

Jesus Is Better Hebrews 10:1-18

Intro

Reclaimed wood and pallet wood stuff has been popular for a while now. It was extremely popular a couple of years ago. When I first got into furniture building everything I built was from pallet or reclaimed wood. It looked good when done well and even when done poorly it still looked pretty good.

The rustic aspect of it was part of its charm. I enjoyed taking something that truthfully was worthless and deserved to be thrown into the fire and making something beautiful out of it.

Transition

Something about seeing new life breathed into the old is enjoyable. Something about redeeming what was to be destroyed and making it beautiful once more is satisfying. We are the same way. We are sinful and broken headed for destruction. But GOD seeing the beauty in the ashes. He sees value when we think there is none. His plan is to bring restoration to what is broken.

Sticky Statement: Redemption has been God's plan from the beginning.

Passage

1 Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come, and not the reality itself of those things, it can never perfect the worshipers by the same sacrifices they continually offer year after year. 2 Otherwise, wouldn't they have stopped being offered, since the worshipers, purified once and for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? 3 But in the sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year after year. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Hebrews 10:4

The author here is reminding us the law was not sufficient to remove sin.

The sacrifices offered under the law because of sin were simply a band aid.

They were a temporary reprieve from God's wrath.

The sacrifices simply postponed His judgment.

They were not capable of casting away the sins of the worshiper.

The blood of the animal could not perfect the believer.

The blood offered in the sacrificial system of the Old Testament did not offer permanent purification.

The consequence of sin would continue to linger.

Something greater was needed.

Someone with the power and authority to offer true lasting forgiveness was needed.

Lets pick up with verse 5:

5 Therefore, as he was coming into the world, he said: **You did not desire sacrifice and offering, but you prepared a body for me. 6 You did not delight in whole burnt offerings and sin offerings.** 7 Then I said, **“See—it is written about me in the scroll —I have come to do your will, God.”** 8 After he says above, You did not desire or delight in sacrifices and offerings, whole burnt offerings and sin offerings (which are offered according to the law), 9 he then says, See, I have come to do your will. He takes away the first to establish the second. 10 By this will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time.

Hebrews 10:5-10

Because of the first 4 verses of chapter 10, Christ came.

The author of Hebrews again quotes from the Old Testament.

He quotes from Psalm 40:6-8.

The author here is telling us that this passage is the Son speaking to the Father.

Christ is saying that God the Father is not satisfied with religious activity.

For many Jews the sacrifices of offerings given at the time had simply become part of what they did.

Just like for many in American culture today going to church following certain rules is just something that they do.

This is something that all Christians can fall into if we are not mindful of our faith.

We find ourselves going through the motions rather than following in faithful, loving, obedience.

It is not empty actions that God desires to see.

It is not the sacrifices given at the temple that will bring perpetual forgiveness.

It is because of the obedience of Christ that we may experience forgiveness.

Christ came so that He might offer His body as a sacrifice for our sins.

It was the will of the Father that Christ would die.

Look at verse 11:

11 Every priest stands day after day ministering and offering the same sacrifices time after time, which can never take away sins. 12 But this man, after offering one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. 13 He is now waiting until his enemies are made his footstool. 14 For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are sanctified.

Hebrews 10:11-14

We have looked at this concept several times in the book of Hebrews.

This tells us it is something that the Holy Spirit wants us to remember.

The priest would offer sacrifices daily because the blood of the animals was not enough.

Christ however is enough.

Christ offered His body once as our sacrifice and it covered the debt owed from sin.

The blood of Christ perfects the ones that are being made Holy.

It is not sacrifices and offerings from human hands.

It is not fulfilling certain actions.

It is not religious activity.

It is the work of Christ on the cross that perfects the believer.

Verse 15:

15 The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. For after he says: 16 **This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, the Lord says, I will put my laws on their hearts and write them on their minds, 17 and I will never again remember their sins** and their lawless acts. 18 Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

Hebrews 10:15-18

The author cites another Old Testament passage here.

Here he quotes Jeremiah 31:33-34.

With Jesus sacrifice we no longer have to offer animal sacrifices over and over.

The Old Covenant was a temporary patch on the problem.

The New Covenant in Christ offers a permanent solution to the sin problem.

It offers permanent forgiveness from sin.

Our sins are no longer on record, no longer are they held against us in God's judgment.

For all that have called on His name your sins are gone!

The New Covenant offers a new heart.

A new heart that desires the things of God in place of the things of this world.

The covenant was new but it was the fulfillment of an old revelation.

The author quoting Jeremiah affirms to us that the Holy Spirit had revealed the plan centuries before the plan came to fruition

God was working long before we fully saw the results of His actions.

Application

God is working.

Christ came to offer His physical body as a sacrifice for our sin.

When we believe Christ our sins are forgiven.

They are not just forgiven but complete removed from our permanent record.

The eternal consequences of our sins no longer lingers.

They no longer hang over us like a huge weight that can crash down on us at any moment.

Forgiveness is given as a result of the obedience of Christ to the will of the Father.

Freedom from sin is not by accident.

Redemption is available not by happen stance but because of God's plan.

Redemption has been God's plan from the beginning.

Challenge

Have you experience redemption by Christ or are you hoping you are good enough?