

**Hebrews 10:19-22**  
**“Provision and Privilege”**

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**I. Introduction**

*I had full intention to teach through all seven verses of this section but found the truths larger than my ambition and my prayer is that you will discover why during our*

*time together in this glorious text.* The writer of this letter in this section is drawing his argument to a close. Most of the arguments that are launched against the Christian faith today are based on a distorted view of Christianity. I fault the Church for this distortion as it has done two things: It has elevated the necessity of its position while devaluing Jesus’ work and our continual moment by moment need for Him and the work of the Holy Spirit! When the world sees real Christianity in our lives and the church, it has nothing to say in opposition. It is this true faith which the book of Hebrews so masterfully sets forth before us. It reveals clearly the difference between the false and the true. The false way of living as a Christian is to believe and try harder. It appears in the common attitude, “*I’ll do my best, and God will do the rest.*” Or in the bumper sticker seen on many a Christians’ car “*God is my Co-pilot!*” Those phrases sound pious, but they are deceptively and utterly false! As we’ve been seeing in Hebrews the true way is to believe and fully place your trust in God; for it is only in Him who is “*In you both to will and to work his good pleasure.*” Our working is really His working out His will and work for His good pleasure!

**The secret of Christian life is described in verses 19-25 in a very subtle way.**

Look carefully at these seven verse and you will see it repeated three times (19,21,22) in that little word “HAVING”! Then that phrase is followed by two words based upon the the word “HAVING” that give us our marching orders, our responsibility found in verse (22,23,24,) the two words are “LET US”! What we see here given by the writer of this letter to his readers is clear: The “WE HAVE” tell us our clear and unmistakable “PROVISION”, in Christ and the “LET US” reminds us of our unmistakable “PRIVILEGE” or responsibility to apply our provision. *So what does the writer reveal to his readers the three things that they never had before that they now have?*

## II. Vs. 19-20 The secret of the Christian life

Vs. 19-20 The first thing the writer reveals that we now have only in Christ that we never had or never will have apart from Jesus finished work is: “*Boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus.*” This statement requires a bit of Jewish clarification as it relates directly too them. In the tabernacle you will remember that it was divided up into compartments the Holiest of all was behind the veil where the Ark of the Covenant was with its mercy seat where once a year the blood was sprinkled upon it by the High Priest. *It was only this man once a year that could gain access to God’s presence.* But here the writer informs his readers that through the sacrifice of Jesus and His blood that has been sprinkled upon the mercy seat in heaven all believers can pass through a “*living way...through the veil that is his flesh*”. Remember that verse in Hebrews 4:14 where we were told that Jesus “*passed through the heavens*” after His death but prior to His resurrection? The reason for this was to make atonement once for all by sprinkling His blood upon the heavenly mercy seat, (Hebrews 9:12). *Jesus’ “perfect” sacrifice has given each and every believer confidence that since we have taken hold of Jesus we*

**can come through Him into the very presence of God where we will be forever with**

**Him**. No person will ever be able to come into the presence of God on their “good works” “good character” or “church attendance”. This room though is often described as the “sanctuary” in reality isn’t! There is no building that is the House of God, we are the House of God as this is where God dwells. We have the outer court which is our bodies, the Holy Place, which is our souls and the Holy of Holies our spirit. And when we trusted only in Jesus we were able for the first time to operate in the spirit and became complete people! Gone is any trust in religious works as we can now trust in Jesus atoning work and lay hold of the blessed promises. In Genesis 3:24 after Adam and Eve had sinned God put them out of the garden and placed angels with flaming swords to keep sin stained humanity from coming into God’s presence. But here we are told that Jesus blood has quenched the flaming swords. At Jesus death His body (the veil) was torn and we have come through His torn body into the very presence of God. We can not only come through Jesus as He is The Door but we can do so with “confidence”. The word here in verse 20 “NEW” is a word in the Greek only used here and means “*freshly slaughtered sacrifice*” Jesus death is a living way because it is the only way in which we can have life! There are those that want to emphasize Jesus “EARTHLY LIFE” but as wonderful as His miraculous life was if He was not crucified they He could not save us. No matter how many miracles Jesus did and how many incredible truths He proclaimed if He didn’t die upon that cross He could never save anyone! As long as His flesh was alive it was a veil, a barrier, but once He died that barrier was torn from top to bottom.

