



November 6, 2022

## Abounding Grace: Experiencing and Expressing Grace

Thanksgiving

Hebrews 4:14-16

### For Discussion and Reflection:

1. The author of Hebrews speaks about the kingdom that we receive through Christ, Hebrews 12:28. Notice the differences between the old approach to God and the new, Hebrews 12:18-24. What differences stand out to you? What should be our response to the grace of God in Christ?
2. The kingdom that cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:28) has a throne, described in Hebrews 4:14-16 as a "throne of grace" where we "receive mercy and find grace." What does the author say our response should be to that great news? See Hebrews 12:28. What is the acceptable worship we offer God? Consider Hebrews 13:15.
3. The author of Hebrews speaks about the end of blood sacrifices for sin, Hebrews 10:11-14. But he doesn't speak of the end of offerings. You might remember that offerings were given in thanks to God, Leviticus 7:11-13. How is our worship, praise, and thanksgiving an offering to God? Consider some familiar passages: Ephesians 5:18-21; Colossians 3:15-17.
4. Today I argued that the first response of our engagement with God in the presence of Christ is thanksgiving. How do these passages speak to that response? Daniel 2:23; Philippians 4:4-7; Colossians 1:9-14, 4:2.
5. Read Romans 1:18-23. What stands out to you about Paul's statement concerning the unrighteous?
6. Spend a few minutes and read 1 Chronicles 16:8-36. What stands out to you from this text as David puts the ark of God (the mercy seat) in place in the tabernacle?
7. Read the story of the ten lepers, Luke 17:11-19. Notice that it was the foreigner that was amazed by the grace of God. Why? Are we accustomed to grace? Have we stopped viewing everything as a gift?
8. Based on our study, how can your time with God become more meaningful? What can you do to inhabit the place of grace more faithfully? What should you expect from that engagement?