

Q: Salvation is found only through Christ (Acts 4:12). In the OT God provided a way for sins to be atoned for, until the Messiah would come and deal with our sin once for all. How were people saved in the OT (before Christ)? (see Gen 15:6) \_\_\_\_\_

Q: (v.27) What does this passage tell us about death? How does this **clearly refute** both the Eastern concept of reincarnation, and the concept of purgatory (you can “work” your way out of Hades)? \_\_\_\_\_

Week of November 10, 2019

Hebrews 9:1-28

Q: In what ways were the OT sacrificial system only a shadow of Christ’s true heavenly sacrifice? \_\_\_\_\_

*The term “Covenant” means to bind...The Old Covenant and it’s sacrifices were not a means to salvation, but a way to faithful obedience. They were not meant to forgive and remove sins but pointed to the one true sacrifice of Christ that would do just that. They were a test of true faith in God and a physical reminder of spiritual truths pointing to Jesus, the Messiah. God was replacing the old covenant with the new. This chapter describes the OT tabernacle (tent), and how it was replaced by a permanent “heavenly tabernacle” fulfilled by Christ and his once-for-all sacrifice for us, and his continued heavenly intercession on our behalf. We now have complete access to God the Father through Jesus Christ the Son of God!*

Q: How does this passage help Christians (including you) who struggle with a guilty conscience and may be afraid to approach God? \_\_\_\_\_

Q: Growing up, what areas of your home were “off limits” or what items were you told “do not touch?” \_\_\_\_\_

Q: Christ’s perfect sacrifice for your sin makes you completely accepted in God’s sight. How can knowing and embracing this truth affect your relationship with God and with others? \_\_\_\_\_

Q: Why is it important to have “physical reminders of spiritual truths?” \_\_\_\_\_

PRAY: Thank you Jesus for your once-for-all sufficient sacrifice for my sins. Thank you for the hope of your imminent return. Help me daily to know that you have canceled my sin debt, removed my guilt and shame and set me free to live for you. I’m accepted, loved and cherished by you. Thank you! In Jesus name, Amen!

Q: (vv. 1-5) The items in the Tabernacle are pictured here. Only the priests had access to them. What is the significance of each one? (see Exodus 25-31, 35-40 for more information on each). \_\_\_\_\_

Q: (vv.6-7) What is the significance of, and who has access to the inner room, the Most Holy Place in the Tabernacle/Temple? (see Leviticus 16:1-17)

Q: (v.8) the way to the Most Holy Place (where God met with His people) was closed as long as the tabernacle/temple stood. How did Jesus open the way to God for all? (see Matt 27:50-51)

Q: (vv.9-10) Why were the Old Testament sacrifices NOT sufficient to clear the consciences of the people? How was Christ's sacrifice different (v.14)?

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Q: (vv.11-14) How was Christ's sacrifice and priesthood all sufficient? (see John 10:17-18, Rom 3:23-26; Col 1:13-22; 1 Pet 1:18-21)

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Q: What kind of lasting change did Christ's death on the cross make possible for you? (see 2 Cor 5:17—what does this mean?)

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Q: (v.15) Who does Christ set free (ransom)? See also Rom 3:25.

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*FYI, the ransom Christ paid was to God Himself (not to any created being like Satan). Sin offended a Holy God and demanded a payment (death—Rom 6:23). Jesus fully paid that debt, once for all! Praise God! We have been forgiven and set free from the penalty and power of sin and death!*

Q: (vv.16-17) How is Christ's death like a legal will (which goes into effect when the person dies)? Who are the beneficiaries and what do they inherit?

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Q: (vv.19-22) In the OT, why is there such emphasis on shed blood? Why was it necessary that an animal die (in our place)? (see Lev 17:11).

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Q: What does all this show us about the seriousness and costliness of our sin, and the holiness and righteousness of God?

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Q: Our sin unfortunately (but necessarily) separates us from a sinless, Holy God (Isa 59:2). We remain separated unless something is done to remove sin from us. But God in His mercy, provided a way for atonement (covering) of sin in the OT. Christ would ultimately pay for and remove our sins permanently, reconciling us with our Holy God. What does this tell us about the nature and character of our God and His desire for relationship with us? Who is doing the pursuing? (see Rom 5:8)

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Q: (vv.22-28) The OT system and ceremonies were but a copy, a shadow of the real deal found in Christ. How is Christ's once-for-all sacrifice all sufficient? (see also Matt 26:26-28)

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