

May 17th Sunday 2015

Text: Hebrews 8:6-13

Topic: Why the New Covenant?

If there is nothing wrong with the first covenant, there would have been no need to make new covenant. The problems were that the Jewish were not faithful; they failed on part (Jeremiah 31:31-34). God says "I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah the two kingdoms North and South these the descendent of Abraham, while those who put their faith in Jesus are the true descendant of Abraham today as Paul puts it in Galatians 3:7-9. The new Covenant was not like the old and two stone tablets, the new one is in men's heart. People were not able to obey the old covenant, but the new is received through the Holy Spirit who gives them the power and the desire to obey God. We can now say with the Psalmist "I desire to do your will, O my God, your law is written within my heart: (Psalms 40:8).

The Jews taught one another about God and his word from the Old Testament but through the New Covenant, each believer knows God personally through the Holy Spirit dwelling within him. Just as children know their human father, believers can know their heavenly father. Under the new covenant our sins are forgiven and erased completely. Christ perfect sacrifice of His body makes us pure. We can go before God because we are made holy.

The old covenant would not make us come before God on our own: Jesus was able to bring us to God through the new covenant.

Lesson: The shedding of the blood of Jesus made us acceptable before God and allows us to call upon Him any time. We don't need a mediator because Jesus is already there at the right hand of God.

Prayer: We praise you Lord Jesus for this perfect sacrifice, a painful one. Help me to take it.

May 18th Monday 2015

Text: Hebrews 9:1-10

Topic: Worship in the Earthly Tabernacle

After God had delivered the Jews from bondage in Egypt, He established His first covenant with them (Exo. 24:7-8). He commanded them to build a sanctuary (Exo. 25:8-9) this tabernacle or sanctuary is large and contained two rooms divided by a curtain. One room was called the Holy place and the other the most Holy place (Exo. 26:33). The Holy place contains lamp stand (Exo. 25:31, table (Exo. 25: 23; Exo. 25:30). The second room most Holy was the golden altar incense (Exo. 30:1) ark of the covenant (Exo. 25:10) inside the ark was golden rod that had budded (Exo. 16:31-33; Numbers 17:1-5, 8, 10) and the two stone tables (Exo.24:12, 25:16, 31:18), above the ark were Cherubim of the glory which were symbol of God's glory.

God appeared in the most Holy place once a year to meet the high priest. Only the priest can endure the presence of God. Only once a year can he entered on a special day. He goes in to sacrifice for the sins of the people, committed in ignorance not deliberately (Heb.10:26). Sins committed knowingly are kept unforgiven, you can

see that people are kept from God dying in their sins. Their lack of hunger for God kills them but there is a means of deliverance in Christ.

Until the coming of Jesus, through sacrificing Himself as atonement can the open the door wide, directly to God and not in one room. People can now see God everyday of the year. A huge privilege but people do not know this. They are forced to go before God. Some created excuses for not going to church. What a disaster, it was a huge price that was paid to get that privilege by our Lord Jesus can you not appreciate this.

Lesson: It will be a disgrace for you to be forced by your parents, friends or neighbours to go to church or fellowship. For it was a huge sacrifice for us to be able to get access to God. How can you ignore such painful sacrifice?

Prayer: Lord Jesus rebukes my laziness and awaken in me the desire to be in your presence always because that is the best place to be.

May 19th Tuesday 2015

Text: Hebrews 9:11-14

Topic: The Blood of Christ

Christ came to this world to be the high priest of the good things that are in the new covenant. God does not dwell in a sanctuary made by men (Acts 17:24). He dwells in a greater and more perfect tabernacle in heaven. Jesus is the high priest of that heavenly tabernacle when He came to earth, He destroyed the man made tabernacle and in its place prepared a true heavenly tabernacle where men worship God in spirit and truth (Mark 14: 58, John 4:21, 23-24).

To enter God's presence, it is necessary to sprinkle the blood of animals, which have been sacrificed to atone for sin. Therefore the Jewish high priest brought the blood of goats and calves into the most Holy place with Him. But Jesus entered God's presence bringing His own blood which was perfect and does not need repeated act. Through His sacrifice we believers obtain REDEMPTION or SALVATION.

The blood and ashes of animals only cleans a person outwardly or ceremonially. The Jews place so much importance to outwards appearance but Jesus attached importance to inward cleanliness (Mark 7:20-23) blood or ashes never make one pure or clean, but the blood of Jesus can cleanse our conscience from acts that lead to death which is sin. And for this reason Christ cleanses us so that we can serve the living God.

Lesson: Christ himself is the sinless and blameless sacrifice. His blood has power to make us pure. Do not waste time with idol worship it is worthless.

Prayer: God help me not to go back to the old ways in Jesus name.

