

November 4, 2018

Reconciled

Hebrews 9:11-15

The contrast is clear and powerful. Christ's sacrifice, referred to as the blood of Christ, is a once-for-all sacrifice compared to the repeated sacrifices of goats, bulls, and red heifers. The Levitical system purified the flesh; the sacrifice of Christ will purify our conscience. The old covenant dealt with the external problem of humankind, but Christ is capable of dealing with the whole interior person as they stand before God... the blood of Christ purifies our conscience from dead works—the active violation of the will of God (R. Hahn, 2016).

Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered Himself to God as a perfect Sacrifice for our sins. Hebrews 9:14 (NLT)

The word translated 'purify' is an ancient Hellenic verb generally used in a ceremonial sense. This term—used only three times (Matthew 3:12, James 4:8) in the New Testament—makes it clear the Blood not only cleanses from actual sins but purges the very sin nature itself (H. O. Wiley, 1958).

Exuberant joy comes from a cleansed conscience. Jesus went to the depths to free us from our sin. He accomplished everything necessary for us to live for Him without fear, guilt, or shame.

Ask the Lord to purify your conscience, so you are free to worship and serve Him.

Next week: *Hebrews 9:24-28*

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 19* (Ask God's Spirit to speak to you.)

Monday: *Ezekiel 36:22-32*

Tuesday: *Ephesians 5:1-20*

Wednesday: *John 9*

Thursday: *Luke 19:1-10*

Friday: *Acts 26:2-29*

Saturday: *Colossians 3:1-17*

Almighty God, send Your transforming power into our lives as we seek to serve You this day. Grant to us wisdom, courage, grace, and strength to faithfully fulfill the ministry to which You have called us all. In the Name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ; Amen.

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