

THE MESSIAH: OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

WELCOME.

Ice Breaker Question: If you had the resources to take all your friends on vacation, where would you go?

WORSHIP.

Sing: CHRISTUS VICTOR

WORD.

Introduction: Last Sunday, Pastor Elijah preached on the MESSIAH OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST. As high priest, Christ represents believers before God—praying for God to forgive their sins, keep them from the evil one, for them to be sanctified and united, among other things. Since Christ is both human and God, he can relate to his people and sympathize with them in their weakness.

Scripture: Hebrews 9

Sermon Discussion: Let's look into exposition of Hebrews 9:

- 1. THE ROLE OF THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT (vv. 1-10)
 - A. Priests oversaw the Tabernacle, sacrifices and rituals (vv. 2-6).
 - C. The high priest presented the sacrifice for atonement on behalf of the people (v. 7).
 - D. The tabernacle, symbols and rituals point to something greater and eternal (vv. 8-10).
- 2. THE MESSIAH HAS BECOME BOTH THE HIGH PRIEST AND THE SACRIFICE (vv. 11-28):
 - A. Jesus provided the perfect sacrifice for our forgiveness and salvation by His own blood (vv. 11-15).
 - B. Jesus abolished priesthood by becoming the ultimate High Priest Himself (vv. 16-27, Hebrews 7:23-25).
 - C. By faith, OT believers are saved not by their sacrifices but by the sacrifice of Jesus (Hebrews 11:39-40)
 - D. Jesus changes the eternal destiny of all who come to Him for salvation (vv. 27-28).

E. Jesus continues to intercede for us as our high priest and advocate (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25).

- Discussion Questions:
- 1. What was your biggest takeaway from Pastor Elijah's sermon?
- 2. What is the significance of the second curtain in Hebrews 9:3?
- 3. What is the difference between sin being covered and a sin being "taken away" (John 1:29) or "cleansed" (Hebrews 9:14)?
- 4. The high priest went into the holy of holies twice, why (Leviticus 16:11-12; 15-16)? Why is it that Jesus only went in once?
- 5. Why is the substitutionary atonement of Christ an essential doctrine of the Christian faith?
- 6. Read Leviticus 17:11 and Hebrews 9:22. Why can't God just say, 'I forgive you'? Why is there a need for blood?

Application Questions:

- 1. Are guilt feelings valid for a Christian who has sinned?
- What is the difference between guilt and spiritual conviction?
- 2. How can a believer distinguish between true and false guilt? How should each be dealt with?
- 3. How should we witness to a person who has no sense of guilt before God?
- 4. If we are totally forgiven through faith in Christ, why do we need to ask forgiveness when we sin?
- 5. How can we live in the freedom that Christ bought for us?

WORK.

Pray for freedom from the burden of unnecessary guilt.

Declare freedom in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.