

Hebrews 6.20

Priest Forever

God has established here a simple truth that we MUST deal with. We have to come to grips with the idea that on our own, we are NOT acceptable in the sight of God. Taken on our own merit, the Bible teaches us that we are ruined, sinful and condemned. This is the problem that Jesus came to address, this is the singular and eternal question. How is a man made right with God?

I. THE NEED FOR A PRIEST

A. Universal

1. There is no one righteous

Roman 3.10-12

2. There is no one innocent
3. There is NO ONE who does not need a savior

Romans 5.12-14

B. Eternal

1. This has always been the case - the first sacrifice was made by God Himself in the garden of Eden

Genesis 3:21 (NKJV)

21 Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

2. The final sacrifice has also been made by God...

Isaiah 53:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.

3. The law of sacrifice has been the only means of coming into the presence of God. Our sin stands as a barrier between us and

God, and God has ordained blood as the means of atoning for that sin

Leviticus 17:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'

C. Pressing

1. This is the ONLY way that we will ever be washed of our sin

Hebrews 9:22 (NKJV)

²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

D. Exclusive

1. No one will be able to enter into the presence of the Father in ANY other way.
Period

John 14:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

II. JESUS HAS BECOME OUR HIGH PRIEST FOREVER

- A. No one will replace Him
- B. There is no retirement date
- C. We have our priest forever
 - 1. We will always need a priest
 - 2. He will always be sufficient
 - 3. Our sin will always have a payment that is acceptable and accepted by God
 - 4. Even once we are in heaven, Jesus is still our righteousness and hope

III. THERE WILL BE NO REVISIONS –

- A. No return to the old ways

1. No restoration of temple worship and sacrifices
2. No one will be saved by the sacrifice of bulls (red or otherwise) or goats or rams
3. No one will be accepted into the presence of God because they did a thing... whatever that thing might be...
4. For any of that to be true, the death of Christ and the life of Christ must first become a sidenote...

B. No other "new" revelation that will refine or alter what the Bible has given us about salvation and the promise of God

C. There is no expiration on the blood of Jesus - God will not ever stop requiring and honoring the blood of the Lamb.

D. We will never "outgrow" the knowledge of the cross, the sacrifice that was made on our behalf.

E. All of human history, all of creation's history centers and pivots around the cross of Christ.

IV. JESUS IS ABOVE ALL

- A. No one was above the High Priest
- B. He was THE authority that allowed the people to come talk to God
- C. He was chosen by God, selected and anointed BY God
 - 1. This was represented by God's honoring Christ at His baptism

Matthew 3.13-17

- 2. This was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah

Isaiah 61

- 3. Jesus pronounced this prophecy fulfilled in Himself

Luke 4.16-22

D. Jesus has become Prophet

1. Speaking the words of God to the people
2. Delivering the final Word of God to us

Hebrews 1.1-4

E. Jesus has become Priest

1. Offering the sacrifice that makes a way for the people to come to God
2. Every person who desires to come to God MUST come by the intercession of the priest and His sacrifice
3. For without the shedding of blood there is NO possibility of the forgiveness of sin

Hebrews 9.16-22

F. Jesus has become King

1. He is the Lord over all who has been given all authority by God Himself

Philippians 2.5-11

V. THE GREAT DIVIDE

There is one question that divides all mankind one from another. It splits all of humankind into an us and them relationship. It is a question that must be addressed by all who seek to understand and who seek to effect change for mankind.

- A. It is not the issue of the color of our skin, or our ethnicity. For God made us all of one blood...

Acts 17:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

- B. It is not the question of gender identity, sexuality or other such charged topics... (at least not exactly) for God made only 2 genders, male and female, men and women. Nothing more, nothing less, and established by God at

conception. Further, God has said that the only legitimate sexual relation between those sexes is one man and one woman for one lifetime....

Genesis 1:27–28 (NKJV)

²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

- C. This also tells us that it is not about the person's relationship to the environment, or our adherence to the eco-Nazis that demand our obedience to imaginary systems and problems, for we were given dominion over the earth... it is ours to use and to subdue, to enhance and create order from the chaos...
- D. It is not our willingness to submit to some "New World Order" or WEF/WHO mandates for world

domination... for we have been commanded to submit to ONE King only, King Jesus Christ...

E. You see, these last questions dance around the point, but don't strike the center for they speak of allegiance and submission to systems of thought... for the one question that truly divides all of mankind is this: what is our relationship to God? What is our relationship to the King, to the prophet to the priest who has by His own blood made a way for us to be accepted By God?

F. We, as the people of God must understand the real issue that divides us from the rest of the world. We cannot be eternally sidelined by the partial issues (and there are MANY more...) but we must remember that Jesus has become THE High Priest forever. That there is no other option, and that there never will be another option. This is the question: Are you found in Christ? If that is not settled, then nothing else matters.