

ONCE WAS ENOUGH

Hebrews 9:23-28

(Brief, add your own comments outline)

Introduction: Discuss sacrifices in the Old Testament, the frequency, the reason, what was used in the sacrifice, how long they were good for, who offered the sacrifice, etc.

- v23** - Discuss the blood sprinkled on the Tabernacle, the vessels used to purify, the earthly model, rites and the sacrifice itself.
- Why cleanse the heavenly (altar, tabernacle, temple, etc.)? God and man meet and man defiles holiness as the leper must cry out in the presence of others, "UNCLEAN, UNCLEAN..."
 - To bring man into the heavenlies, the eternal, spiritual cleansing is necessary and so animal blood and rites were used in the Old Testament times.
 - However the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses sinful man from ALL sin.
- v24** - Discuss how Levitical priests and the sacrifice system were but a shadow or model of the heavenly system and Tabernacle.
- Discuss Abraham's sacrifice of his son Isaac - how God provided a substitute at the last moment.
 - All blood sacrifices were substitutions in man's place.
 - Jesus Christ became man's PERMANENT sacrifice by Him being the substitute.
 - As the high priest went before God for the people, so Jesus Christ has gone before God and even now at this very moment is still for us.
- v25** - Discuss the annual Day of Atonement and the blood of an animal was substituted for man's sins.
- Jesus Christ did not use another's blood, He gave His own ONCE!
 - Discuss the difference between the blood of animals and the blood of Jesus Christ in God's eyes.
 - Discuss Christmas, how Jesus came to become our substitute.
 - Easter, how Jesus died in our place and paid for all our sins.
 - Ascension, to take His blood into the heavenly Tabernacle and is even now interceding.
 - His return some day to consummate our salvation.
- v26** - Discuss sins from Adam to the end of the ages.
- If Christ's blood is not enough for all sin, then He must die over and over again and again.
 - Animal sacrifices were for a single individual's sins.
 - Jesus Christ's sacrifice is for all sin of all people and His sacrifice annulled it, totally destroyed it and counteracted its effects.
- v27** - Discuss "*It is laid away*"
- The emphasis is on ONCE! No person lives then dies and then lives again and again and again.
 - When a person dies, the next thing is judgment which is joyful for the believer but woeful for the non believer.
 - Discuss in like manner Jesus Christ came, lived and died ONCE. Jesus took ALL sin and ALL God's wrath toward sin.
- v28** - Discuss Jesus Christ died as a sacrifice, as a substitute and took all of God's wrath for every single human being for all the ages.
- To those who have received Him, who have believed in Him, who look for Him, He shall come for, NOT to deal with sin (He's already done that) but to bring to a climax man's salvation.

CONCLUSION:

1. Mankind and God are separated by man's sins.
2. Death is ordered, but God has allowed substitutes (animals) to cover man's sins.
3. Blood is necessary to cleanse the meeting place of God and man as Man contaminates.
4. Jesus Christ became man's sacrifice and substitute and has taken His spilt blood into the heavenly Tabernacle, to enable man to now approach God in heaven.
5. God has declared the Old Testament fulfilled and the New Testament is now in effect.
- Salvation comes only through the Lord Jesus Christ.