he is **a permanent high priest**. His priesthood never ends. Jesus is high priest forever. The reason his priesthood is permanent is because his obedience was perfect.

Hebrews 5:8-10 (ESV)

⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

In saying that Jesus was "*made perfect*," this does **not** mean that he moved from a state of imperfection to perfection. We've seen this kind of language already back in 2:10. Neither does this mean that Jesus moved from being *sinful* to being *sinless*. The author of Hebrews very clearly affirms,

Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ For 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.

What this means is that Jesus went from being perfect without suffering to remaining perfect through suffering. It means he went from being perfectly divine to being perfectly human. It means that Jesus moved from untested obedience to tested obedience and he perfectly passed every test.

It means by becoming human Jesus was subjected to all the weaknesses, frailty, sickness, and temptation that all humans must endure every day and he remained perfectly obedient through every experience. Although he was Son, he still had to suffer through choosing to obey the will of the Father through every human experience rather than obeying the selfish tendencies of

¹⁷ Mt. 26:53-56.

human desires. Jesus suffered through daily choices to obey the divine will over human will. Jesus suffered through every temptation and he chose to obey his Father every time. Jesus became the perfect kind of savior and priest because he endured everything that we have to endure and he perfectly obeyed.

Therefore, since he perfectly obeyed, he is the perfect source of eternal salvation. He is the perfect source of eternal salvation because his priesthood is permanent. God designated Jesus to be High Priest *forever*, just like Melchizedek. The point here is that Jesus can save you forever because he is the Great High Priest forever. Jesus is the source of eternal salvation because his priesthood is permanent, just as Melchizedek's was permanent.

Who Is Melchizedek?

Where in the world does this character come from? How is this Melchizedek and why does the author of Hebrews bring him up here? Chapter seven is all about Melchizedek, so we'll deal with him in more detail when we get there, but mentioning a few details about him is necessary and helpful now.

Melchizedek is only mentioned twice in the Bible. First, in Genesis 14:18 and then again (about 1500 years later) in Psalm 110. The name Melchizedek means "*king of righteousness.*" This man was both king of Salem, which may be a shortened form of Jerusalem, which is related to the word "shalom," and he was also "*priest of God most High.*"

Melchizedek is unique because he is both a priest and a king. He is the first person in Scripture to occupy that dual role. Melchizedek came to meet and bless Abraham after Abraham had fought and defeated a king who had kidnapped his nephew, Lot. He is not mentioned again until Psalm 110:4, where the psalmist indicates that God has appointed messiah "a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

There is much mystery surrounding this king and much more to be said later when we get to chapter seven, however, the primary connecting point here between Melchizedek and Jesus is the permanence of their priesthood. Jesus is the source of eternal salvation because his priesthood never comes to an end. God has designated Jesus to be the Great High Priest *forever*. Because his priesthood is eternal, his ability to save is eternal.

All other men chosen by God to be priests held their priesthood before they died. Then their priesthood came to an end when they died. Thus death prevented them from continuing their priestly work. However, Jesus is different and vastly superior. Jesus became priest after he died and was resurrected. Therefore, his priesthood will never come to an end because he will never die again. Because Jesus lives forever, he can serve as priest forever, therefore he can save forever. Jesus is the source of eternal salvation because his priesthood is permanent.

For Whom Is Jesus' Priesthood Effective?

However, there is only a certain group of people whom Jesus serves as priest. For whom does Jesus act as Great High Priest? It is **those who obey him**. Look at verse nine.

Hebrews 5:9 (ESV)

⁹ *And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,*

Jesus is the source of eternal salvation only for **those who obey him**. He does not act as priest for those who disobey him. There is only judgment that awaits those who refuse to obey Jesus.¹⁸

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 (ESV)

⁷ *...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels* ⁸ *in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*

Does this mean that if we disobey him even once that he no longer acts as our Great High Priest? Does Jesus act as High Priest only for those who never disobey? No. Those who never disobey never sin and those who never sin do not need a priest or a savior. Only sinners need a savior. Jesus perfectly saves imperfect people who put their faith in him.

Hebrews 10:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ *For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.*

Being sanctified is the process by which we become ever more practically holy in our words, thoughts, and deeds. Only sinful people need to be sanctified. Yet, by putting your faith in Jesus and what he accomplished in his life, death, and resurrection, you are perfected for all time, even though you still have need of being sanctified.

Those who put their faith in Jesus are completely perfected in God's eyes even though there are still many areas of their lives that need to be sanctified and cleaned up. Jesus acts as Great High Priest on behalf of those who surrender their lives to Him and put all of their faith in Him. Paul calls this the **obedience of faith** and he explained that this was the purpose of his apostleship. Paul went about preaching...

Romans 1:4-5 (ESV)

...Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,

¹⁸ See 1 Ptr. 4:17.

If you truly put your faith in Jesus, it means that you trust that his ways are better than your ways. True faith surrenders its confidence into the hands of the one who is being trusted and therefore it obeys him. True saving faith fights against the sinful tendency to disobey that remains within our hearts even after we become born-again children of God.

Living in this place of obedience is the choice each child of God must make every day. Paul said, "*I die daily*" (1 Cor. 15:31). What he meant was that every day he had to choose to die to the part of him that desired to please men and be comfortable and at ease rather than living to please Christ and enduring the hardships that came from spreading the gospel and preaching to people who sought to beat him, whip him, and stone him for such preaching. Obeying Christ means desiring and doing God's will more than desiring and doing your own will. And so Jesus said,

John 6:40 (ESV)

⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Conclusion

This is eternal life. Looking to Jesus and believing in him as the source of eternal life is what faith is. Faith is placing all your trust in Him. And the reward for putting your faith and confidence in him is that He "will raise you up on the last day." This is great news! Keep putting your faith in him. Keep trusting him.

Christian, Jesus' prayers were heard because of his reverence (v.7). If your prayers aren't being answered like you want them to be, then perhaps you need to sit down and go through the reverence room in your heart. Are you filled with reverence for God? Do you think God will hear your prayers if you play around with irreverent things? If you fill your ears with irreverent music will God hear your prayers? If you fill your eyes with irreverent sights will God look upon you with favor? If you spend hours watching irreverent movies and TV shows do you think that God will quickly answer your two minute prayers?

Jesus is the one and only source of eternal salvation because God appointed him and him alone as the Great High Priest. Not a day goes by that you don't need Jesus to save you. And you will need him throughout eternity to keep you saved. Jesus is the source of eternal salvation, not you.

Jesus is the source of eternal salvation because he is a passionate, praying High Priest. He is praying for you and me today and He always gets his prayers answered.

And He is the source of eternal salvation because He is a permanent High Priest. He remains on duty every day for all of eternity.