

Lesson 10 | November 6, 2022

Our Compassionate High Priest

Study Text: Hebrews 4:14 through 6:12

Central Truth: Jesus Christ ministers as our compassionate High Priest.

Key Verse: Hebrews 4:14

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession (KJV).

So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold firmly to what we believe (NLT).**

Learning Objectives

- Students should realize what it means to say that they can approach God with confidence.
- Students should acknowledge the meaning, as well as the blessing, of calling Christ our great High Priest.
- Students should appreciate the importance of hope in the Christian life, including why they can be confident in their hope in Christ.

Introducing the Study

Say: Today, people try to meet their spiritual needs or interests in many different ways.

Some will study the religions of the past. Others will focus on ethics as the means of cleansing the conscience. Whatever the means, many unbelievers search for a spiritual encounter or change within their lives. √ ***(Play the video available at [RadiantLifeCurriculum.com/Adult](https://www.RadiantLifeCurriculum.com/Adult).)***

Opening Activity—A Life-Changing Experience.

Ask. **What single experience can you recall that changed your life more than any other?** While students can certainly point to conversion, encourage them to give other examples as well. Emphasize that life-change is often seen as positive, for a number of reasons.

My salvation was the most life-changing experience. Another was my choice to reenter the Air Force with the intention of making a career out of my service.

Say: Today, people still try to approach God in many ways. Yet there is only one way: through faith in Christ. **Today we explore Jesus' role as the Great High Priest—the intermediary between humanity and God.** Because He intercedes for us, we have assurance of everlasting life. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The Epistle to the Hebrews was written while the temple in Jerusalem was still standing. **Temple worship was at the heart of being Jewish.** Every day the priests offered sacrifices on the great altar in front of the steps and pillars of the magnificent structure. **Much of Jesus' ministry took place there, too. Yet, as we have discussed, these Jewish believers struggled with, among other things, whether temple worship was necessary. Some of them were tempted to lay aside their faith in Jesus, for they had relied so long on animal sacrifices in approaching God. But the temple sacrifices could never complete the work of bringing a person close to Him. From the very beginning, that required faith in God and His love.**

For more than 20 years Charles Templeton preached the Word of God. However, his increasing doubts about the validity of the Old Testament and teachings of the Christian church brought him to a crisis in his faith. In 1957, he resigned from the ministry. For the next 44 years he continued his turn away from God. Farewell to God, published in 1999, tells of his reasons for turning away.

He lost hope. Where is your hope?

Part 1—Gracious and Merciful

Approach God With Confidence

Hebrews 4:14–16

[Heb 4:14-16 KJV] 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast [our] profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

[Heb 4:14-16 NLT] 14 So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. 15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. 16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Say: Hebrews 4:16 is among the most familiar and beloved texts among Christians, for it invites believers to approach God with confidence. Such an approach may seem out

of place for the servants of a holy God. Yet Hebrews 4 offers understanding as to why such confidence is possible. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In previous lessons, we noted that the writer of Hebrews had already shown Jesus to be exalted above the angels and even above Moses—the man the readers saw as the greatest of all leaders and prophets. In Hebrews 4–5, the writer affirmed Jesus as our great High Priest. This exalted priestly role elevated Jesus above the Old Testament priesthood, who would first offer sacrifices for their own sins before offering sacrifices for the sins of the people (see Leviticus 4:3–12).

Jesus, however, is sinless. **He died and rose again as the perfect sacrifice for sin. Then He ascended into heaven, and He now intercedes for His people as the great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14; see also 10:10; Romans 8:34).** Jesus is the perfect and superior High Priest because, unlike the Old Testament priests, His sacrifice was once for all.

