

### 3. (11-18) The finished work of Jesus Christ.

11 Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13 and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. 14 For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

15 The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: 16 “This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” 17 Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” 18 And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

#### A) Verse 11, **Every priest stands ministering daily:**

- 1) The priests had to *stand continually* in their work.
  - Their work continued daily and sacrifices had to be *repeatedly offered*.
  - The priests *could never sit down!*
  - In contrast, Jesus *sat down* at the right hand of God, having *finished His work of sacrificing for sin*.
- 2) The sacrifices under the Old Covenant could *never cure the sin problem*.
  - We were like a patient who *continually needed the medicine*, but were *never cured*
  - Our situation was like a weed that only has its head plucked out, not the root.

#### B) Verse 12 **But this Man:**

- This is *in opposition to the plurality* of Levitical priests.
- *One sacrifice, and once for ever*.

#### C) Verse 12 **he sat down at the right hand of God,**

- 1) Jesus *still ministers* but it is *in heaven*.
  - He has a *ministry of intercession* for His people.
  - But that ministry *flows from His completed work*, so He can *adopt a posture of rest*.
  - This is why He sat down at the right hand of God.

#### C) Verse 13 **Till His enemies are made His footstool:**

- 1) This *looks forward* to the *consummation of the Jesus' work*.
  - The *incarnation* of Jesus led to His perfect life.
  - His *perfect life* led to His atoning death.
  - His *atoning death* led to His resurrection.
  - His *resurrection* leads to His ascension to glory.
  - His *ascension to glory* leads to His *return and triumph* over every enemy.

#### D) Verse 14 **He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified:**

- 1) This makes it plain that *the work of Jesus* is *effective only* for those who are being sanctified.
- 2) *The work of Jesus* is *capable* of saving every human being, but it is only *effective* in saving those who are being sanctified (set apart to God).
- 3) It *does not mean* that he made them perfect in character so that they are no longer sinners.
- 4) But that he made those *for whom he died perfectly free from the guilt of sin*.

#### E) Verse 15 **The Holy Spirit also witnesses to us... says the LORD:**

- 1) In this passage, the writer to the Hebrews clearly shows that the *Holy Spirit is the LORD, Yahweh* of the Old Testament.

- 2) When the **Holy Spirit speaks**, the **LORD speaks**.
- 3) “We have the **threefold revelation of God** in this passage,
  - In the **will of God** ([Hebrews 10:9](#)),
  - The **work of Christ** ([Hebrews 10:12](#)),
  - And the **witness of the Spirit** ([Hebrews 10:15](#)).

**F) Verse 16 This is the covenant:**

1) This is a passage **quoted from Jeremiah**,  
 2) The writer to the Hebrews makes note of the **promises of the new covenant**, instituted by the Messiah.

3) **I will make with them after those days:**

- The **new covenant is new**. It comes **after** those days.

4) **I will put My laws into their hearts:**

- The **new covenant** has to do with an **inner transformation**.

- God **changes the heart** of man, and then **writes His law into their hearts**.

5) Verse 17 **Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more:**

- The new covenant **offers complete forgiveness**.
- The forgiveness is **so complete** that God can say that He **doesn't even remember our sins** in light of the new covenant!

6) The Christian must endeavor to **do with their sin** exactly **what God has done: forget about it**.

7) **Forgiveness of sin** is the **characteristic of the new covenant**.

- In Jeremiah **complete pardon of sins** is promised.
- If the **pardon is complete**, there is then **no place** for the **Levitical sacrifices** under the new covenant.

**G) Verse 18 And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.**

1) The **Christ who died on Calvary's cross**, will not have to die again for my new sins, or to **offer a fresh atonement** for any transgressions **that I may yet commit**.

2) The **work of Jesus** for atonement **is finished**.

- If it is not enough for us, then nothing will be.
- God has set forth Christ for you as guilty sinners to rest on.
- Christ has offered himself and died and suffered on behalf of us, and now has gone into his glory.
- And if you cannot depend upon him, what more would Christ have to do?
- Shall he have to come and die again?
- You have rejected him once.
- You would reject him even if he had died twice.