

Letter to the Hebrews

Pembroke Bible Chapel
D Axford – June 8, 2008
Series No. DA-HEB-16

Christ's Blood Cleanses our Conscience Hebrews 9:11-14

I. THE OLD

The Law and the old sacrificial system were external and could never provide freedom from a guilty conscience.

II. THE NEW

The Lord Jesus Christ is the reality of all of the Old Testament types and shadows. In Him we have:

Better High Priest:

His priesthood is perfect and eternal (*Heb.9:11a*)

Better Good:

Present blessings for every believer (*Heb.9:11b; Eph.1*)

Better Access:

He represents the believer continuously in the very presence of God (*Heb.9:11c, 12c; 8:2*)

Better Sacrifice:

By His own blood He provides internal cleansing (*Heb.9:12b, 14a; 22; 10:12*)

Better efficacy:

Once for all sacrifice - eternal and for all who believe (*Heb.9:12c; 7:27; 9:26, 28; 10:2, 10; Rom.6:10; 1Pet.3:18*)

Better Result:

Assurance of eternal redemption to all who believe (*Heb.9:12d*)

Better Cleansing:

Christ's sacrificial death and shed blood, applied to the life of the believer, provides inner and enduring cleansing of the conscience enabling true worship to flow to Him (*Heb.9:13d, 9:9; 10:2; Heb.9:14*)

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Application

Many believers struggle with guilt in various forms. This could take the form of deep regret for some past act or failure which you can't seem to let go of, it could take the form of a sense that you have let down your Lord, it could be a sense of deep despair over your own inadequacies, it could result from a habit that you have been unable to overcome, or from many other circumstances.

Jesus said "the truth shall set you free". The starting point in clearing your conscience (*2 Tim.1:3*) is to know and believe the truth concerning the full extent of what Christ actually accomplished for you on the cross of Calvary.

1. God has forgiven you of your past failures and He promises to cleanse you from these things (*1 John 1:9*). God has placed these things in the sea of His forgetfulness – they are gone (*Ps.103:12; Is.43:25; Mic.7:19*). So know that your thoughts about these things do not come from Him.
2. As a child of God, indwelt by His Spirit, you are under His ownership. In the Old Testament scheme, various things were sprinkled with sacrificial blood including people (*Heb.9:22*). This act signified that the person or thing was consecrated to and under God's ownership. It was in effect, in His sight (*Ex.12:13*), His mark of ownership. The people under the old system failed because it was external, was only animal blood, and needed to be repeated often. Know that Christ's blood has been applied to you permanently, individually, and internally by God. You can't see it but God does. He sees the blood and not your failures. As His own, think His thoughts.
3. Believe His word! It's stated as fact – "His blood will cleanse your conscience" (*Heb.9:14*)