### **III. Vs. 21-22 The results of drawing near to God**

Vs. 21 The second unmistakable “**PROVISION**” we have in Christ Further is in verse 21 where we are told that “*having a High Priest over the house of God*”. Here we learn that Jesus has not merely:

- **Shown us the way to God**
- **Provided the way to God**
- **He has taken with Him to God!**

In Hebrews 3:6 the writer reminded His readers that “whose house we are” as he described the indwelling of Christ by the Holy Spirit. This describes the work of Jesus by way of the Holy Spirit as He clothes Himself in our personality, when we “put on Jesus” after having “taken off our old flesh”. True Christianity isn’t some religious effort to try to imitate Jesus in the energy of our flesh! No, it is Jesus living and operating through in His power, He is the Great High Priest over His house “whose house we are”! He alone is our complete provision as we are told in Philip. 3:3 as we have no confidence in the flesh! He has done and is forever our High Priest in heaven! Paraphrasing Romans 5:10 “**Since Jesus death has done so much to save me, imagine what His life must be doing in the presence of the Father to keep me!**”

Vs. 22 Verse 22 offers up the first of of the three “**PRIVILEGES**” or responsibilities to apply our provision, as it starts with the words, “**LET US**”. The first responsibility that should be visible in the believer’s life is that we “***SHOULD DESIRE TO DRAW NEAR WITH A TRUE HEART IN FULL ASSURANCE OF FAITH***”! The Greek word for “***true heart***” means without hypocrisy. Drawing near to God requires genuine commitment! Since there is nothing hindering us from coming into the presence of God the exhortation is that we should **DO JUST THAT!** We all ought to desire to live in the continual presence of God, this isn’t something that we do just when we engage in

“church activities” it’s something that we are doing every minute of everyday. **When we do so, based upon the writer’s words in verse 22, we can expect three wonderful results in our life:**

1. **Full assurance of faith:** This means that we will discover **a new source of adequacy that will never run out!** We will no longer be dependent upon our weak and fickle abilities. **Gone from our faith will be:** Dependence upon the natural man with his talents, gifts, training and education. **Instead our dependence will now be:** Upon the flowing power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us; described by Jesus as “**a river of living water**”! This tells us that the supply will never run dry! We will be prepared to meet any and every situation and circumstance in confidence that **WE CAN NOW DO:** “**all things through Christ who strengthens us**”! (Phillip 4:13)
2. **Having our heart sprinkled from an evil conscience:** The second wonderful result that we will experience upon drawing near to God is that we will “**EXPERIENCE FREEDOM FROM GUILT**”! So many folks can’t rest, they are all twisted up in the “**should-of’s and could-of’s**” of personal failure. We are prone to guilt because we trust in our resources and abilities and when we fail we automatically go to a guilty conscience feeling that we have either by **Co-mission** or **O-mission** not done what we **should of** or **could have** done! So where can we turn to change this guilty conscience? Why Jesus, because we find in Eph. 1:6 that we are “**Accepted in the the Beloved**”. God has no issue with us because of the finished work of Jesus and **right now this very moment He loves as much as He is ever going to love you** and does so based only upon the work of Jesus! So if you got nagging guilt of the “**should-of’s and could-of’s**” of personal failure I have a word from God for you, **get over yourself!**
3. **And our bodies washed with pure water:** The third and final wonderful result that we will experience upon drawing near to God is that: **We will be wonderfully changed because we have “been with Jesus”!** There are those that try to make this passage relate to “*water baptism*” but the phrase isn’t speaking of something outward but rather something inward. First off, when we get baptized we aren’t washing our bodies we are instead identifying with the death and burial of Jesus. And secondly I’ve done a lot of baptisms but never once have I done so in “*pure water*”! This phrase is symbolic and speaks a new dynamic spoken of by Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:17 where we are told that, “**If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**” When we draw near to God one of the unmistakable results is a renewed dependence upon the Word of God. Paul used this very point as a reference to what a husband was to do towards his wife saying in Ephesians 5:26 “**He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word.**” It is the washing of the word of God that continually changes our old fleshly habits to new Holy habits! What this means is that when we draw near to God we can see that if we are thief’s

we will no longer be practicing this, if we are liars we will stop practicing lying. Our whole life is being transformed because we are drawing near to God. As we draw near to God the Holy Spirit works in the word of God changing us from the inside out and this process continues until we are no longer bound by this old flesh! It's the old statement, "*I may not yet be what I want to be but I thank God through Jesus Christ I'm not what I used to be!*"

We will finish up this glorious passage next week as we continue looking at the "**WE** **HAVE'S**" tell us our clear and unmistakable "**PROVISION**", in Christ and the "**LET** **US**" that reminds us of our unmistakable "**PRIVILEGE**" or responsibility to apply our provision.