

Hebrews 10:14-18

September 18, 2022



SCRIPTURE

¹⁴ For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

¹⁶ “This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts and I will write them on their minds.”^[a]

¹⁷ Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”^[b]

¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

COMMENTARY

Bringing his comparison of the new and old priesthoods to an end, the author in these verses focused on the superiority of the sacrifice of Christ. The old sacrifices were only a shadow of the actual form of the blessed realities that come from the personal sacrifice of the Messiah. Citing Ps 40:6-8, the author demonstrated that God was no longer interested in the whole burnt offerings and sin offerings of the old covenant. The old sacrifices had to be offered continually, and they did not accomplish anything beyond ritual purification because they could not take away sins. This is why it was prophesied that the Messiah would come to do God’s will. Jesus the Messiah offered one sacrifice for sins forever by offering Himself. Afterwards, He sat down at the throne of God. By His blood atonement, He has perfected forever those who are sanctified. The old sacrifices are no longer necessary because He offered the perfect sacrifice that perfects believers.

MAIN POINT

The gospel inspires uninhibited worship performed with our whole person.

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

Introduction

What’s the first word that comes to mind when you hear the word “worship?”



**What does your answer show you about the way we view worship?
Do you think God thinks about worship in the same way you do? Why or why not?**

Worship is meant to engage our whole person. But we tend to use worship in the wrong way. We can either use it too generically, to mean everything we do in church, or too specifically, to only mean singing. There are different ways and methods God desires worship, but they all lead us to see that the gospel inspires uninhibited worship performed with our whole person.

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

Why do you think God is concerned not only with our hearts, but also our actions in worship?

While it's true that God is concerned with the heart, our actions actually demonstrate the validity of what we claim is happening on the inside. To that end, God is also concerned with our external expressions of worship. Though these words applied to the Old Testament forms of worship, they also give us insight into worship in our day and time. In our day and time, though, there is a fundamental difference in worship, and it's rooted in the gospel.

- AS A GROUP, READ HEBREWS 9:12.

How did Christ eliminate the need for the ritual of sacrifice?

Why is this significant to believers?

Earthly high priests had to make animal sacrifices to God regularly on behalf of sins, but Jesus' sacrificial death is a once-for-all sacrifice—"by His own blood."

How did the writer of Hebrews compare Jesus as High Priest to earthly priests? What difference does this make?

Earthly priests entered sanctuaries "made with hands" to offer animal sacrifices. The high priest could enter the "holy place" only once per year. They served in the presence of men and offered animal sacrifices to God. Christ is High Priest in the eternal sanctuary. His sacrifice, through His death, is a once-for-all sacrifice. Christ serves forever in the presence of God.

- AS A GROUP, READ HEBREWS 10:14-18.



In your own words, how does this passage show us the gospel?

How should what Jesus has done impact the way we worship God?

What are some of the ways the Old Testament terms, combined with the freedom that comes from Christ, impact our physical acts of worship?

We are people who have been forgiven. As forgiven people, we should worship with the kind of freedom that reflects what Jesus has done on our behalf at the cross.

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

What are some ways you can actively prepare yourself to come into the corporate worship setting?

How has this study challenged the way you think about your posture in worship?

What's the value in stretching outside your physical comfort zone as an expression of worship?

PRAYER

As you close your small group time, ask the Lord to give you a greater love of the gospel that is reflected in your freedom in worship.

LOOKING AHEAD

Encourage your group to look ahead to next week's scripture passage. We will resume our study of 1 Thessalonians.

September 25, 2022 --- 1 Thessalonians 5:4-11

