

Jesus is Better
God Sustains Your Hope Through His Son
Hebrews 9:11-28
Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brian Fannin / Dec. 16, 2018

Why Is The Hope You Get In The Person And Work Of Jesus Better?

I. Because He Perfectly Did In Heaven What Priests Could Only Do Imperfectly On Earth

You cannot overlook the centrality of blood and life.

Leviticus 17:11 "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life." God chose to use a blood sacrifice as part of the sacrificial system of the Jewish people. Each time blood was shed, it reminded the people of life and death.

A blood sacrifice also included a cost to the one giving the sacrifice. The price of the animal involved represented a price that had to be paid by the one providing the offering. Each time a blood sacrifice was made, the one giving it was reminded of the cost of sin.

Hebrews 9:22 "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

There is life in the blood. Sin brings shame and nakedness; we know we are naked before God. The conscience is stained and the awareness of God's holiness becomes real. Adam and Eve's nakedness revealed their actual need for clothes, but it also reveals the reality of the need for God's provision, which He does by the death of an animal to give them clothes.

II. Because He Presented In Heaven An Offering Of Himself— The One Perfect Sacrifice

Hebrews 9:11-12 "But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption."

Hebrews 9:24-26 "For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer Himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not His own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself."

Jesus does not go into heaven's tabernacle over and over again.

Hebrews 7:27 "He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for His own sins and then for those of the people, since He did this once for all when He offered up Himself."

Hebrews 10:10 “And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

Jesus’ words on the cross, “It is finished,” have deep implications for the believer. The one perfect way to stand perfectly before God is secured. Your sins have been paid for in full. Hope is a person. His work to pay for your sins is done. It all rests on His shoulders, not yours.

III. Because He Purchased Much More For You Than Pardon From Sin

There is a vast difference between outward clean and being transformed within. He gives us:

A. An Identity—You Have Been Placed In Christ

Jesus is better only when Jesus is Lord—when your faith and trust is in Him and Him alone for righteousness before God.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”

B. Conscience That Remembers That God Dealt With Your Sin

We will never be motivated to live for Christ by our performance. God is not impressed with our performance. God is impressed with His Son—perfect in love and perfect in obedience—on your behalf. Yearly sacrifice could never do this.

Hebrews 9:14 “...how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”

Jesus’ sacrifice purifies our conscience to serve God. You are blood bought. You are chosen, redeemed, and purchased. You are promised grace for your past and for your today. And you are promised God’s loving hand all the days of your life.

There is freedom to obey when your conscience knows God broke sin’s power over you in His Son. He paid the full penalty of all of it and He did it once so you no longer live with the power of sin over you or the bondage of sinful acts controlling you.

C. Future Of Perfect Standing And Unending Love

Hebrews 9:27-28 “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.”

1 Corinthians 13:13 “So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

Hope and faith will no longer be necessary when Christ comes again. The only thing that will remain for eternity will be love.