[Rom 8:34 NLT] 34 Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Yet Jesus holds the position of perfect High Priest for another reason as well. He was tempted in ways that any man can be tempted. He knew the draw of sin, yet He remained sinless. We know from the Gospels that He felt hunger, pain, betrayal, and sorrow. And now, **through the writer of Hebrews, we understand that He also was tempted to respond sinfully to these common human problems, for He was “in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (verse 15, KJV).**

In verse 16, then, the writer of Hebrews explained how his readers could respond to these truths about Christ: They could approach Him with confidence. **Such confidence stands in contrast to a tentative approach that one might expect when going before deity. Questions like, “Am I really allowed access?”; “Am I wrong to speak my heart to Him?”; and “How can I be worthy to address God directly?” might fill the mind of the Christ-follower. But God is not distant nor aloof. He is the Heavenly Father who sent His Son. He has established the means by which we can approach Him confidently, and His Son—the Mediator between God and man (see 1 Timothy 2:5)—“understands our weaknesses” (Hebrews 4:15, NLT).**

Keep in mind, also, the original readers of this Book. **These first-century Jewish Christians were tempted to abandon their faith in the face of persecution.** But instead the writer of Hebrews encouraged them to approach the Great High Priest who endured the cross for His people, even though He had been abandoned by His disciples while facing unthinkable suffering. Truly, the people of God have reason to approach Christ confidently.

Discuss

? What do you think it means to say that Jesus “understands our weaknesses”?

? What does it mean—and not mean—to say that we, as believers, can approach God with confidence?

The High Priest Called by God

Hebrews 5:1–4

[Heb 5:1-4 KJV] 1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things [pertaining] to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. 3 And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. 4 And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as [was] Aaron.

Say: As we move through Hebrews chapter 5, you might wonder how a discussion of Christ as our Great High Priest relates to Christians today. Keep in mind that many today are skeptical about Christ's authority to govern their lives. **Yet humanity has a sin problem.** We need Jesus Christ's priestly ministry for salvation and spiritual growth. We need Him to cleanse us from sin, and we must surrender to His lordship every day (Share your highlights from the following text.)

As Hebrews 5 opens, it appears that the writer may have anticipated a question from his Jewish Christian readers: How, and why, did Jesus receive the position of High Priest?

The role of a priest was to represent people in their dealings with God (Hebrews 5:1). **In the Old Testament, the high priest acted as mediator on behalf of others, offering sacrifices for sin as well as gifts in worship to God. The high priest was also to be sensitive to the suffering and needs of others, as well as acknowledge his own spiritual waywardness (verses 2–3). Furthermore, no man could reckon himself to be worthy of becoming high priest; the authority and position of high priest came from God, beginning with Aaron himself (verse 4). Thus, the priesthood was not a political office appointed by public acclamation. Nor was it something to be sought out by men. The priesthood came from God, both in terms of function and appointment. (It did evolve into a corrupted office.)** The Old Testament records several disastrous accounts of men attempting to take it upon themselves to perform the duties of the high priest (cf. Numbers 16:1–35; 1 Samuel 13:8–14; 2 Chronicles 26:16–23). **Kora, Dathan and Abiram incited rebellion saying they were just as good a Moses. Moses told the people to separate themselves from tents of these wicked men and they were swallowed up by the earth. Saul tried it and was highly reprimanded by Samuel. So did King Uzziah.**

[2Ch 26:16-19 NLT] 16 But when he had become powerful, he also became proud, which led to his downfall. He sinned against the LORD his God by entering the sanctuary of the LORD's Temple and personally burning incense on the incense altar. 17 Azariah the high priest went in after him with eighty other priests of the LORD, all brave men. 18 They confronted King Uzziah and said, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is the work of the priests alone, the descendants of Aaron who are set apart for this work. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have sinned. The LORD God will not honor you for this!" 19 Uzziah, who was holding an incense burner, became furious. But as he was standing there raging at the priests before the incense altar in the LORD's Temple, leprosy suddenly broke out on his forehead.

