

## Sermon Notes and Discussion Questions

### Hebrews 9:11-14

Sermon Title: There's Power in the Blood

Sunday, November 4, 2018

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Hebrews 9 presents a detailed contrast between the old covenant represented through the tabernacle and the new covenant through Jesus Christ. The new covenant is superior and we should not look back to the old covenant. There is power in the blood of Jesus. Jesus is our High Priest that allows us to usher in the new covenant.

The first covenant was made back in the Garden of Eden. God said to Adam and Eve, "Don't eat of this tree— the tree of knowledge. Adam and Eve broke the first covenant by eating. Subsequent covenants include: God's covenant with Noah, Abraham, and Moses. Then Jesus came and the new covenant is established.

The old covenant was inferior because:

- It was a shadow of what was to come. (vv. 2-5)
- It was inaccessible to people. (vv. 6-7)
- Temporary atonement that was ceremonial cleansing for the body, but could not reach the heart and conscience. (vs. 8)
- It was ineffective for changing hearts. (vv. 9-10)

The new covenant was superior because:

- It is effective at changing lives by reaching our heart and conscience. (vv. 12-23)
- It is a fulfillment and not a shadow (v. 24)
- It is based on a completed sacrifice (vv. 25-28)

### Sermon in a Sentence:

The power of Jesus' blood impacts believers with peace, purpose and purity.

- We have what we have and we are who we are because of the power in the blood of Jesus.
- God's plan was to be in relationship with his creation. He created a wonderful garden and humankind blew it. Sin had the consequence of death.
- Blood had to be shed to cover sin because of our imperfection:
  - Old Covenant—sacrifices were brought.
  - New Covenant – Jesus was the total complete fulfilling sacrifice for sins current, past and future. Jesus' blood secured our redemption. The sacrifice only had to be made once and will last for all time.

### **Key Points:**

1. **His Blood secured our redemption (v. 11-12)**
  - a. Recall the words of the hymn: "What can wash away our sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
  - b. The blood secures our place with God. We have an unchanging and perfect standing with God because Jesus' blood justifies us. We do not have to suffer the penalty for our sin.

- c. Blood of Jesus cleanses us from the inside of hatred, guilt, bitterness, etc. The unblemished offering to God cleanses our conscience. I may still be working on anger management, unforgiveness, etc., but I'm covered. We need the blood of Jesus to cleanse and cover us.
  - d. We cannot earn his grace and favor. Even the best we can do still needs the blood of Jesus. You do not have the privilege doing what you know is wrong.
- 2. His blood secured our purification (v. 13-14)**
- a. The blood makes us clean from the inside—our emotions, will and heart. The song says, “[The blood] It reaches to the highest mountain and flows to the lowest valley. The blood that gives me strength...will never lose its power.
  - b. The blood cleanses our conscience from acts of death so that we may serve the living God.
- 3. His blood secured our dedication – We are saved to serve.**
- a. Be Holy because I am Holy. Holy means “set apart,” “dedicated”. Holiness is not perfection. The new covenant in my blood. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice. His blood has dedicated us for service.
  - b. Without His blood, we would be disqualified from serving.
  - c. 1954- Brown vs. Board of Education – This court ruling ended legal segregation. Since then, an attorney can refer to this case referencing what was secured by the court ruling.
    - i. When you are challenged with situations in your life and the enemy tries to deny you what God has done for you, be reminded that a decision was made 2,000 years ago.
    - ii. When the enemy tries to tell you your guilt can overtake you or your failures disqualify you, call on the name of Jesus. His blood covers me. I will not be depressed, distressed by my past or what folks say about me. I am able to do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
  - d. His blood was shed so that we could have victory over sin, hell and the grave. Rise up, the blood of Jesus has covered me.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why is the New Covenant superior to the the Old Covenant?
2. Discuss how the blood of Jesus makes us secure.
3. How does knowing you are covered by the blood affect what you think about yourself?
4. The blood of Jesus Christ gives us an unchanging and perfect standing with God. Why is it important that we not take this truth for granted?
5. How does knowing you are covered by the blood affect how you live?