

I. Introduction and review.

- A. How can you find relief for a guilty conscience?
- B. The Old Covenant worship was inadequate. 9:1-10
 - 1. Access to God was severely limited. v. 8-9a
 - 2. Old Covenant sacrifices could not cleanse the conscience. v. 9b-10
- C. The long awaited time of restoration and reformation has arrived. v. 10b-11a

II. Christ's High Priestly Ministry surpasses the Old Covenant worship. v. 11-12

- A. He entered a better tabernacle. v. 11 9:24
 - 1. The old man-made tabernacle was temporary and is now obsolete. 9:1-5
 - 2. What is *the greater and more perfect tabernacle*? v. 24 8:5 Mk. 14:58 John 2:19-22 Acts 7:48 17:24 Eph. 2:20-22
 - 3. When did Jesus enter the heavenly tabernacle? 6:19-20
 - 4. How is His entrance into the heavenly tabernacle unique?
- B. He offered better blood. v. 12a
 - 1. The blood of animals was limited in its value and efficacy. 9:7,9,13-14 Le. 16:11f
 - 2. Jesus' blood is of infinite value. *What is meant by this?*
 - a. Some have very strange mystical ideas about Jesus' blood.
 - b. Blood stands for His sacrificial death. 9:15,26 Gen. 9:4,6 Acts 15:20
 - c. Blood indicates a violent death: either by malice or an act of justice. Gen. 9:6
 - 3. How is the surpassing value of Christ's blood demonstrated?
- C. He obtained better redemption. v. 12b
 - 1. The many Old Covenant sacrifices procured partial and temporary deliverance. 9:6-7,13 10:1-4
 - 2. The one sacrifice of Christ obtained eternal redemption. 7:27 9:26 10:10f Ro. 3:24
 - 3. What is the significance of redemption? Lu. 1:68f 2:38 24:21 Ti. 2:14 Acts 20:28
 - 4. Christ actually accomplished redemption for all those for whom He died. Mark 10:45 Acts 20:28 John 6:37,39 Rev. 5:9 Isa. 53:11
 - 5. Because of Christ, our redemption is eternally secure. 5:9 9:15

III. Christ's blood accomplishes what the Old Covenant Sacrifices could not. v. 13

- A. Old Covenant sacrifices and ceremonies only cleaned the flesh outwardly. v. 13
 - 1. The blood of bulls and goats was necessary for temple worship. 9:7 Lev. 16:2f
 - 2. The ashes of the heifer (cow) removed ceremonial defilement. Num. 19:1f
 - 3. Why is the ordinance of the red heifer placed alongside of the day of atonement?
 - 4. Neither could cleanse the heart (conscience). 9:9-10 10:4 Pr. 4:23 Mark 7:21f Ps. 51:16-17 40:6-8 Isa. 53
 - 5. Yet the Old Covenant ceremonies did have a certain efficacy and value.
- B. Christ's blood cleanses the conscience. v. 14
 - 1. He offered Himself to God. 8:3
 - a. He is both Priest and Sacrifice! Jo. 1:29 Rev. 5:9,12
 - b. His sacrifice was voluntary. John 10:16f Mark 10:45 Luke 9:51 Phil. 2:5-8
 - c. His sacrifice was directed to God Whose just wrath had to be satisfied. 2:17 Isa. 53:4,10 Rom. 3:25 I Jo. 2:2
 - d. In what sense did He, through the eternal S(s)pirit, offer himself? 7:16,24 1:9 John 19:30 Isa. 42:1 61:1 Mark 1:10

2. He is an unblemished (sinless) sacrifice. 4:15 7:26 I Pet. 1:18-19 3:18 Isa. 53:9
3. His sacrifice cleanses us inwardly (our consciences). I Jo. 1:7
4. What are the dead works from which we are cleansed? 6:1
 - a. From the works of the law which are worthless to cleanse us. Ro. 3:20 Phi. 3:9
 - b. From our sinful works which lead to death. 6:1 Rom. 6:21,23 8:6-8 Rev. 21:8
5. The result is that we are fit to offer holy service to the living God. Titus 2:14
 - a. Jesus' sacrifice not only has an effect on God (turning away His wrath), but also it changes us. 7:10 Jer. 31:34
 - b. The goal of redemption is worship. Ex. 3:12 4:23 Eph. 1:6 2:10

IV. Concluding applications.

- A. Do you have a clear conscience?
- B. Only the blood of Christ can wash away your sin.
- C. Many object to our theology of blood. I Cor. 1:18f
 1. Modernism and post-modernism regard the atonement as primitive and barbaric.
 2. We should not be surprised at their objections. I Cor. 1:18,23
 3. Some claim to uphold a belief in Christ's blood shed for our guilt, but fail to proclaim this truth faithfully.
 4. Our author is not ashamed to speak of Christ's blood. Rom. 1:16-17
 5. Those who disregard the blood of Christ will pay a steep price. 10:29
- D. Offer yourself in worshipful service to Christ Who purchased and cleansed you by His blood.

Discussion questions

1. Why was the Old Covenant worship inadequate?
2. How is the tabernacle Christ entered superior to the Old Covenant sanctuary?
3. How is the blood He offered more valuable than the sacrificial blood of the Old Covenant?
4. What is redemption?
5. How is the redemption He obtained better than the redemption offered under the Law?
6. Did Jesus achieve potential redemption or actual redemption? Explain.
7. What did the Old Covenant sacrifices accomplish?
8. Why is Christ's sacrifice more effective than the Old Covenant sacrifices?
9. How do the Old Covenant sacrifices point to Christ?
10. What is the only way you can have a clean conscience?
11. What happens after your conscience is cleansed?
12. Why is the concept of the blood of Christ so offensive to unbelievers?