

We continue in the series, JESUS IS GREATER from the book of Hebrews

Hebrews is a book that shows us how Jesus has come and completed a work or fills a position first established in the OT.

**These OT things were hugely important for the people of God.**

**These things mentioned were the way they found forgiveness, favor and a way to have relationship with God.**

So what the writer of Hebrews is doing is working through these things and showing how Jesus is Greater.

Remember we said in the beginning. Jesus is the ultimate and final expression of who God is and how God loves.

Previously God worked through these OT things – but now He has and is working through Jesus his son.

We've looked at many of these things...Angels, Moses, Priests, Covenants. **Tonight we look at sacrifices.**

This is a pretty well-known OT thing to us right? We get that Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice. **But what does that mean?**

**We been talking about the high priests the last few weeks.**

One of the greatest roles they had was performing the sacrifices, **sacrifices secured the covenant for one.**

But then, we know this one well, **those sacrifices only brought temporary relief to the payment of sins.**

The task of sacrificing was a never ending deal because well...the sins of the people were never ending.

But God had a remedy for this...enter Jesus. **READ HEB. 9:11-14**

In these verses we find the direction of tonight – Our main thread that covers the next two chapters.

**The Main THREAD: Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice, bringing redemption and abundant life to all who believe.**

So in light of what we read earlier...*that Jesus has offered himself at the ultimate sacrifice, bringing redemption/life.*

There is a response....**THEREFORE or SO THEN** – He (CHRIST) is the mediator of the NEW Covenant, **from last week.**

**But let's get some history on sacrifices - LOOK AT HOW THEY STARTED and the purpose they served even then –**

The first sacrifice was actually in the garden, very early in the story. ADAM/EVE SIN and then this –

Turn to **GEN.3:7** – Man's response to sin (figs) - **GEN. 3:21** (skins) - one is temporary the other, greater.

**NOW – fast forward to Hebrews – hang with me – this is the next step is bringing relief to sin – READ HEB. 9:18-28**

**You see the trend continue...one sacrifice was temporary – the other, greater. In light of this, here's what we can say.**

**1. Jesus is the greater sacrifice that takes away the penalty for sin.**

That's pretty simple to see isn't it? Skip ahead a bit...look at **10:11-12**

**The old sacrifices brought relief to the sin payment....Jesus totally took it away.**

Jesus has taken away the ultimate sting of sin/death.

**But keep reading – 10:14, 10:18**

Sin usually embarrasses us doesn't it...but here we see it's Jesus who has embarrassed sin. **Putting it in its place**

He is the greater sacrifice, and that sacrifice has made forgiveness of sins, past/present/future possible.

But...**2. Jesus is the greater sacrifice that brings about an abundant life**

I'm sure you remember **John 10:10....QUOTE IT....**well here is a great example of what that looks like.

We all know sin cripples us....it shames us....it reminds us that we are not good enough and should just quit.

Meanwhile, Jesus says NO to that....but rather he has given us life, through the sacrifice, for redemption & **abundant life.**

The writer of Hebrews explains some things that helps us see what this life is all about. It's how we make this real.

**THEREFORE 10:19 (because Jesus has brought redemption) – some things should happen. (life abundantly)**

**v. 19** – we should have **confidence** to stand before God (not run as adam and eve or Jonah or Peter or us)

**v.22** – we should have **closeness** and faith **v. 23** – we should have **courage** to stand

**v.24 - 26** – we should have **concern** for other believers, concern to be together, concern to live holy lives

**V v. 35-39** – we have **confidence** to live –**CONFIDENCE SANDWICH**

Do you see the difference in how life is lived? **SIN SEEKS TO CRIPPLE – JESUS HAS MADE US FREE FROM THAT.**

**JESUS MADE AMENDS – HE WAS THE SACRIFICE. HE IS GREATER.** And in Christ we are free'd from sin, free'd to live.

**Notice, Jesus takes away something bad and replaces it with something greater.**

**SO WHAT NOW? It changes how I live.** What are some possible applications? The THEREFORE's I should see in my life?

1. **I start worshipping God with my life – My life become a sacrifice of praise to God. HOW I LIVE/PLAY/STUDY/WORK/BE.**
  - a. Starts with following Christ – the way, the truth, the life. I confess my need for Him, repent, follow
  - b. Then it continues with the confidence sandwich (Confidence, closeness, courage, concern, confidence)
    - i. There are more as you read the NT but it starts here...closeness to GOD is reclaimed/celebrated

2. **I stop allowing a defeated enemy to get the best of me.**

**a.** I wage war on sin **b.** I stop believing the lies **c.** I stop feeling shame (something that doesn't belong)

You're the one that must get specific here....you know the sins, you know the lies, you know the potential shame.

Who are you trusting in to give you what you really need? Do you know what you really need?

**Questions on Screens & on YouVersion.**