

Only One Sacrifice Necessary *Hebrews 9:11-28*

“At the end of that eventful Passover week when Jesus was finishing His ministry, the Romans had prepared three crosses for three criminals. On two of the crosses, thieves were to hang. The third cross was for an insurrectionist named Barabbas, who had been found guilty of treason against the empire. But Barabbas never made it to the cross. He was guilty and condemned, but he was not executed—because someone took his place. On the middle cross that day hung not a violent, profane rebel, but the sinless Son of God. Barabbas went free not because he was innocent, but because Jesus took his place. Jesus was crucified not because he was guilty, but so that He could take Barabbas’s place—and the place of every other sinner.”
MacArthur

- I. Of the things we must understand on a deeper level as we become more and more acquainted with the teachings of righteousness, is what it means to be in a covenant relationship with Jesus Christ. Of the five covenants mentioned in Scripture, four are unconditional and one is not. The conditional Mosaic covenant concerns the law and is the one that all people will be judged by apart from saving work of Jesus Christ through belief in the gospel. Upon salvation, the believer enters into an unconditional one-way unilateral covenant with the Savior who then obligates Himself to a believer by not only guaranteeing him or her entrance into his kingdom, but also by giving them everything they need for life and godliness as they live here on earth.

Rom. 7:7

Heb. 9:15

2 Peter 1:10

Rom. 12:1

Heb. 5:13-14

Rom. 6:23

Jer. 8:12

Phil 2:12-13 *12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.*

- II. The word used for covenant in the Greek (*diathēkē*) can be translated will, testament or covenant. As with any will, its terms cannot be put effect unless the testator dies. God wrote Jesus' last will and testament before the foundation of the world knowing that man's salvation depended on not only the death of the testator, Jesus, but also on man's willingness to enter into agreement with the terms of the will. The price that Jesus willingly paid to put the will, i.e., the New Covenant, into effect was his blood. It is the only means whereby forgiveness can come. Forgiveness demands blood, it requires it. God requires it. Through it, comes the redeeming of souls who would otherwise be lost because of unforgiven sin. The blood of Christ is so eternally powerful that when it is applied to the repentant sinner, its effect of complete forgiveness cannot be reversed.

Heb. 9:15-26

Col. 3:13

Rom. 3:23

Rom. 5:8

Rom. 10:9-10

Eph. 2:8-9

Rom. 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Eph. 1:7 *In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*

- III. Jesus sacrificed himself to take away our sins so that anyone who would believe upon him for salvation would not have to face him at the great white throne judgment which will occur at the end of his millennial reign here on earth. For the redeemed, our judgment at the Bema Seat of Christ will not be based on sin but on the type of fruit we bore for him as a believer. For the unredeemed, their judgment will be based on their sin, which will unfortunately keep them from entrance into his kingdom because apart from the blood of Christ, there is no forgiveness.

Heb. 9:27-28

2 Cor. 5:10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

Rev. 20:11-12 *Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.*