



[Hebrews 10:19-22](#)

(19) Therefore, brethren, having confidence to enter into the *true* holiest by the blood of Jesus, (20) By a new and living way, which He consecrated for us through the veil (that is, His flesh), (21) And *having* a great High Priest over the house of God, (22) Let us approach *God* with a true heart, with full conviction of faith, our hearts having been purified from a wicked conscience, and our bodies having been washed with pure water.

A Faithful Version

Praying to the Father, through [Jesus Christ](#), brings us into the presence of the most holy, positive, righteous, peaceful, serving, giving, humble, [merciful](#), and unchanging attitudes and character that exist in the entire universe! The notes at [Psalm 16:11](#) demonstrate a simplified effect of this in how the attitudes of people we spend time with affect us. Whether that person's attitude is positive or negative, unless we resist or our attitude is strong, our attitude tends to echo the strength of the other's attitudes. If the other is personally close to us—especially if we deem the relationship important to us—the effect of the transfer of attitudes intensifies. Similarly, physical nearness also intensifies the effect.

This is why men reflect Satan's spirit. [Satan](#) "broadcasts" it over our entire environment here on earth, thus, we are always "near" it. In fact, [God](#) has willed that at this time it will have no strong competition among the unconverted. Even we cannot entirely escape its influence; even when in God's presence, we can bring that spirit with us.

Notice that [Hebrews 10:22](#) says, "[L]et us draw near. . . ." Nearness enhances the transfer of the qualities of God's Spirit, and He greatly desires we have these qualities because they will make us like Him. Being in His presence is a primary way this is accomplished. This is why a person can leave God's

presence in prayer at [peace](#), full of [joy](#), or filled with confidence—or on the other hand, chastened, having been led to remorse and [repentance](#). Drawing near to God has little to do with distance and everything to do with deepening our relationship with Him. As this occurs, prayer begins to change things—us.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Sovereignty of God: Part Nine](#)

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