What, then, are we to make of this important distinction, that priestly ministry must originate from God? Perhaps most importantly, it reminds us that the work of redemption does not come through any form of human activity or decree. This was true in the Old Testament, in that one could not successfully do priestly ministry simply because he went through the proper motions. **God was the source of forgiveness, cleansing, and redemption. The same is true today. Human religious effort is not spiritually effective. Believers today continue to rely upon God alone to bring about spiritual rebirth and cleansing. And as the following verses make clear, that ministry only comes through Christ.**

Discuss

? What limitations did the Old Testament high priests have with regard to representing the people before God?

? Why do people sometimes try to bring about spiritual redemption and transformation through their own efforts?

Part 2—Perfect and Eternal

Jesus: The Perfect and Everlasting High Priest

Hebrews 5:510

[Heb 5:5-10 KJV] 5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6 As he saith also in another [place], Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect,

**he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;
10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.**

Say: The Christian faith is founded upon a biblical understanding of who Jesus is and what He accomplished through His ministry and sacrifice. Hebrews 5:5–10 is critical to helping us understand Christ’s ministry in taking away our sins and transforming our lives. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Resource Packet Item 1: Melchizedek: Type of Christ

(Note: If time permits during the week, prepare a report on Melchizedek, based on the work sheet “Melchizedek: Type of Christ,” or assign a student to do so. Use commentaries or Bible dictionaries to assist you.) Distribute the work sheet. Take a moment to read Genesis 14:17–20. Then present the report to the class as you cover this resource item. As you move through your report on Melchizedek, point out the fill-ins for your class. After you have taught Hebrews 5:5–6 using the text below, discuss the question at the bottom of the work sheet.

In keeping with the description of the high priest in Hebrews 5:1–4, Jesus did not assert His place as High Priest as a man (verse 5). He met the qualification as high priest because He is the Messiah. Christ’s priesthood was of the kind and order of Melchizedek (verse 6), which was far different from that of the line of Aaron.

Melchizedek was a mysterious figure seen in Genesis 14:17–20. He had no recorded genealogy or descendants. This made him far different from those who served in the Aaronic priesthood, which traced its lineage from Aaron through succeeding generations. In a sense, then, Melchizedek was timeless. Therefore, he represented Christ’s eternal priesthood.

Note that **Melchizedek’s priesthood preceded the giving of the Law, signifying a universal quality to his priesthood. It is also noteworthy that Melchizedek functioned as priest to Abraham. As we know, Abraham is the man to whom was given the great promise of God’s redemptive plan for all nations: “All the families on earth will be blessed through you” (Genesis 12:3, NLT). This is a promise that the Messiah would come through the line of Abraham, and that He would provide the means to reconciliation with God for all people. Moving ahead to the New Testament, we know that all who call upon the name of Jesus for salvation are children of Abraham. As a result, we will receive the blessing of faith that Abraham received (see Galatians 3:7–9). And so, our High Priest is Jesus Christ, who is of the priestly order of Melchizedek, whose priesthood was observed by Abraham.**

Hebrews 5:7–8 further describe Christ’s unique qualifications to serve as High Priest: (1) **“He offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death” (verse 7, NLT). This refers to Christ’s agony as He**

prayed in Gethsemane, in Luke 22:39–44. It testifies to the genuineness of Christ’s humanity, reminding us that He struggled and suffered as we struggle and suffer. (2) Jesus practiced submission and obedience through suffering (Hebrews 5:7–8). This also refers to Christ’s prayer in the Garden. Luke 22:42 records that He not only prayed for the suffering to end, but also that the will of the Father would be done. Christ recognized that God will bring about the ending He desires, even when it does not correspond to the precise desires of the one praying. This is the essence of submission to God. (3) Finally, **Jesus was “made perfect” (Hebrews 5:9, KJV). This does not refer to moral perfection, for Christ is the sinless Son of God, but to the complete consecration of the priest, just as the Aaronic priests were consecrated to God.**

[Heb 5:9 NLT] 9 In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.

Christ’s suffering led to the completion of His mission to bring about everlasting salvation. He fulfilled the duties of His High Priesthood—the Melchizedek priesthood—given to Him by the Father (verse 10).