May 20th Wednesday 2015

Text: Hebrews 9:15-22

Topic: Freedom from Former Sins

Through Christ's death, believers have been sets free from their former sins because they have been forgiven. If you are a herbalist before accepting Jesus you are free, if you are murderer, adulterers, harlots, drunkard etc. Jesus' death will set you free

and happy before God. Christ is the mediator of the new covenant which was promised as an inheritance of eternal life. This is the promise of God to humanity that Jesus death, that man, be forgiven and Salvation be given instead of death (Heb. 7:27). This is what thousands of animals head could not do in years before the coming of Jesus. Through the shedding of innocent blood of Jesus, we are set free. It is a bad for all mankind to be in prison, to remain in darkness. It is a free offer to all mankind to chose, accept Christ or remain the enemies of God. All those who reject Jesus are enemies of God and it is worst thing to be the enemy of God. Where will you hide in the Day of Judgment? For both friends of Jesus and His enemies will give accounts. It's time to make friend with God.

Lesson: Without Jesus mankind will remain permanent enemies of God and will be judged and burnt in hell fire a place for his enemies. Will you like to be with Satan?

Prayer: I want to be with you Lord, help me to remain in you Jesus.

May 21st Thursday 2015

Text: Hebrews 9:23-28

Topic: Christ Incomparable Sacrifice

Many people keep on deceiving humanity with the idea that whatever and which religion we follow it is God that is the center. This confuses many to think it is true. Many religions still sacrifice animals, human and all forms of sacrifice to please God. This is nothing but deception, the subject of sacrifice has been closed and God is not interested in many sacrifice for there is no other sacrifice comparable to Christ' selfless sacrifice of Himself on the cross. Those who do other sacrifice after Jesus' death is to the devil not to God. All who accept Jesus are free and made perfect through the death and sacrifice of Jesus on the cross of Calvary. What He did is final and no other sacrifice of animals or human is acceptable. If sacrificing animals could have pleased God, then Jews would have done this long before now. David and his son Solomon sacrificed thousands of animals of different categories. This did not please God. but the sacrifice of Jesus has satisfied him and who ever that calls on this name gets access to God (John 1:29).

Lesson: Those who accepted Christ are required to endure and never to grow weary; we have great inheritance in heaven.

Prayer: God Almighty thank you for accepting Jesus as sacrifice and giving me life. Help me to stand firm.

May 22nd Friday 2015

Text: Hebrews 10: 1-7

Topic: Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

The Jewish law together with the old covenant is only the shadow of the good thing to come (Heb. 8:5). These good things are Christ's sacrifice. His priesthood, and the sacrifice, his priesthood Salvation and eternal life He provides to us. All the efforts of the Jewish law and its sacrifice repeated and endlessly is just but a shadow of the New covenant. This could not please God nor cleanse the worshippers nor bring people to God. After all, the people still feel guilty for their sins; their conscience continues to

accuse them because they are not clean. Unclean conscious and guilt cannot come before God. It keeps one far and makes us to avoid God's presence (Psalms 66:18). Through the sacrifice of Christ people's conscience are cleaned; those who accept him (1 Cor. 6:11). The washing and cleaning take place at the beginning of our Christian lives. The sign of our cleansing is our Baptism. Our sins are no more remembered (Jer. 31:34, Heb. 8:12). When our sins are taken away and forgotten then our conscience will truly be clean. King David was aware of this need and he prayed for it in (Psalms 51:1-2, 10:16-17). It is clear that we did not need sacrifice but accept Jesus as our Saviour (Psalm 40:6-8; 1 Sam 15:22). The obedience to Christ is what is required of us today for the Lord to delight in us.

Lesson: We should not be deceived that we can perform other forms of sacrifice to please God. What Christ has done is sufficient for all those that accept Christ.

Prayer: Lord Jesus I pray to you to open my heart to appreciate your work on the Cross. Amen.

May 23rd Saturday 2015

Text: Hebrews 10:8-18

Topic: Fulfilling God's will

When Christ came to offer Himself as the perfect and final sacrifice, He set aside the first covenant. This is an act of God's will and act of fulfilling God's will. Christ through the sacrifice of His body has made us holy both inside and outside. It was God's will that Christ should offer His own body to atone for our sins and that through His sacrifice we might be presented before God having been made Holy in His sight, without blemish and free of accusation (Col 1:21-22). This is what the old system could not do, praise the Lord Christ did. It is God's will that all those who put their faith in Christ is made Holy. All this is free but we should understand we are not truly perfect from time to time we sin against God. God wants us to always strive to increase in holiness. He wants us to continue to struggle to grow in holiness in our daily life and behavior (Philip 1:6, 12-13) the Holy Spirit speaks through Jeremiah that God's law has been written on our hearts and mind where sins are forgotten and sacrifice is not needed anymore. What is needed is our daily striving to grow toward God in order to please our father.

Lesson: It is God's will that Christ died on the cross so that our sins will be forgiven and we will be free from any sacrifice. It is God's will that we do not perish with Satan.

Prayer: Jesus your word is food to my soul thank you for freeing me from bondage. Amen