

1. Introduction

- a. theme: Jesus is better
 - chap 1 better than angels & prophets
 - better than Aaron, better priesthood
 - better sacrifice, better "temple" in next several chapters
- b. Christian freedom (vs. 19-21)
 - we have something as Christians
 - due to Jesus' actions that He did
- c. Freedoms for Christians
 - enter into God's presence
 - enjoy God's presence
 - esteem Jesus' death on the cross

2. Draw Near (come close) to God

- a. Freedom to come close near to God
 - Heb 4:16 come boldly to throne of grace
 - Jesus action - through the flesh (the living veil - compared to temple veil - by the blood of Jesus)
- b) Come close to God
 - by true heart (no lies) - tell truth
 - come close in full assurance of faith
 - * Eph 1:6 accepted in the Beloved
 - * Christian accepts their own inability to clean themselves
 - come close as clean
 - * heart sprinkled from evil conscience
 - * by the blood of Jesus
 - * completed action on the cross
 - ~~***~~ * 1 Jn 1:7 blood of Jesus Christ cleans us from all sin
 - come near changed
 - * body washed with pure water
 - * God has washed Christian thru Holy Spirit
 - * Philp 1:6 God will continue to do the good ~~work~~ until Jesus' return
 - * Eph 5:26 cleansing by "washing with water" of the Word

3. Hold Fast (hold strongly) Christian Confession (vs 23)
- a. Someone might say "profession"
 - words saying, "I am a Christian"
 - b. But God says "confession"
 - statements from Christian heart
 - c. Faith finding hope in God
 - d. Basis of hope
 - He (God) has promised
 - He (God) is faithful
4. Consider Others (vs. 24-25)
- a. Religion can make person selfish
 - I have to do to earn heaven - me
 - b. God's grace frees Christian free from "do-ism"
 - c. Christian free
 - to come into relationship with Him
 - to come into relationship with others
 - * consider: be people watcher
 - * consider: observe people
 - * consider: how to bless people
 - d. How to consider
 - provoke: move people to love others
 - * encouragement
 - * teaching
 - * be example
 - provoke: move people to do good works (lead people)
 - provoke: engage each other
 - * leaving the assembly together
 - x speaking of being in church with other Christians or not
 - x some Christians have already done so - left church
 - * so much needed as Christian sees the Day approaching
 - x Day of Christ
 - x Day of the Lord
 - x looking forward
 - x 1 Cor 11:26 Until Jesus comes - communion
 - x 1 Thess 4:18 comfort each other - the Lord Himself will come