

Hebrews #21
Hebrews 9:1-14
The Complete Conscience
16073-A 09/18/2016

I. **Matt. 11:25-30. Come to Me and I will give you Rest for your soul...**

- A. God wants a relationship with us.
 - A.1. That's why Jesus thanks the Father for initiating this.
- B. We need a relationship with Him. We're dying of exhaustion.
 - B.1. Not a religion, but a relationship.
- C. He calls us to learn from Him to receive rest for our souls
 - C.1. Not just mental assent, but active learning from. Learning to think like Him.
- D. Some Jewish Christians were thinking of going back to Religion after starting Relationship.

II. **So the Pastor explains that the New Covenant is the only way. Hebrews 9:1-14**

A. **The Old Covenant was limited from the beginning. 1-10**

A.1. Tabernacle was "useful" but only symbolically.

- A.1.a) First Room, Holy Place. (Ex. 25-31)
 - (A.1.a.1) Lamp Stand (Menorah) Table of Consecrated Bread, Incense Altar.
- A.1.b) Second Room (Holy of Holies)
 - (A.1.b.1) Incense mentioned here because of association with entering the Holy of Holies.
 - (A.1.b.2) Ark of the Covenant. (27x27x36)
 - (A.1.b.2.a) A gold jar of manna (Ex. 16:33-34); Aaron's Rod that budded (Num. 17); Tablets of the Covenant.
 - (A.1.b.3) Angels stretching their wings over the lid (solid gold)
 - (A.1.b.3.a) Shekinah (glory) presence of God dwelt in between the wings.

A.2. The priests "worshipped", but could not really live in God's presence (the Holy of Holies). 6-7

- A.2.a) They trimmed the wicks, replaced the bread, fired the incense.
- A.2.b) *But they did not have free access to God!! Only the HP could enter the HH and only once a year and very carefully, with a bowl of blood, for himself and the people.*

A.3. The sacrifices "worked", but never cleansed the inner person. 8-10

- A.3.a) The problem with religion is that it only touches the surface. The OC only dealt with externals, to be used until a time of "reformation"
 - (A.3.a.1) Reformation = diorthoseos = in physical sense, to restore to natural and healthy condition, like setting an arm.
- A.3.b) *The OC was waiting for a "straightening out" a "fixing" "correction" of the relationship between God and man.*

A.4. So, The tabernacle system was both a provision and a prohibition in relationship to God.

- A.4.a) Provisional presence of God that reminded the people of sin and separation from God. It had to be temporary!

- B. **But Christ's High Priesthood ushers in a brand new reality: *Rest for our Souls*. 11-14**
- B.1. The "Tabernacle" He serves is the actual presence of God—the True Holy of Holies. 11
- B.1.a) There is a real presence of God in the other dimension, "heaven."
 B.1.b) Heaven is a real place—and your life is hidden there. Col.3:1-4
 B.1.c) *We are living with God, calling Him Father, just like Jesus, knowing that He loves us!*
- B.2. The Blood He offers is his own—not animal. 12.
- B.2.a) Human blood is more valuable than animal blood.
 B.2.b) *If God had blood, what would be the value of it? Eternal. Acts 20:28*
- B.3. The Redemption He obtained is eternal. 12
- B.3.a) *We are eternally purchased, from slavery and doom of sin. That's what the word "redemption" means.*
- B.4. The Power He works in is the Holy Spirit—infinite power. 14
- B.4.a) Through the Eternal Spirit—He cannot fail!
 B.4.b) Jesus' life was Trinitarian and so is your salvation.
 B.4.c) God is *completely involved in* and *committed to* your salvation.
- B.5. The Sacrifice He applies cleanses our conscience. 14
- B.5.a) Conscience = suneidesis = inner person at the moral level, the ability and willingness to discern between right and wrong, *the knowledge of having committed wrong.*
 (B.5.a.1) *This is where one might experience rest for the soul*
- B.5.b) Cleansed from what? Dead works = evil in the heart
 (B.5.b.1) You are clean in Christ and able to walk with God
- B.5.c) We become clean from the inside out—forever.
 B.5.d) Only the gospel cleanses our conscience.
- B.6. The Purity He provides motivates our service. 14
- B.6.a) Purify = katharidzo = cleanse. So that we can serve the living God. Eph.2:8-10
 B.6.b) Serve = latreuo = priestly covenant service of God. (1 Peter 2:9-10)
 B.6.c) *This new clean life is for the purpose of living in loyalty to the Lord at every level.*

III. **Closing Thoughts on a Completed/Purified Conscience: This is what it feels and looks like:**

- A. Conscious of sin in a piercing way. Dead works. (Acts 2:37)
- A.1. Not seared by false religion or sin. (1 Tim.4:2)
- B. Convinced of forgiveness in a transforming way. Rom.8
- B.1. Healing the pain, reconciling the life with God (2 Cor.5:17-21)
- C. Committed to service in a holy way. Col.3:1-17
- C.1. Living a life of loyalty and obedience and service to God in every area. By grace through faith in Christ.