Discuss

? Describe what made Jesus the perfect High Priest. How would you explain to someone why His unique role as High Priest is important?

? What can Hebrews 5:7–8 teach you about living the Christian life?

Spiritual Growth Is Needed

Hebrews 5:11

[Heb 5:11 KJV] 11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

Say: Take a moment to think about what you’ve learned about your job since the day you started. If you’ve been at it a while, you’ve probably grown greatly as a worker, and even as a person, through your knowledge and experience. Such maturing should happen in our spiritual lives, as seen in the experience of the Jewish Christians in Hebrews. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Hebrews 5:11 ends the discussion of Christ’s priesthood with a frank observation calling readers to spiritual maturity. The writer of Hebrews noted that he could have taught readers much more on the subject, but it would be difficult to explain. **This problem, however, was not because the topic was difficult, but because the people were “spiritually dull” (NLT). The word translated “dull” is not flattering; it refers to being lazy, sluggish, or even backward or ignorant. This was not a**

critique of their mental capacity. Rather, they had allowed themselves to become spiritually lazy.

The original readers of Hebrews knew the levitical priesthood extremely well, having followed its teachings from childhood. They knew, as well, the message of the Messiah and His ministry, as prophesied throughout the Old Testament. And they knew the story of Jesus, the Messiah who had come, proclaimed God's kingdom, suffered a sacrificial death, then rose again. Yet from a spiritual standpoint, they were unprepared to probe the depths of teaching on Christ as priest.

This presents a good reminder for our own spiritual maturity. Many Christians have studied Scripture from childhood. They know what it says, and they have experienced the salvation it proclaims. But this does not mean that they have reached a level of spiritual maturity that allows them to process a deep understanding of Scripture. They know its words, but have yet to fully process what it means—especially with regard to their lives. Let us receive the challenge to the Hebrews, then, to cultivate our relationship with God, including humble trust and surrender to His will, as we seek out a better understanding of His Word.

Discuss

? Why might a Christian become lazy about spiritual growth and maturity?

? Practically speaking, how do we move forward into spiritual maturity??

Part 3—Fair and Never Forgetful

God Is Not Unjust

Hebrews 6:9–10

[Heb 6:9-10 KJV] 9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. 10 For God [is] not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Say: The tone of this epistle brightens substantially beginning in Hebrews 6:9, as the writer follows sober warnings with commendation for their godly works. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Hebrews 6:9–12 follows a heavily discussed passage in Scripture. Verses 4–6 deal with the spiritual security of the believer. Specifically, it states that someone who has entered into the gift of salvation, then turns from God, cannot return to

God: “It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance” (verse 6, NLT). While this passage is not covered in the scope of this lesson, it is important to have a basic understanding of it as we examine verse 9. Simply put, this is a rare situation in which a Christian willingly rejects Christ, renouncing faith in His sacrificial death (see verse 6b). The text does not say he “cannot be forgiven” or “cannot be restored to salvation.” Rather, it is “impossible” (verse 4) for this person to repent, indicating that the person cannot bring himself to repent, pointing to the person’s hardness of heart.

Charles Templeton from Canada may be a good example. He was an evangelist and good friend of Billy Graham. Templeton let the things of this world turn him away. When he saw a picture of a child who died of starvation on the cover of a magazine, he said, if God does exist, why did this child starve? He spent the rest of his life writing books against God. One is “Farewell to God” where he shares his story leading to his turning from God. As one writer put it, Templeton lost faith in faith.

Resource Packet Item 2: Those Who Fall Away

Distribute the information sheet. Note that it provides further insight into Hebrews 6:4–6 not addressed in this lesson, but which is valuable for study. Encourage students to study it during the week (or in class, if time permits).

The writer of Hebrews was confident that his readers had not entered into the state warned about in verses 4–6. Despite their problems, they still sought to please God. However lazy they may have been about studying the principles of faith, they had not been lazy in everything. The writer knew they were still God’s people because he had seen evidence of faith in their lives (verses 9–10).

