

Letter to the Hebrews

Pembroke Bible Chapel
D Axford – June 15, 2008
Series No. DA-HEB-17

Christ's Blood Procures Forgiveness

Hebrews 9:15-22

I. THE COVENANT

The Mediator of the Covenant (vs.15)

A covenant needs a mediator to go between the two parties of the agreement. Christ is that mediator, in retrospect, for the old covenant, and in prospect, for the new.

The Seal of the Covenant (vs.18-20)

Blood was applied to the parties of the covenant agreement as the seal of that agreement. (*Ex.24:5-8; Gen.15:9-18*)

The Blood of the Covenant (vs.21-22)

Blood shedding provides forgiveness of sin; blood sprinkling provides cleansing from the defilements of the world. Christ's sacrifice provides both.

II. THE WILL

The Guarantor of the Will (vs.16, 17)

Christ is the guarantor (testator) of the will which promised the benefits of an eternal inheritance to all of the beneficiaries of His will. These benefits took effect upon His death and are irrevocable. (*Mat.26:28; 1 Jn.2:1-2; Heb.13:20*)

The Promises of the Will

These are many including sonship, inheritance, spiritual blessings, eternal life, and exaltation.

The Beneficiaries of the Will

New Testament Church age believers are the beneficiaries.

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Application

We have been looking at the superiority of Christ and His work. For several weeks we have been looking at how His death and shed blood has fulfilled all of the Old Testament symbols and types and prophecies concerning Him. But what does this mean to me?

This book was written to Jewish Christians to show them how much superior Christ and Christianity is to their old ways in Judaism with the object of exhorting them not to go back to their old ways, their old culture. But we here this morning are not of Jewish background but are Gentiles. Our cultural background is different. So what relevance is this to us?

I would suggest that for us the exhortation is for us not to go back to our old ways - to the norms of our culture. Do not take the path of least resistance – which in reality is to slip back into the pattern of those around us. This path of least resistance is invariably the wrong path and it is the wrong path for you.

The other practical application of today's passage comes out of what we have learned about God's basic nature. He is a forgiving God. His forgiveness is abundant and no one is beyond it. So we as Christians need to show the same characteristic. We need to be forgiving. There is no one beyond God's forgiveness and there should be no one beyond ours.

Is there someone you cannot forgive? This message then is for you. Forgive that person as Christ has forgiven you.