

Hebrews 9:24-28

Verses 23-28 return to the themes developed in Hebrews 9:1-14. Jesus has entered the heavenly sanctuary. His death is a once-for-all atoning sacrifice for our sin. However, He will leave that heavenly sanctuary to come again. But at His second coming He will not deal with the sin problem; He will save those who are eagerly waiting for His arrival. “Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:21) (R. Hahn, 2016).

Jews of the first century would have been familiar with how the ritual of the Day of Atonement worked. After the preliminaries were completed, the high priest would go into the holy of holies with the sacrificial blood, to make the annual atonement for the people. He would then re-emerge both to declare the sign of forgiveness had once again been performed, and to set about the work of dealing with the problems that remained in the community, the practical outworking of the ritual... however, when Jesus reappears, it would not be to do anything further in relation to sin. No more work of atonement would be necessary. When Jesus appears, it will be with one aim: to save those who are waiting for Him, to transform them so they become the people God wants them to be as citizens of His new creation (Philippians 3:20-21) (N.T. Wright, 2004).

How does Jesus' life and death effectively deal with our sin?

Have I allowed Jesus access to my heart? Have I experienced His cleansing from sin?

Next week: *Hebrews 10:11-25*

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Sin Problem Solved

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 90* (Ask God's Spirit to speak to you.)

Monday: *Luke 12:35-59*

Tuesday: *Hebrews 11:32–12:2*

Wednesday: *1 Peter 1:3-9*

Thursday: *Acts 17:16-34*

Friday: *John 11:1-44*

Saturday: *1 Corinthians 15:51-58*

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in such harmony with one another—in accordance with Christ Jesus—that together we may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Romans 15:5-6

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