

I. Lesson: The Better Sacrifice Pt. 2 (Hebrews 9:23-10:18)

A. Our Salvation is secured in the Heavenly Places (9:23-28; Key verses (27-28))

1. The writer continues to tie the argument to the key point of there being no better sacrifice than what Jesus has offered. The point being that if Jesus is not accepted there is no other offering acceptable to God to grant humans access to God's heaven. The tabernacle needed something beyond the blood of animals for its sanctification since it was in the pattern of heaven. Thus, Jesus had to offer his own blood in the heavens itself to provide purification for our access to it.
2. Jesus's singular sacrifice grants us certainty with God. It is ordained that people die once and then receive judgment from God. In the same pattern, Jesus bore our sins through death but will appear a second time without carrying sin to bring salvation to begin the new age. That is, in the age that is coming we who believe in Jesus will receive eternal life where there will be no more sin that separates us from God.

B. Only the Body of Jesus could secure our Salvation (10:1-10; Key verses (9-10))

1. The writer reflects on Ps 40:6-8 to further establish the argument that God brought new covenant because the old covenant could not expiate (wipe away) the effects of sin. Sin remained in the conscience of Israel from year to year. But it took the blood of the perfect sacrifice, the true human, to cleanse humanity from its sinful nature. He is the only one with his body who could do the will of God.
2. Thus, with the very body of Jesus, those who have corrupted consciences, whose minds are deteriorating under the power of sin, are made free and purified. His body as the best sacrifice and could accomplish what animals could not. Their bodies were insufficient to help humanity.

C. Jesus's Sacrifice secures us once and for all (10:11-18; Key verses (12, 18))

1. The superiority of Jesus's sacrifice is also seen through the frequency and longevity of the sacrifice. Jesus only had to offer himself once. That was all. Whereas priests had to minister daily before the Lord and bring similar offerings to bring atonement. Jesus's sacrifice eliminated the need for the daily sacrifice. His sin covered all of history until the end of this age and beginning of the new age in him.
2. Jesus's sacrifice is also demonstrably more complete in that he sat down when he concluded it. He sits on the right hand of God. No one else is worthy to sit there, showing that he, himself, is God. His seated position shows us that all of the work has been finished. The enemies are now being subdued under him. This inevitably means all evil things, including death itself, will be destroyed.
3. Sin, at this point, has no more punishing power for those who trust in Jesus. Our faith in him has covered us and released us from the separating force of sinfulness.