

## Once and For All

Hebrews 9:22-28

vs.22- leading up to this verse, the author has reminded his readers that the Law required everything to be purged with blood (people, book, Tabernacle, vessels)

-“almost all”- the writer includes this phrase to remind of those who were too poor to bring even a small animal for sacrifice were allowed to bring an ephah of fine flour (Lev.5:11) (An ephah was about 1/10 of a homer- a homer was around 6.25 bushels or the typical load a donkey could carry)

-“shedding of blood”- a death- it was blood that made atonement then (Lev.17:11) and it’s the blood of Christ that pardons now

-“remission”- (aphesis) this is a medical term meaning a release from bondage or imprisonment (The word also carries the idea of a pardon)

vs.23- the rest of the chapter show that Christ’s priestly ministry is to be exercised in the Perfect Tabernacle in Heaven

(He is the complete fulfillment of the foreshadowing Levitical system)

\*the physical Tabernacle that once was, was only a symbolic replica of the True Tabernacle (8:2)

-“better sacrifices”- as the lesser Tabernacle needed lesser sacrifices, the Perfect Tabernacle required a perfect sacrifice

(Its plural here meaning that the Perfect Sacrifice rebirths us into a sacrificial people- meaning we “crucify our flesh” and live holy unto the Lord)

vs.24- this verse reminds us that Christ didn’t go into the earthly Temple made with hands after He offered Himself, He ascended to Heaven into the presence of God and the perfect sanctuary

-“appeared”- even though the Levitical high priest could take the blood into the Holy of Holies, he still could not look upon God- Look at Lev.16:12-13

- when speaking about Christ entering, the writer never mentions any incense

Truth- since Christ enters into the presence of God and doesn’t die, the writer is implying that Jesus is God

vs.25- “often”- meaning frequently, more than once

\*this ritual had to be repeated year after year as the system could never completely cleanse

-“blood of others”- meaning the blood of animals and the fact that it was not his own blood (In contrast, Christ offered His own blood as His sacrifice is perfect, complete, and needs no repeating)

Truth- He came at a specific period, with a specific purpose, to make a specific payment

vs.26- “for then”- meaning if Christ’s blood had only the effect of the Old Testament sacrifices, then He would have to return each year to die all over again

-“ends of the world”- meaning in the last days or last times (time between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent)

-“put away”- (athetesis) to abolish or disannul

vs.27- like all mankind, Jesus was appointed to die once (and not every year for atonement)

- there has been a few cases were people have died twice

(Lazarus, Jairus’ daughter, widow’s son, Paul)

Truth- even raptured saints will experience a sense of physical death - I Cor.15:50-54

-“judgment”- everybody will have a day of judgment (the lost- Rev.20/the redeemed- 2 Cor.5:10)

Truth- the judgment of the redeemed is one of evaluation, not punishment

(This judgment is known as “Bema”- it is not to settle destiny but to determine rewards)

vs.28- one the Day of Atonement, if the high priest did anything wrong, he would die

(The people always waited eagerly outside to see the priest reappear after he made atonement)

\*if they were that eager to see the Levitical high priest reappear, then how much more should us Christians eagerly await for the reappearing of our Great High Priest?

(Titus 2:11-13, I John 2:28-29)