Note, however, that when the author wrote, “God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him” (verse 10, NLT), he did not mean God saves because of works. We must keep in focus that works is not the cause of salvation but the evidence of salvation. The writer saw in these Jewish believers both their love and affection for God and their loving care for others—the fruit of a heart and life that exists in fellowship with God. And because God is just, their work would not go unnoticed. Their actions bore witness to the genuineness of their faith—the faith of one who is in fellowship with God and will spend eternity with Him.

Discuss

? Why is it good to recall that we may at times struggle in our walk with God?

? How does your life bear evidence of your faith in Christ?

Our Hope Can Be Made Sure

Hebrews 6:11–12

[Heb 6:11-12 KJV] 11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: 12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Say: To what extent is your faith founded upon and driven by hope?

The writer of Hebrews reminds us that such hope should motivate our lives to the end. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In Hebrews 6:11–12, the writer called the people to follow the standard they had established in the past—that they persevere in godliness, and thus in faith. Doing so would serve to “make certain that what you hope for will come true” (verse 11, NLT). This refers to “entire” confidence in something. Thus, the reference isn’t to having conviction that something will happen—though that is important. Rather, it speaks to the full development of hope, as well as inheriting “God’s promises because of their faith and endurance” (verse 12). In other words, the writer exhorted them to persevere in their love and faithfulness to the end, as verse 11 puts it, “as long as life lasts” (verse 11, NLT).

Resource Packet Item 3: Labor of Love

Distribute the case study and have students respond to the five examples in five unique groups. Discuss their responses as a class.

Discuss

? How would you describe the impact your hope in Christ has on your life?

? What can cause a Christian to lose hope, and how can you help such a person?

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: When we are saved, we begin to grow. We now read the Word and understand the world through guidance from the Spirit. But our learning and growth must continue. How are you growing in the faith today?.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Come together as a class and brainstorm ideas for steps students can take to pursue deeper spiritual maturity.
- Pray for one another as a class, asking God to help any who are going through a time of trial in their faith, or who know of someone enduring such a trial.
- Pray together as a class that God will lead you this week to help a fellow Christian struggling with hope.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

Promise of Compassion.
Deuteronomy 30:1–5

[Deu 30:1-5 KJV] 1 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call [them] to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, 2 And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; 3 That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. 4 If [any] of thine be driven out unto the outmost [parts] of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: 5 And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.

Tuesday:

Full of Compassion.
Psalm 78:34–39

[Psa 78:34-39 KJV] 34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God. 35 And they remembered that God [was] their rock, and the high God their redeemer. 36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues. 37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant. 38 But he, [being] full of compassion, forgave [their] iniquity, and destroyed [them] not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath. 39 For he remembered that they [were but] flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

Wednesday:

Unfailing Compassion.
Lamentations 3:21–33

[Lam 3:21-33 KJV] 21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. 22 [It is of] the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 [They are] new every morning: great [is] thy faithfulness. 24 The LORD [is] my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. 25 The LORD [is] good unto them that wait for him, to the soul [that] seeketh him. 26 [It is] good that [a man] should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD. 27 [It is] good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. 28 He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne [it] upon him. 29 He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope. 30 He giveth [his] cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach. 31 For the Lord will not cast off for ever: 32 But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. 33 For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

Thursday:

Compelled by Compassion.

Matthew 9:35–38

[Mat 9:35-38 NKJV] 35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly [is] plentiful, but the laborers [are] few. 38 "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Friday:

A Lesson in Compassion.

Matthew 18:23–35

[Mat 18:23-35 NKJV] 23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 "And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 "But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 "The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 27 "Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took [him] by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' 29 "So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 30 "And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 "So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 "Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' 34 "And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

Saturday:

A Word of Compassion.

Luke 7:11–15

[Luk 7:11-15 NKJV] 11 Now it happened, the day after, [that] He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. 12 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being

carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." 14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried [him] stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." 15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.