

True Promises Build Confident Hope

There is real help to be received from a real God during real brokenness.

God makes promises, and the promises are true. So what do we see that is true in this verse? Then having seen the truth, our hope is built!

Hope is a community project:

We can come together to the throne of grace. It does not only say, “you” draw near. Let us.

The throne is one of grace not condemnation for the believer. There really is a throne, we just can’t see it right now. That is why we need faith to believe as real what we cannot see (Hebrews 11). Everyone will be judged at this throne, but not us. We have already received our judgment when Christ was killed. Now for us, this is a throne from which we get help and compassion from Him who sits on it.

We have reason to run to God to be near him not hide from him like Adam. God does not want us to get our act together



Okoboji past Triggs Resort, 2012 Jackson, 2013 Justine, 2014 Turner, 2015 Grace

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.

Memory Verse Note: We have a high priest who cleared the way for us to draw near in “rightless” assertion. We can approach the God for whom we were made with bold humility to get the help we really need. Bold-humility: we are more loved by him than we imagine, and we are more sinful than we give ourselves credit.

first. We come to him as we are in repentance and all the brokenness we experience.

There are real resources to be had in our time of need: mercy and grace. What is it about these two that are helpful in grief as we experience the brokenness of the world? We are not being punished but receive mercy. We have abundance of grace which by its very nature is

the favor of God over us, not deserved by our record but by the record of another who lived 33 perfect years of obedience before dying with my penalty. I get his perfect resume and he gets my sin and failures (“double imputation”).

Mercy and grace are not elusive. We WILL find real help. This is not a command to draw close, and IF God feels like it he

will shed some help. No, it is abundant help.

Our help is received not purchased or earned by our efforts. It does not say come and earn it. Receive.

Our good Father DOES get us what we need. He will meet us with himself. “He is most glorified by us when we are most satisfied IN him” (John Piper). The Holy Spirit will make that love of God for us a real experience (Romans 5:5).

There is real reason to be confident. We have an empathetic God-Man in Christ (v14-15), and we know that we WILL get what we need for real help when we experience need.

So how do we draw near? Run to him in raw, un-premeditated prayer, not giving him the silent treatment. Look for Christ in all Scripture. Believe these truths. Tell them to yourself.